## ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT 2005-2006

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## CHAPTER ONE A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF NIJERA KORI

# 1 a brief overview of nijera kori

## 1.1 Background

ijera Kori, a well-known activist NGO in Bangladesh, was created following the artificial N 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 in support of these migrating women by imparting capacity development in food processing to enable them to earn income. The project gradually resulted in the development of an organisation "Nijera Kori", which, in English, means, "We do it ourselves". However in subsequent years the organisation became inactive, but in 1980 a group of development activists joined NK 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 hold the key to resolving the core problems of rural society. These activists, then, joined NK, shifting its initial programme of rehabilitating a handful of famine-affected urban destitute to undertake initiatives in creating a society free from oppression and deprivation through 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 that causes poverty and destitution of rural people, rather than making superficial efforts to ameliorate, the suffering of those who faced such circumstances. To achieve these objectives, NK worked towards making people conscious of their rights by assisting them to build up the collective strength necessary to establish their rights. As per this 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 manual labour with emphasis on rural rather than urban areas.

The organisation now has a total of 245,389 group members. Of them, more than half are women. Total number of programme staff in NK is 461 out of which 143 are female and 318 are male. The programme staff directly functions in field. Out of this 108 support staff works along with the programme staff. The current ongoing programme is called '*Social Mobilisation, Voice and Democracy Programme' and 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 (Organogram in Annex - A):

he core value of Nijera Kori's management structure and decision-making system is guided by the philosophy of '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 and Staff Council, 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, generally 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:

ijera Kori has been practicing a comprehensive PME and reporting system ensuring Nequal 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 actively participate, along with the field staff of NK. In fact, these meetings constitute the basis of the PME and management 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 organisation. The opinions and proposals of the landless received through this process are then 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 and 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):

rom the very inception, the NK activists, started working in the areas where the poor constitute the majority of the population and who mainly depend on manual labour to

earn a living. Most of these working areas fall in close vicinity of the seacoasts and river basins. 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 is rampant.

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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 19new villages.* 

Table 1: NK working area

Year	2005	2006
Village	1316	1335
Union	170	170
Thana	37	37
District	17	17
Division	4	4

## 1.8 Why is NK different?

## Because of our focus on social mobilisation:

- Nijera Kori believes that the poor are the only experienced and capable force to solve poverty related problem.
- Nijera Kori's strategy is to provide poor and marginalised groups in the society with largely intangible resources that 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.
- Nijera Kori'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.
- Nijera Kori believes that democratic management is necessary to successfully establish the rights of the poor.
- Nijera Kori 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 practices within the organisation itself.
- Nijera Kori's structure and culture seek, as far as possible, to replicate the principles of democracy, accountability, transparency and gender equity that are fostered through their 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-do credit'.

## Because of pro-people role of our staff:

- Nijera Kori 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.
- Nijera Kori staffs are essentially social activists, who 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 'facilitating agent, as a 'brother' or 'sister'. Their main purpose is to advise and support the *samity* (organisation) by skill building that

creates bonds of trust between them and the landless groups. This effects the *samity* by giving the groups within it a stronger sense of unity and a greater set of common goals and values.

- Nijera Kori 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.
- Nijera Kori is not money collecting organisation. Rather remaining above it activities is being done in a brotherly-sisterly relationship.

#### Because we work with the most neglected groups:

- Nijera Kori 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.
- Nijera Kori 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:

- Nijera Kori 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.
- Nijera Kori follows a strategy through its inbuilt processes, of encouraging participation and sharing both in physical and financial terms, among the group members in all it's 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.

## Chapter Two: Impact of Activities

Visible changes take time to be realised, because change is a continuous process. Organisational recognition, reciprocal relationship, confidence in collective initiatives, participation in local governance, women empowerment, determination of standing firm against corruption and irregularities are the few factors that drive this process. Most importantly, perception of security and the notion of positive progress on the achievement of the rights for the deprived groups are to be considered as key factors in this process. Equally important here are the issues related to access to resources, increase in wage, protecting the landless from the hand of the land grabbers, cooperative economic activities and inclusion of the landless in the public services and which are key indicators of the impact of NK's activities.

## 2 The social, political and economical value of awareness and capacity

## 2.1 Collective identity

Generally the neglected and deprived groups in the society are and do feel disregarded in the society. As a result they are eventually forced into an even more marginalized situation in the society. It is in this context that NK's awareness raising training are important. NK's training for the landless community is contributing in creating self-confidence among them as a result of which their interpersonal trust and cooperation are increasing day by day through regular discussion of the issues in group meetings and they are actively participating in making decisions that impacts their life and livelihoods. The individual savings of the members have significantly increased, which are managed by the groups. More crucial to note here is their collective movements for the assertion of their development rights which have already brought concrete impacts in changing their life standard.

## 2.2 Women' Empowerment

The activities of NK's groups have very important contribution in creating awareness about the rights of the women in society, particularly at grassroots community level. Women have been participating actively in all activities of their groups, besides those NK's and many of them at present have assumed responsibility in group activities, including in senior positions. Compared with previous years, currently the rate of women leadership in the open posts has been increased by 42%, which is a sign of women leadership development and empowerment within the organization. In this regard, considering the context of rural Bangladeshi society it is very significant to note the spontaneous involvement of men in the discussion of violence and oppression against women and joint decision taking issues, which are important indicators of positive change. This issue can be clearly observed from the group activities (e.g. training and revolution-movement). As a result the women members are showing growing capabilities in mobility outside their family, participation in debates, and even challenging the social and

religious order. From the result of women being elected in different institutional committee posts and participation in local verdict it can be understood that women members are not only taking leadership role in their own organisations but also taking leadership role in social and local institutional structures. However, women still continue to face great problems in the society. But this can be taken as an indicator of their growing empowerment; because the more they are empowered the more is the resistance from the established hierarchy to save the prevailing social order.

Another very encouraging indicator is the increase of female students in the programme coverage areas than the male students each year. This is a realization by the parents (and the society at large) of the importance of female education. There has been also very significant empowerment of the women in economic activities, which in turn making important impact in improving their lifestyle and most importantly in taking charge of their own life. It is also worthy to mention that this change is confined only within the group members, rather it is having a society-wide impact.

	Ti	Trend of Participation of Female Group in Different Activities (Number)								
April 2001- March 2006	No. of Female Groups	Elected Female Members in Open seats of the Committees	Elected Female Members in Union Parishad/School/ Market Committees etc	As a Judge in Local <i>Shalish</i>	Movement in Violence Against Women Issues	Female Groups in collective Economic Activities				
2001-02	4,829	91	233	713	291	888				
2002-03	5,246	114	199	991	263	962				
2003-04	5,588	160	348	1,402	271	1,123				
2004-05	6,013	201	385	829	175	1,170				
2005-06	6,423	285	333	1,600	263	1,440				

Trend of Leadership in Women's Grou	ps and Various Activities.
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## 2.3 Collective capacity and Partnership

## 2.3.1 Collective Capacity

This year the members were able to arrange 32% of the total group meetings held in the working year. They have covered 41 villages (75% target population organized) and created 36 new group committees in village, union and regional level. The members, most of whom are landless have taken collective initiatives in local problem identification, their duties and responsibilities as citizen, and setting demands to the duty bearers. They have been able to organize 821 demonstrations/protests in the working year which is 19% higher than the previous year. They also organize demonstrations & protest on various issues relevant to them not only in their working areas, but also in other areas (*Case study- They want to kill me, I want to live, let me live*).

Furthermore, in many cases the leaders of the landless organisations in association with allies and well wishers have been taking appropriate measures whenever faced with any problems. An analysis of such actions/initiatives of the landless shows that, in most cases, they have been successful in achieving their demands. Detailed description of the movement of the landless are given in later parts of the report.

## 2.3.2 Partnership

Members of the landless organisations, in their overwhelming numbers, have assumed their partnership responsibility. This includes raised awareness, shared commitment and sense of self dependency among the members. In practical terms, this is expressed in various joint activities/initiatives (such as, organizing workshop, training, discussion, group meeting, cultural functions, movement and running the court cases) by using funds from group collection.

Their partnership activities have achieved very concrete results. For example the landless women and men in the char areas were not included in the voter list. However, because of their protest and collective movement, thirty two thousand women and men have been enlisted as voters. NK has now focused on imparting this partnership based actions among the indigenous community in the plains who are some of the most marginalized and deprived in the entire country. As a result their demand for social recognition and security has become a collective demand and for this government facilities are now becoming available. The collective effort of the landless and socially and politically deprived groups has proved to be a very effective impetus in achieving recognition of their civic rights. *(detail in case study).* 

#### Trend of Landless Groups and Activities, Formation of Different Committees and Movement /Struggle and Participation

(April		Total Group		Tota	al No of (	Committe	es		Amount of	
2001- March 2006)	Total No of Groups	Meetings Attended by Group	Total No. of Village Coverage	Village	Union	Thana	Area	No. of Movement /Struggle	Group Savings spent in conducting Activities	
2001-02	8,555	29,986	99	127	16	2	24	1,172	486,866	
2002-03	9,403	31,915	120	163	19	2	24	968	453,874	
2003-04	10,158	55,203	158	195	20	3	26	1,181	641,425	
2004-05	10,987	64,561	179	214	21	3	32	692	661,233	
2005-06	11,765	88,950	220	243	22	3	32	821	941,133	

## 2.2 Government resource, economic empowerment and security

## 2.2.1 Khas Land and Swamp

According to the government rule, khasland should be provided to the landless, but in practice seldom is it the case. As a result, hundreds of landless people do not get any place to live. Unemployment, coupled with demographic situation of the country has been aggravating even more this already complex situation. The struggle of the landless over khas land, in this context, is a crucial factor for these poor and marginalized peoples for ensuring their basic rights over public resources, as well as for their economic upliftment.

## 2.2.2 Collective economic activities of the landless

The NK groups of landless people, do regularly contribute in collective funds meant for group savings. Though small such savings on an individual basis, have proved to be a very important factor; enabling them to undertake their own economic activities through these savings. Through such collaborative actions, the landless are becoming self reliant and creating employment opportunities for themselves and contributing to the society as a whole. In the working year 3,343 groups (28% of total group) got profit of Tk. 6,946,659 through collective economic activities.

# Trend of establishing ownership rights on *Khasland* and Water bodies and the collective economic activities

	Establishing C	wnership rights	on <i>Khas</i> La						
April 2001-		Bodies (Ac	cres)		Collec	Collective Economic Activities			
March 2006	Registration	Possession	Water	Beneficiary	Total No. of	Profits (TK)	Beneficiary		
	of Khas land	of Khas land	Bodies	Families	Groups	PIOIIIS (IK)	Families		
2001-02	7,335	1,246	394	5,647	1,820	1,355,452	21,197		
2002-03	7,557	1,476	442	6,744	2,143	4,176,322	45,343		
2003-04	8,826	2,563	443	13,850	2,571	2,062,896	53,304		
2004-05	10,140	2,809	444	17,270	2,750	5,242,789	54,497		
2005-06	18,826	24,026	827	63,851	3,343	6,946,659	66,241		

## 2.2.3 Bargain for wage increase

The poor usually get a very meagre pay for their manual labour. Previously there was no platform for bargaining their wage rate.. However at present the landless and the day labourer are jointly demonstrating and bargaining for the wage increase and other benefits. As a result every year the wage rate for agricultural labourer, handloom workers, rice grinding workers is increasing at the rate of Tk. 10 on average. (Detail in the case study "Politics of unemployed: Wage of daily labor).

## 2.2.4 Food Security

Food security is a nation wide problem. However, the problem is particularly acute for certain sections of the society, particularly among the landless. However, the landless groups of NK have been quite successful in ensuring the food security by demonstrating and protesting against the power holders. (*Case Study: "Reign of looters VS food security for landless marginal people"*) This is strengthening the movement of the landless group and for this in the working year 39,809 landless families' harvested 936,082 maunds of Amon paddy (average > 23 maunds per family). In the same way approximately 3,357 families are getting the fishing opportunity at the wetlands, setting positive impact on the lifestyle of the landless.

## 2.2.3.5 Corruption and poverty

Corruption is an endemic problem for Bangladesh and is a major impediment for alleviating poverty. The poor are entitled to get free or low priced facility for food and health care, altough in practice, it is rarely the case. They have to pay bribes for the land survey for khas land and also the VGD/VGF cards. If the poor would not have to pay for such services, then they could have improved their lifestyle. In this situation, this year the landless groups have been able to realise their demand through demonstration and protest.

As a result of the demonstration of the landless, in the working year 18,181 members were included in the government safety net programme through VGF, VGD, Widow pension etc. Besides they were successful in getting refund of the misappropriated wage of 1,300 earth filling workers amounting to Tk. 92,830. Illegal bribe in land survey is stopped at present and people are able to collect their documents and papers without cost. As the corruption and misappropriation in the field of health, education is reduced, and the workers are getting due wages, their lifestyle is increasing and avenues for institutional rights are being established. (Case study: "govt. and non-govt. services and the position of marginal people" "Land survey: Land complexity: Decrease or increase and politics of unemployment: Diary of a day Labourer) **2.2.3.6 Representation in local power, Accountability and Liability** 

Normally the poor and the landless get very little chance to raise their voice in local decision making. Despite this, the landless poor are making progress in achieving their representation

against the undemocratic rulers and they have been gradually emerging as an alternative power base in the society.

# 2.3.1 Power relationship and acceptance

Due to degradation in democratic governance, stranglehold of a small coterie of state power, the power structure of the country is essentially centralized. The emergence of fundamentalist violence has added another dimension to this situation. In spite of these barriers the landless poor have emerged as key groups in local power relations in two ways. Firstly they are making public the issues of corruptions in local power structures by

continuous struggle and movement. Secondly through transparency. acceptance and popularity the landless members are establishing themselves as the representatives of the poor community and are representing them in various governance structures such as Union Parishad and other local institutions. This is positive а indication for power balance. It should be mentioned that, here, there are two unique factors contributing in greater

## Box 1

Jamila Begum from Kumarkhali working area elected in the Nandalapur Union Parishad from her experience said, "I would never been elected in my own identity. I have elected in three consecutive terms with the identity of landless organization. I work in consultation with my landless brothers and sisters. I explain my activities once in a month in the representatives meeting. Our group is so powerful that there is no scope for corruption and theft." She further added, "Chairman always gives less quota of VGF card, earth work, rice distribution, etc. to me. Chairman says, you have groups, you take the balance from them. You understand, he does not get half of the sale proceeds of the rice from me so he gives me less, when I surround (gherao) the union parishad with all my member brothers and sisters he gives me more. Last year when a woman was assaulted chairman compromised. But, when my sister is assaulted and don't get justice that can't be accepted. I went to TNO and narrated the story. TNO ordered for a case after enquiry. Understand, all are afraid of the strength of the landless. If we all organize movement, it will be printed in the newspapers and people will know about us."

transparency and accountability of the public representatives/duty-bearers. Landless associations are contributing and have a key driving force in this. They are more and more vocal on the issues of land for transparency, accountability and better governance. Until and unless they get the satisfactory answers, the landless representatives keep on their pressure even if this means entering into conflicting situation with Chairmen, Members, school-bazar committee people.. In this way the landless members are making the duty-bearers accountable to their responsibilities. This is surely setting a positive trend in the society.

Irend of Participation in Local Government Structure and Others Management				
Committees				
No. of Elected Landless Group Members in various Management Committees				

			No	No. of Elected Landless Group Members in various Management Committees								
(April 2001- March 2006)		ion shad Schoo		וכ	Market		Sugarcane Purchase Centre		Union Parishad Development Project Management		Movements /Struggles	
	F	Μ	F	Μ	F	Μ	F	Μ	F	Μ	F	Μ
2001-02	29	50	40	255	08	117	-	2	08	05	42	165
2002-03	40	44	49	338	08	147	-	2	21	94	41	207
2003-04	43	44	70	430	08	210	-	2	41	117	149	399
2004-05	65	84	73	432	08	214	-	2	42	116	165	384
2005-06	65	84	81	434	10	236	-	3	48	131	105	273

## 2.3.2 Participation in local judicial system

The village judicial system has long been controlled by the rich and powerful. This system has

been challenged currently by the participation of landless members. The landless members are participating in the local justice in two ways. Firstly the landless members remain vigilant in the judgement in order to transparency, ensure accountability and liability. If any injustice is seen. the landless members remain as watch dog and raise collective voice and force the village leaders to be transparent and accountable ..

Secondly the landless members are taking part in the arbitration. This involves landless men and women members being included (or being forced include) the to in arbitration committee. There are equally cases where landless women exclusively carried out the arbitration. As a result control the the of powerful in the system is weakening and cases of local (minor) conflicts has reduced. This is a very encouraging example of empowerment of the poor; to throw a real challenge to the

#### Box 2

An adivashi in the Shalish Board

Enayetpur is a village under the Panchgachi union of Pirgani thana at Rangpur district. The village hat (bazar) is named Jahangirabad. On 14 May, Budaram Tiggya (22), not a member of the landless organization, but a supporter, bargained with a shop keeper named Abdus Satter to buy flat shoe. As the price was too high and beyond his reach, Budaram decided not to buy the shoe. But the shop keeper Abdus Satter demanded that, as he (Budaram) bargained, he must buy the shoe. In the midst of the dispute, at one stage Abdus Satter started beating Budaram brutally. When he saw a bad head injury of Budaram, he admitted him to the Rangpur Medical College Hospital. On this matter, the landless organization held a shalish on 22 May 2006, responding to a request of the Bazar Committee to deliver justice. The five member jury board was consisting of Mr. Jatindranath Kujur, a landless organization and Adivasi leader, a local UP member, a landless leader, a member of the Jahangirabad bazaar committee and a local school teacher. The shalish was held at the play ground of Jahangirabad primary school. At least hundreds of landless people and many others from the bazaar were present in the shalish. In the shalish, it was proved that the shop keeper illegally beat Budaram. On behalf of the shalish jury board, Mr. Jatindarnath Kujur gave the verdict that, Satter will seek pardon from Budaram in presence of the people and will be punished by sitting and standing alternatively for 50 times. The jury board also gave the ruling that, Satter will bear all the medical costs for Budaram, and also, as he could not attend his job because of the head injury, Satter will give him Tk 2000 as compensation. After the shalish, Mr. Jatindarnath Kujur, who is an adivashi, told that, "I am an adivashi and I have been elected as the secretary of the committee by the landless voters. I go to the shalishes as the leader of both Bengalis and Adivashies. I bargain and debate on behalf of the organization. The Bengali members of the landless organization have never questioned my representation. Now I am an honored person in the society and I can place my opinion strongly than ever".

traditional way of running justice system.

April 2002- March 2006 No. of Landless Members as Observer	No of	Total Shalish by Partie Group Mem	No of La Memb					
		t Self-initiative of ss Leader (NK)	Joint initiative of Landless leaders				No. of Settled	
		By Female Leader	Jointly by Male & Female Leader	and Village Authority	Female	Male	Total	Shalish
2002-03	27,715	193	1,378	501	991	3,802	4,793	1,862
2003-04	43,021	418	1,303	394	1402	4,662	6,064	2,146
2004-05	27,644	288	588	288	829	2,280	3,109	1,112
2005-06	32,873	283	771	349	1,600	3,072	4,672	1,352

#### Trend of landless Group Member's participation in Local Shalish

## 2.3.3 Legal Battle

Generally the power holders consider any alternative power base as a threat. In the current working year such power holders have filed 108 new false cases. However most of these cases

have been dismissed in the court of law, resulting in the acquittal of the accused. Furthermore, the landless organisations are also filing cases against rape, murder, acid throwing, abduction and violation of civic rights. Besides the landless organization filed case against a powerful shrimp business man for violation of the standing order of the high court. This reflects the growing voice of the landless in claiming and ensuring their rights. The women landless members are also being charged in various false cases. In most such cases, the group members fight on behalf of their behalf, with the financial support coming from their group savings. It is worth to mention that in the working year the landless organisations spent Tk. 92,290 from their own savings for settling the litigations in the court.

#### Box 3

Landless organisation of Bagatipara in the District of Natore made arrangement to observe Independence Day. Fundamentalists opposed to the liberation of Bangladesh and terrorists of the local power holders jointly attacked the landless and destroyed the stage before the beginning of the function of the Independence Day. Local police station did not accept case from the landless organisation against the accused persons even they did not accept the general diary *(GD)*. Later landless organisation filed case in the court.

			-						
(April 2001- March	Information About Cases								
2006)	New Cases	Cases Settled	Favour	Against	N K Supported Cases	Group run			
2001-02	127	103	93	10	206	142			
2002-03	177	73	58	15	282	175			
2003-04	137	70	63	7	229	302			
2004-05	255	62	53	9	234	499			
2005-06	108	239	223	16	225	393			

#### Trend of the Legal Aid support

## 2.4 Social Watch

The landless organizations are playing a watchdog role to monitor various misappropriation, oppression, corruption in development and service sectors, fundamentalism, human insecurity and arbitrary actions of law enforcing agencies. This can be seen from its organizational activities, role of elected landless representatives, and case studies. as case in point here, the active joint monitoring of the health monitoring committee in the working areas has been an elucidating example in this regard. Different fact finding missions have included the landless

committee members in their team in different times and relied on them for data accuracy and authenticity *(example in Rasulpur area)*. Above all the participation of landless committee members in the local verdict can be seen as an important part of social watch. As a result, the collective effort for curbing such corruption is being intensified and it is setting positive impact on the improvement of the lifestyle and basic rights of the poor in the society.

## 2.5 Exchange of views for achieving demand

The local public representative or the administration, usually, rarely pay attention to the concerns of the poor and the marginalized. In order for bringing about a change of this situation, the landless committees are taking their own initiatives and raising their voices more and more. In the running year a total of 4,616 (2,906 by landless organization and 1,710 by administration and others) sharing sessions were organized among the landless organisations, administration and civil society on local issues. This figure is 15% higher for landless and 3% higher for administration than the previous year. The landless are also performing those duties that are not being performed by the local public representatives. This has resulted in many cases, with the local problems being solved more quickly and as well as ensuring accountability and transparency.

April 2001- March 2006	Opinion Sharing Meeting on Different Issue							
April 2001 March 2000	Initiative by Govt. Administration	Initiative by Groups	Total					
2001-02	181	1,841	2,022					
2002-03	965	2,754	3,719					
2003-04	1,468	4,328	5,796					
2004-05	1,664	2,357	4,021					
2005-06	1,710	2,906	4,616					

Trend of Opinion Sharing Meeting with Administration and landless groups

## 2.6 Linkage building and creating & publicizing public opinion

## 2.6.1 Landless organization and relationship

In the current year the landless organization has been able to establish linkages and create relationship with rickshaw puller associations, potter labour associations, bus truck associations, bazaar associations, different students associations, press club, women associations, etc. These associations are actively supporting the landless and their support has proved to a durable partnership. In the aftermath of the countrywide bombing in August 2005, local MuktiJodha Songshod, Projonmo – 71, Mohila Porishad, Press club, Combined Cultural Association, Rokeya Forum etc. supported the association's activities. Besides 32 newspapers published 484 news clippings on the demand and rights of the landless association this year.

## 2.6.2 At National and International level

In the working year many national and international networking organizations have been associated with Nijera Kori such as PISA, Sangat South Asia, MKSS, Asia Shrimp Network. This was helpful in pressurizing collectively for raising the demands and rights of the poor people.

## 2.6.3 Fact Finding Mission

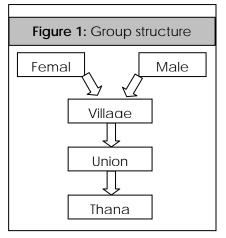
In the current year different fact finding missions were set up on issues like human rights violation, land grabbing, women oppression, rape, insecurity of minority etc. These missions have collected data through visits to locations where such atrocities took place. Based on their findings, advocacy and pressure campaigns were undertaken on the decision making bodies at the local and national level. In many cases expected results have been achieved.

## CHAPTER THREE SECTION ONE: LANDLESS GROUPS AND ITS ACTIVITIES

# 3.1 the landless group and its activities

P rimary landless groups are formed with a minimum of 16 and maximum of 30 members (separately for female and male). The reason for having a separate group for women is for giving space to women to express their voice and also due to the prevailing socio-

religious bias, which stresses exclusion of women from society. However, 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 single group. 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 if 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.

## 3.1.1 Group Formation and Members (Detail Annex Table 2 & 3)

#### Box 3

Surja Rani Sarkar (32) Vill-Banipara, Pairaband. She has become a new member in the activity year. After the meeting she said, "N.K does not give credit, does not give money. Knowing this I have become member. But what it gives is the guidance so that we can survive with two meals a day. We are ignorant and aged. By participating in the samity, we discuss, make plans and gain ideas. We want to change our life.

## Achievement Analysis

In the activity year as a result of group formation 41 new villages and 1 union have been covered. (When 75% population in village, union and thana are organized than they are incorporated within coverage). In the coverage areas the landless groups are considered as a well-organized counter force and as a result it is gaining power to challenge the local power structure against any irregularity and injustice. The landless organisations are participating in all the activities of the local society in the villages within the whole area.

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In the activity year as per plan, the rate of new group formation is 76%. This is 7% more than last year's group formation. At present a total of 1,471,137 families and 2, 85,389 members are

Table 8: Group Formation and Group Member							
Description	Group			Member			
Description	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
Up to March 05	4,974	6,013	10,987	110,183	119,946	230,129	
Plan	496	528	1,024	9,920	10,560	20,480	
Achievement	368	410	778	7,251	8,009	15,260	
Total March 06	5,342	6,423	11,765	117,434	127,955	245,389	

actively engaged in-group activities. It may be mentioned that in the actively year in 4 work areas, 19 new groups have been formed with adivashis (indigenous peoples). At present total number of adivashi groups are 44 (Male-26, Female-18). As a result of group formation activities have been expanded in 19 new villages.

# 3.1.2. Group, Representative and joint meeting (Detail Annex Table 4 & 5) *Achievement analysis*

In the activity year out of total group meetings about 38% meeting were held, which is 7% more than last year. In these meeting the members themselves conduct the meeting, select discussion topics and take pertinent decisions. This process is enabling them to gain confidence while ensuring accountability and responsibility of the activities.

Table 9: Group Meeting at Group's						
Initiative						
By Gender 2004-05 2005-06						
Male	31,017	35,031				
Female 33,544 53,919						
Total	64,561	88,950				

## Box 4

## Voice of the landless members

Work area Raigonj. No. 1. Woman group, Union-Dhangara, Village-Rajibpur. 1year, 7months old group. The members started the meeting by singing "spent your life time by working in other house-holds, even then why could not you find happiness has you investigated? The rich be come richer with your production, but alas, your children starve." Discussion started after the song. While discussing about fundamental rights Safura Begum (51) interrupted in the middle and said, "I have a question, from your discussion I gathered that the country is run by the tax we pay, according to law (constitution) the Government is to provide us with food, education and medical treatment. But why is the government not providing us anything? I know our opinion has no value, chairman, MP nobody listen to us. Listen carefully; if you borrow money you have to repay it, even your father/brother does not exempt you from repaying. Then why should we exempt our tax money? You have said that we have rights, there are laws ensuring them. We pay tax to the government with our hard earned income. We shall realise our hard earned money. You have to be reliant. We shall organise movement, protest, otherwise you will not be reliant."

The discussion continued for some time. At the end of the meeting they urged Didi, (N.K's staff Archana sarkar) to sing a song. They all sang in chorus, " wake up farmers, countryman, don't keep sleeping, by exploiting you they are taking the credit. Be on guard, give us our rights." Thanks to their participation in the annual group meetings, ordinary members are now able to contribute in bringing about change in the role of the leadership. As a result the members are actively participating in these joint meetings, if needed, even in the evening by ignoring social taboo and superstition, which is particularly the case for the women. As per plan of the activity year the rate of group meeting is 84%, of which 38% were organised at the initiative of the group. The rate of representative meeting is 97% and the rate of joint meeting is 102%. It may

be mentioned that a total 8,875 groups were able to hold annual meeting. Of the total groups the rate of annual group meeting is 72%.

Table 10: AGM, Group, Representative & Joint Meeting						
Group Meeting			RΜ	JМ	AGM	
Male	Female	Total				
123,624	157,836	281,460	1,385	1,050	10,987	
101,631	135,026	236,657	1,342	1,224	7,893	
RM=Representative Meeting, JM=Joint Meeting, AGM=Annual Group						
	Gr Male 123,624 101,631	Group Meetii Male Female 123,624 157,836 101,631 135,026 tative Meeting, JM=Jc	Group MeetingMaleFemaleTotal123,624157,836281,460101,631135,026236,657	Group Meeting         R M           Male         Female         Total           123,624         157,836         281,460         1,385           101,631         135,026         236,657         1,342           tative Meeting, JM=Joint Meeting, AGM=/         Ital         Ital         Ital	Group Meeting         R M         J M           Male         Female         Total           123,624         157,836         281,460         1,385         1,050           101,631         135,026         236,657         1,342         1,224           tative Meeting, JM=Joint Meeting, AGM=Annual C	

## Comments

Belligerent fundamental terrorist attack is becoming more and more frequent all over the country, particularly in the rural areas, many of which remain unreported. In such a situation landless group and Nijera Kori, are practicing caution in forming group. People interested for becoming members in new groups are scrutinised more carefully which means more time is now being spent in collecting information on the interested group members. Besides bomb attack on members in Gangni, there have been terrorist attacks also on members in other work areas such as Noai, Gala, Charjabbar etc. Besides in N.K's two big areas, Paikgacha and Charjabbar, due to protracted movement for khas land, the involvement of the landless members to resist pillage of sown crops by terrorists has increased. In the activity year comparatively more time has been spent by the members in organising and conducting movements. For this reason, though group meeting were held more than expected but the number is less than what has been planned. For this reason though the overall achievement in group formation is satisfactory but the plan could not be achieved in full.

## Lessons learnt

In the activity year primary village based qualitative planning was adopted from past experience and lesson. Past experience will give guideline to form future village based qualitative planning.

## 3.1.3. Workshop: (Detail Annex Table 5)

## Achievement analysis

The groups held preparatory workshop in the villages and sub centers to identify weakness in conducting group activities, to determine type of activities to be undertaken and above all to adopt village based policy.. In the activity year the members were able to learn from these workshops necessary skills to prepare strategy and concept of village based qualitative policy. As per plan the rates of workshop were 97%.

## 3.1.4. Committee formation, meeting and convention (Detail Annex Table 6 and 7)

## Achievement analysis

In the work areas through formation of committees and convention the process of wellorganised and joint leadership growth has gained momentum. Among the members responsibility of committee leadership and practice of accountability has strengthened mutual solidarity. The ability of the landless groups to express their opinions on equal terms with the local power group is now more recognised in the *powerful*. Many of us are united now. area and this is now taken as an encouraging Now they call us for discussing example by others. In many instances the problems, While making list for V.G.F. administration and as well as local elites are now card and while distributing relief they consulting the landless groups on various problems. Particularly encouraging is the recognition of woman leadership by all. It may be We are leaders for the poor, helpless mentioned that in the activity year the rate of people. elected women members in the open seats has

#### Box 5

We are poor, if we go to the the matabbar for some reason he ignores us. If some incident occurs in the village he does not heed over opinion on complaint. By forming landless organisation we have become seek our co-operation and consult us. They are leaders for the rich people.

increased by 42%. The group leaders have been able to establish relations with local administration and as well as with various government and non-government organisations. In many places the committees have acquired ability to act as watchdog in their areas.

As per plan, committee formation at village level is 78% at union level and 17% at anchalic (subarea) level 86%. This is 47% more at village level and 13% more at union level than last year. As

Table 11:Committee Formation, Convention,Meeting						
Description	V	U	T	А		
Plan (Committee Formation)	39	6	-	7		
Achievement	29	1	-	6		
Plan (Convention)	253	27	3	33		
Achievement	236	22	3	32		
Plan (Committee Meeting)	2,647	261	24	355		
Achievement	2,420	222	23	346		
(V=Village, U= U	nion, T= T	Thana, A	l= Area	a)		

per plan committee meetings held at village level is 91%, while it is 85% at union level, 96% at thana level and 97% at anchalic level. The achievement of group convention held are 92% at village level, 79% at union level, 100% at thana level and 97% at anchalic level. This is14% more at village level, 37% at union level and 1% at anchalic level than last year. In each of these conventions local U.P. member, chairman, rickshaw van puller association, bus/track labour association, representative of development projects, well-wishers, journalists,

lawyers and teachers participated. a number of conventions national level In representatives/leaders also participated expressing their solidarity with the landless groups. The group conventions have been organized with donation from well-wishers and fund from the group saving.

## Comment

Except for new committee formation at union level, the overall achievement has been more than the plan. Although there are compelling reasons for this, this will be overcome in the next reporting period.

Table 12: Number of women elected in open post					
Name of committee	<i>2004-5</i>	2005-			
		6			
Village	153	188			
Union	32	38			
Thana	4	6			
Anchal	12	53			
Total	201	285			
		20			

## Lessons learnt

The groups and the members feel that the planning level workshop on PME (planning, monitoring and evaluation) method should be continued with participation of participation of all the members The role of the landless organization's committees as watchdog in various committees, (e.g. health watch committee), should be expanded. Apart from raising the empowerment level of the landless, such involvement also greatly facilitate in collecting and disseminating necessary information.

## 3.1.5. Group saving, bank account and joint economic activity

## (Detail Annex Table No. 8, 9, 13 & 17)

Group savings serves for under taking joint economical activities and also for activities/initiatives of the groups themselves. The rate of contribution for group saving is fixed with the consensus of all the members while taking into after considering the financial ability of the poorest members. The groups are responsible for depositing and withdrawing money from the group account. Nijera Kori staffs also assist the group in maintaining the account books, although the staffs do not participate in the management of the funds.

## Analysis of Achievement

Compared to last year the rate of group participation has increased by 68%. On the other hand in-group activities expenditure from group savings is have 73% more than last year. If necessary, the groups also spend money for solidarity activities for non-groups persons. This cultivates solidarity and mutual fellowship among the groups members and the communities at large. Also members, especially in agricultural season, meet the expenditure of share-cropping from group saving. This has reduced the dependency on the local "*mahajans*",

(Money lenders who charge high interest rate). But the most important aspect of group saving is to under take joint economic activities and by implementing these activities to develop a sense of collective life.

These joint ventures of the the members impart them the skills of decision-making and collective management. Compared to last year, 22% more new groups have been successful in under taking joint economic activities. Out of total number of groups, 28%. groups are associated with joint economic activities. This year, the groups have earned Tk. 6,949,659/= profit from varied economic activities. This is 33% more than the profit earned last year (Detail Annex Table 13). On the whole the groups, at their own initiative have been able to create employment opportunities, and have made their economic condition more solvent The total amount withdrawn by the group members in this reported period is Tk. 60,11,077/=. In addition, 283 groups have opened new accounts in the bank.

#### Comment

All the decisions regarding saving are made in group meetings. In the activity year, Tk. 71,66,366/= were distributed to meet the expenditures in agricultural season. It is important

#### Box 6

## Initiative of Hamida, Farida and Naima: Secure Life and livelihood

Bishalpur village in Dhaka division's Dhansrare. Most of the landless members in the village are weavers. They related their experience, "how we have developed weaving factory ourselves. Because by working in other's weaving factory we get less wage. Then there is no security of job. In this situation from December 2005 we formed a joint group in the village with no. 1 male and no. 2 female groups and after deliberation developed weaving factory.'' In this factory 18 members (9 male & 9 female) are working in five weaving machines.

Landless leader Hamida related about the management of their activities, "We do not have a fixed wage. Every month we hold meeting. We distribute a portion of profit among ourselves. The rest of the money we save to buy more weaving machines. We are doing well in our own factory. While making thread, female members Halima, Rahima, Bilkqis, Rilee, Naima relate in between their work while chewing pans". As we have installed weaving machines ourselves we do not have to go anywhere looking for work. This also enables us to look after our household as well as our work. We get more wage than before. Besides nobody scolds us or treats us badly.

The president of the management committee of this weaving factory, landless member Abdur Rahim said, "We started this project with money from our group and we borrowed money without interest from a neighbouring group. Now we are able to produce at least 500 sarees from five weaving machines. We have repaid the loan with money that we received by selling the sarees. Even after taking our own wage we have about Tk 20,000/= in our saving People in the village come to listen our experience.

to note here that joint economic activities, specially agricultural farming and fish cultivation depend on occupying khas land and water bodies on lease. For this reason the continuity of activity cannot be sustained regularly by the groups. This year, 198 groups had to withhold their activities briefly for this reason.

#### Lessons learnt

Joint economic activities are playing a very important role in constituting a sense of joint living and in developing proficiency in joint management. On the other hand joint economic activity is helping in establishing right over khas land and water bodies. Above all this is also positively improving the living standard of the members.

## 3.1.6. Group consciousness level (Detail annex table 16)

There is a gradual process. When majority members in a group (*more than 50%*) are deemed to have achieved some level of awareness, it is elevated to the next level. The groups are categorized at four levels; primary, secondary, third and forth level. (*see, Box 1*).

## **Box 7**: Level of Group Consciousness

#### **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.

The group gives special emphasis on cultivating a sense of unity amongst the members. It organises regular meetings, ensures regular deposits and withdrawal of savings and undertakes the responsibility of forming and renewing group committees.

#### 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.

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.

#### 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 wellwishers, raise the cultural awareness amongst people.

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.

#### 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.

The group should support the strengthening of people's voice so that there is an alternative to the opinions of the local leaders.

## Achievement analysis

This year in total 221 groups (Male – 112, Female – 109) were able to move from primary level to secondary level. Compared to plan, rate of implementation is 60%. In total 46 groups (Male – 28, Female – 18) were also able to move from secondary level to third level. Compared to plan rate of implementation is 26%. It may be mentioned that

Table 13: Group Consciousness							
Description 2005 Position March 2006 M F T							
1 <sup>st</sup> Level	9,752 4,509 5,754 10,263						
2 <sup>nd</sup> Level 1,161 759 623 1,382							
3 <sup>rd</sup> Level 74 74 46 120							
M=	Male F=	Female 1	r= Total				

in the activity year there was no plan for any groups to graduate into fourth level.

## Comment

This year achievement has been less than the plan. Last year in the central staff convention the condition for awareness level were re-defined. As a result, efforts have to be mostly concentrated in re-classification of the groups' awareness level which took a great deal of time.

## Lessons learnt

Nk is confident that in the coming activity year along with the planned activities, quite a number of groups will reach fourth-level awareness. As awareness level was re-defined NK mostly concentrated in verifying the group activities and their awareness level. The other important factor here is that the task is very time consuming. It may be useful to develop a simple way of reclassifying the groups based on objective indicators and criteria.

## CHAPTER THREE SECTION 2A: TRAINING OF NIJERA KORI

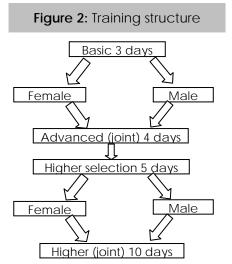
## 2A the landless group members training activities

## 3.2A Training (details in Annex - Table 10)

uman development trainings are held with 20-25 participants in each session. At the basic level the training is imparted to female and male members separately while at the

Basic level the training is imparted to female and m advanced level the trainings are organized 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.

## 3.2A.1 Group training and cultural activities: (Detail Annex Table No. 10)

## 3.2A.1.1 Group training

## Analysis of Achievement

In most cases the trained members take initiative to act as facilitator in-group discussion. While forming groups, the trained members eventually play an important role in establishing primary network and conducting discussion in the field. It may be mentioned that gradually the participation of woman in cultural training is increasing; and as a result woman members are also taking part in drama without facing obstacles from their families. The training on "Citizen Rights and Constitutional Guarantee" and "Land Laws and Management" have made the members in rural *shalish* (community based arbitration) stronger. In many cases by citing examples of previous verdicts the members are able to influence the judges. Training on "Right

to Information" has raised awareness among the members about the importance of information and its dissemination. In the activity year as per plan all trainings were held. The rate of

participation is 95%. In joint training comprising male and female the rate of female participation is 49%. In "production management". "leadership development", "right to information", training the rate of participation is 98% all these figures are more than the plan. Besides. in "globalisation and sustainable development", "rights of the citizens and constitutional guarantee", "land law and management" training the rate of participation is 88%. This is also more than the plan. In cultural training total participation is 98%, which is again more than the plan. Of the total participants the rate of women participation is 45%.

What is noteworthy is the fact that in joint training comprising male/female, the participation of women has increased. By comparing with past experience, NK feels that it is because of more cooperation from their families that there has been more participation of women in the trainings.

Table 14 (Training Activities)					
Description of Training		Р		А	
	Ν	Р	Ν	Р	
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT TRAINING					
Basic	62	1,55 0	62	1,48 5	
Advanced	16	400	16	373	
Higher Selection	16	400	16	368	
Higher	2	50	2	48	
CULTURAL TRAINING					
Basic	4	80	4	79	
Advanced	2	40	2	38	
Workshop	12	300	15	361	
OTHER TRAININGS					
Leadership Development	6	150	6	145	
Production & Management	6	150	6	135	
Right to Information	4	100	4	95	
Land Laws and Management Systems	8	200	8	163	
Citizens Rights and Constitutional Guarantees	14	350	14	312	
Globalisation & Sustainable	14	350	14	317	
P-Plan A-Achievement N-Number P-narticinant					

P=Plan, A= Achievement, N= Number, P= participant

## 3.2A.2 Follow up activities of training

Follow-up or discussion with fellow groups members is an integral part of training. This has

#### Box 8

#### Novelty in the sphere of realisation.

Only three years back activities started in Sribardi area. Lisa -28, from Balughat village has had Basic training. She has studied up to class - viii. Then she got married. She said, "I have two types of experience. Childhood experience was different. At that time I used to listen to stories about kings, queens, ghosts from my grandmother. Those stories at times frightened me at times gave me pleasure. Do you want to listen to them? As you know, you cannot see or find the royalties in realities. But till now I remember those stories." She continues, "now by forming samity and getting training I have gained varied experience. In these training courses there is no teacher, still we are learning many things. The fact that you can understand the society, get to know people, how the exploiters loot our labour and money through discussion can be cited by giving my life as an example. Teaching of the training is the main thing. Everyone should attend these trainings. They must know the real nature of the exploiter. Only then we can free ourselves from exploitation. I will go to the village and relate these important teachings to everyone. I will also tell my children.

been ensured by maintaining regular experience sharing and evaluation by trained member's in group meetings. Secondly, at field level it is done by follow-up discussion with the trained members. Thirdly, it is also ensured by forming a training forum with ten like-minded members and by holding regular meeting.

## Achievement Analysis

In the activity year, compared to training imparted, the rate of follow-up discussion is 97%. It is 6% more than the implementation rate of last year. The trained members have also formed one new training forum. Besides, the rate of training forum meeting is 95%, which is more than the plan.

Table 15: Follow-up Training						
Description	Plan	Achievement				
Refresher Training	134	130				
Participant	3,350	3,103				
Training forum meeting	494	471				

## CHAPTER THREE SECTION 2B: CULTURAL GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES

# 2B the landless cultural groups and activities

## 3.2B Cultural Group and Its Formation

N ijera Kori believes that cultural activities are an integral part of social mobilization. Cultural activities can help in developing human qualities and social consciousness by overcoming superstition, dependency and ignorance. for this reason, NK organizes weekly discussions on various cultural activities/themes. The duration of each session is 2/3 hours and during this process cultural groups of 13-20 members are formed. The groups perform issue-based drama, songs etc in various work areas and plays an auxiliary role in motivating people.

## 3.2B.1. Cultural group and activities: (Detail Annex Table No. 10).

## Achievement Analysis

In the activity year, issues/themes relating to fundamentalism and terrorism, talim, violence against women and their legal rights, irregularities in service sector. constitutional rights, but above all khas land and shrimp commercial cultivation were given more importance.

Besides observing various national days, the cultural group participated in most of NK programme activities, including various movements and agitation by performing peoples' drama and song in local hat/bazaar. For all their activities/performances, the groups have received much appreciation and praise from all relevant stakeholders and this has surely enhanced momentum in their activity. Numerical evaluation

## Box 9

## Voice of a rickshaw puller

Name: Jubbar Ali, (52). Two weeks have passed since he arrived in Dhaka. He was watching a drama standing on a rickshaw in the open stage in Rabindra Sarobar. He hails from village Patgram in Lalmonirhat zila. How did you like the drama staged by landless group? I am a poor man. I pull rickshaw. I do not under stand politics. " Dhaner Shees and Nauka" (Symbol of two major political parties )Sheaf of nice and boat, they are ruining the country. There is no peace. We are in real trouble. I cannot understand what you have written on the banner. I do not understood what is fundamentalism. After viewing I have understand. I know that during war they were Rajakars. Now bangla bhai is killing people all over the country by exploding bomb. The government is not being able to do anything. Rural people are staging drama in Dhaka, that two about banglabhai! They have guts! People in Dhaka are educated. Why don't you stage these dramas in the villages? Any way. Listen to this, in the government they have leaders, does the country belong to them? You all are younger, what they have depicted in the drama we have witnessed these during war. Now we are frightened to talk. Show these dramas to the rural people, explain to them. Also listen o this, I will tell you something. Don't relate to anybody. The youngsters are joining these groups for money. We are unable to resist them. By staging drama every month explain to the youngsters. Influence them. Only than people like bangla bhai will be caught. I am going. I pull rickshaw for half-a-day. The owner is increasing the rent.

reflects more than satisfactory achievement in their activities. As per plan, the rate of formation of cultural group is 43%. This is 29% more than last year. At present total 56 organisations are conducting cultural group's activities. As per plan the rate of implementation of activities by the groups are as follows: Cultural group's meeting 95%, cultural discussion 120%, staging of people's drama 121%, cultural road march 75% and people's song function 124%. Besides, in the activity year the landless group's have been able to chalk out programmes on various national and international days, such as on 21 February international mother language day, 8

March international women's day, 26 March Independence day. Besides, 18 April Kachmati killing day, 1<sup>st</sup> May International labour day, 3 November Zainal killing day, 7 November shahid Korunamoiyee day, 9 December Rokeya Dibash and 16 December Liberation day etc. In the activity areas these days were observed through rally, laying of floral wreath, discussions, meeting, gathering and cultural functions. The activities of landless cultural groups

Table 16 : Cultural Activities					
Description	Р	Α			
Formation of cultural group	6	3			
Meetings of cultural group	643	614			
Cultural Discussion	109	131			
Drama	399	483			
Padajatra/ Cultural Week	4	3			
Cultural Functions	270	335			
(P=Plan, A=Achiever	ment)				

have made it possible in the work areas to unite the people and create pubic opinion against

#### Box 10

The landless organisation Bagatipara thana in Natore district made preparation to observe independence Day. Before the function started the rival fundamental group and the terrorist belonging to the government made alliance attacked the landless group at the stage. In this situation the landless group on 28 March 2006 organised a protest meeting in the presence of a huge public. Again they made preparation to celebrate Independence day. In these celebrations students from various schools expressed their desire to participate. On 3<sup>rd</sup> April about five hundred males/females through rally, gathering, cultural function, people's drama and people song celebrated Independence Day with the participation of school students. As a result the local people have been influenced by the landless groups to make queries. It may be mentioned that the landless group went to the thana to file case against the anti-liberation forces. But the thana did not accept the case. Later on the landless group filed a case in the court.

fundamentalist forces. It will determine future activities and act as a guide for future generation.

## 3.2B.2 Other Cultural Activities (e.g. long march, etc.)

## Achievement Analysis

In the activity year, the landless groups planned to organise 4 cultural long marches. Except in Rajshahi division, in all the other three divisions the landless group had been successful in

## Box 11

## Struggle for observing victory day

The landless group made preparation to organise long march on 16 December, 2005 in Gangi area's Bhatpara center. It was decided that after the function on 16 December the long march would start from Noapara primary school ground. The local fundamental group started obstructing the activities of the landless group. During rehearsal the fundamental leaders came and warned the landless group. "You can do what you are doing, but women can not participate in these activities. And do not try to play the role of Razakars with false beard." The landless group replied in clear terms, "we are all brother and sisters. Amongst us there is no difference between male-female. Besides, those who were Razakars in 71, we will depict them in their actual self, in their actual outfit. There is no harm in depicting the truth. Hence, we, male and female, will celebrate victory Day programme together." Later on to destabilize law and order in the area the fundamental group organised "waz mahfil" religions discussion in the same venue on 16<sup>th</sup> December. In this situation the landless organisation informed the administration about the matter. After this by taking comprehensive measures and ignoring all the obstacles the landless members celebrated victory day in the school ground with long march.

organising long march. The rate of implementation is 75%. During long march people's attention was attracted by playing drama and showing "lathi khela" in the local bazar and school ground. In the spontaneous gathering after brief discussion. people's drama was staged. This received instant acceptance by the grassroots people. It may mentioned that at be Gangni in Khulna districts, landless the groups performed special programme the on occasion of 16 December 2005 with participation of women members. But the local fundamental groups obstructed the activities.

Despite this, the landless organisations, together with other local cultural and professional groups were successful in celebrating the Victory Day and they organized a gathering at dawn and various other performances/activities throughout the day.

## Comment

The cultural groups are formed after a long-drawn scrutiny. As a result despite NK's intention, the process of forming groups was delayed. In the activity year the cultural groups have organised issue based activities. Besides, for movements and agitation the performance of cultural activities such as people's song, people's drama were organised more than the target.

## Lessons learnt

In landless group's cultural activities fundamentalist attack can take place any time. Hence, in future, for organizing cultural activities it is necessary to take into consideration mass participation. Besides, it is necessary to give definite emphasis on the issues/themes for conducting the activities continuously.

## 3.2B.3 Training for improving the quality of the staff and activities

*N* ijera Kori from the very beginning is following the strategy to improve the quality of the staff by encouraging the initiative and participation of the staff. This strategy basically encourages and emphasises the progress of skill-building. The strategies are as follows: first, weekly meetings at sub-center, monthly anchalic, bi-monthly divisional parishad, quarterly Nibahi parishad meetings in which subject based training is organized. Second,: regular collection of information and dissemination of those information in the sub center so that the individuals practice the learning. Third,: to organize cultural and issue based training and workshop such as primary, mid level and higher-level groups. Fourth, to gain experience, in various group training and ensure that every staff participate. In addition, regular evaluation of all these strategies in staff meeting, council and representative meeting are being carried out, along with taking definite steps in improving the quality of the staff and formulating relevant policies in this regard.

## **Achievement Analysis**

Positive changes are noticeable of NK's training. Comparatively the staff have gained proficiency in their effort to use the information. This is evident from the staff's queries in various meeting. Besides, the process of identifying the demand for necessary information and the strategy of collecting has gained momentum. This momentum helps to evaluate the information collection process and also the quality of the while implementing information village based policy. Besides in joint committee meetings. mutual accountability between groups and staff has been strengthened. In the activity year due to regular training

## Box 12

## Voice of the participants

The knowledge that is essential we learn from school and college. Our education does not depict the actual picture of our country. The fact that we are poor, we are studying with the money from labour class, this thought never occurred to us before. This was our actual education. The opportunity to associate with everyone, everybody's participation in every work, though it was hard work, we liked it. Actually we never washed the plates before. Mother- Sister served us affectionately. But every one can do every job that we have seen here. Every one must do every job, This has made a great impression on me. I have learnt this. After primary staff training in January 2006. (New staff training) Mahbuba Yasmeen and Rafiqual Islam said while relating their experiences.

with special emphasis on three subjects such as account management, P.M.E (planning, monitoring and evaluation) method and computer training, the staff's strategic proficiency has increased. In the activity year primary, mid level and higher conscious level training have been implemented.

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Table 17: Activities for improving the quality of staff						
Description	Im	Implementation				
Description		М	F	Т		
Training						
First Level	2	25	33	58		
Middle Level	1	17	10	27		
Advanced Level	2	47	17	64		
Cultural (Basic)	1	12	11	23		
Cultural (Advancement)	2	16	24	40		
Land Laws & Management	4	62	31	93		
Citizens Rights and Constitutional Guarantees	4	58	41	99		
Workshop on improving the quality	of the	e staff	r			
Gender Workshop	1	11	24	35		
* Globalisation and Sustainable Development	12	6	18	24		
*Same participants participate in Globalisation and Sustainable Development Workshops. M=Male F=Female T=Total						

Besides, "land law and management", and cultural training (basic and progressive) was also given. On top of it, staff training on "citizen's right and constitutional guarantee" was initiated at the beginning of the activity year. In the activity year, one workshop was on gender has also been organized. It may be mentioned that this workshop was conducted by an expert from India. To increase the proficiency in participatory discussion and facilitation, one group was formed with 24 staff and group representatives. This group held one workshop (Two day long) every month and in total 12 workshops in twelve months. Besides, to make P.M.E method (planning, monitoring and evaluation) more effective, 4 workshops were held at divisional level and one workshop was held at center level as a first step. To increase the proficiency of staff in accounts division one one-day

long workshop was organized. It may be mentioned that in a training organised by partner organisation E.E.D on "account management training" two of N.K's staff participated.

Besides, the staff also participated in various trainings organised by various organisations. Such as F.N.B (Federation of NGOs in Bangladesh) organised training on "policy on kash land distribution and kabuliat" and three staff participated in this training. Two staff from training cell participated in a training course named, "the method of assessing the demand for training" and the method of implementing training curriculum" organised by A.L.R.D. (Association for Land Reform and Development). Besides, one staff participated in a workshop on "urban society, organisation and influence of information policy", by Unnayan Onneshan, and other staff participated in a training organised by SEHD (society for environmental and human development) on "reporting".

## Lessons learnt

It is necessary to organize continuous training for skill building of the staff and groups as well. This will enable the process of identifying weaknesses by field level application and again through workshop the process of gaining proficiency will be ensured.

## CHAPTER THREE SECTION 3: SPECIAL AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

PART 3A special activities

## 3.3A.1 Legal Aid (Detail annex table - 15)

s 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 form the state as well as the society. The increasing success has threatened the local vested groups who systematically try to harass the landless groups by conspiring against them, filing false lawsuits and using the police to persecute the landless groups. In such a context, legal recourse is one of the most potent means for the landless people to defend their rights and for which legal aid is extremely necessary for those affected people. When the number of cases is larger the cost is too high for the landless groups to support, it is at that moment that they they turn to Nijera Kori for financial assistance. Nijera Kori after discussing and considering the situation sanction the required amount of money if the case potentially bear importance in the movement to establish the rights of the landless groups.

#### Achievement Analysis

In the current year, the number of cases filed by the local elite decreased by 58% than that of last year. In total, 239 cases were dismissed by court which is 285% more than last year. Out of this, 223 cases were decided in favour of the landless. Most of these cases were dismissed as the complainant could not prove necessary evidence. Only 16 cases were decided against the landless. Landless organisation appealed to the higher court against these verdicts. It may be mentioned that the opponent did not make

Table 18: Legal Aid						
2004-05	2005-06					
531	733					
255	108					
62	239					
53	223					
9	16					
9	16					
733	618					
499	393					
234	225					
	2004-05 531 255 62 53 9 9 9 733 499					

any appeal for the cases which were decided against them. In the activity year landless organisation spent TK 92,290 from their savings for conducting these cases. Landless organisation also filed cases for violence against women like rape, killing, acid throwing etc. Besides they also filed cases for violating stay order of the higher court following a writ petition by the landless organisation against the declaration of shrimp zone by the government in the district of Noakhali.

## Comment

In the activity year total number of cases reduced, but there have been comparatively more new cases in Chittagong and Khulna divisions. Number of movements have also increased in these two divisions for possession of khas land. As a result powerful groups instituted false cases against the landless for harassing them and also attacked them in various ways. But the most encouraging is the rate of success in favour of the landless in all these cases.

## Box 13

## Legal Battle of Poor People Security

Elite controlled than a police do not listen to the complaints of the poor, don't accept cases. We have filed Writ Petition before the Honourable High Court in 2004, against the government declaration of shrimp zone. Honourable High Court issued stay order against the implementation of the government declaration. But land grabbing jotedars and shrimp farmers were preparing shrimp gher by evicting the inhabitating landless from the khas land by violating court's order. They attacked us when protested. Police station (Thana) refused to accept our case against the shrimp farmers. But the thana accepts the case of the shrimp farmers under the influence of powerful and bribe, what law is it?" This has been narrated by the accused of the case instituted by shrimp farmers against landless leader Sakina (45) and Amena (35) of Charijauddin under Subarnachar thana. Another accused of shrimp's farmers case landless leaders Abu Taher (38) of Charjiauddin raised question about the role of the law enforcing police force and said", "police do not follow law but law follow police". He further stated," We are making preparation for filing contempt of court case. Thana police do not listen to us .They do not take our cases. But we have so far instituted 7/8 CR cases in the court. Besides we have submitted 5/6 petitions to the office of the Superintendent of Police. Problem is that the trial of cases instituted by us has not yet began, but our member brothers and sisters are in jail custody in the 4 GR cases instituted by the shrimp farmers. If necessary we will go to jail but we want to see the law to the last as to in whose favour it is?"

## Lessons Learnt

From the experience of the activity year, it is assumed that struggle and movement by the landless will increase specially in Charjabbar and Paikgacha areas. In this context false case for harassment may also increase. This is likely to bog down time of the NK's staff quite substantially. So it is necessary to develop more close relationship with well wisher groups specially lawyers, journalist, and others.

## 3.3A.2 Educational Activities

D ue to absence 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 mass movement and undertaking group activities to provide education to the deprived section of the society.

## **Achievement Analysis**

Landless organisation is running educational activities in 30 primary schools, 4 lower secondary schools and 1 night school at their own initiative and management. There are 17,381 (Boys 7,798 and girls 9,583) students in these schools. In the

Table 19: Educational Activities						
Description	Number of School & Students					
	Number	Male	Female			
Primary School	30	7,261	8,972			
Junior High School	4	537	611			
Night School	1 30 20					

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activity year 5,568 students (Boys 6,965 and girls 3,603) increased. Besides group members are running literacy activity with the help of local students. In the activity year about 9,700 members have become literate which is more than last year by 5,335 members. Landless members also spent TK 66,658 out of group savings for solidarity activities in education (TK 51,978/= to group members and TK 14,680 to non members).

#### Box 14

#### Position of Educational Institution

Registration of 18 schools completed out of 30 schools. 6 schools have received primary registration from the office of DD (Deputy Director), 3 schools receive some monetary help from other institutions (Community) 3 schools have received government recognition. Registration of 2 out of 4 lower secondary schools have been completed but not included in the M.P.O. Registration of one schools is in process. Comparatively girl students in primary and lower secondary schools are increasing more than the boy students. This reflects the awareness of the concerned families about the importance of women education and equal opportunity. In the activity year registration of 5 primary schools and 1 lower secondary school have been completed but are still waiting for MPO (GoB subvention), although the process for this has also been initiated.

#### 3.3A.3 Livestock Vaccination Activities

n 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. Moreover, to encourage cattle farming by using the indigenous method, group members have arranged a training center in Noongola where experimental activities are on going. In this

Table 20 : Livestock Vaccination	
Description	Achieveme
	nt
Vaccination	98,750
Treatment	9,749

programme, NK only helped in establishing contact with thana officials in getting and giving vaccination. In this activity year 24,560 families have been benefited from such activities.

## CHAPTER THREE SECTION 3: SPECIAL AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

PART 3B other activities

## 3.3B Networking and action for advocacy

ijera Kori is an activist organisation. Nijera Kori has been organizing the landless and peoples of the disadvantaged and marginalized section of the society for achieving N their basic rights. Above all, it is conducting activities to enhance their capacity in establishing those rights. The landless organisations have had a rather long tradition of success, in creating extensive publice opinion at local level in support of their struggle. This has strengthened the process of putting pressure on the policy It is in this context Nijera Kori has been undertaking advocacy and campaigning activities together with landlessgroups/organizations on issues that are vital for the land less peoples. These activities are conducted at various level local, national or international level.

## 3.3B.1 Local level

n the activity year, Nijera Kori undertook various activities/initiatives at.the aftermath of country-wide fundamentalist bomb attacks together with the landless organizations/groups and other like-minded organizations such as, Muktijoddha Sangsad, Projonmo 71, Mohila Parishad, Press clubs, etc. As a result of undertaking these initiatives it has been possible to develop open forum under the banner of Udjapon Parishad, Gono Udayog and Notun Disha in the work areas of Noakhali, Debidwar, Tangail, Meherpur, Rangpur and Kumarkhali.

In all these activities organized by open forum at thana and district level, the members of the landless organisation were able to participate in discussions with local and national level personalities. The observance of national and international days included Korunamoyee, Joinal and Kachmoti killing days. Above all, the landless organisations, undertook various movement and agitations (detail case study 'the access to government and non-government service facilities and the position of the masses', 'politics of unemployment: wage of the day labourer') for establishing their rights. What is significant to note here is that all these activities have contributed, in a considerable manner, the network and liaison of the landless organizations with various other like-minded groups and associations, such as local rickshaw van puller association, Coolie labourer association, bus/truck labourer association etc. And this relationship of mutual cooperation will flourish even further in the coming years.

The landless organisation has participated at local level dialogues for solving litigations (*salish*) and other local conflicts. In the activity year, the landless groups or their representatives participated/facilitated in 349 rural *shalish* as arbitrator.

The landless organisations have also organised 821movement/agitation on various issues in total in the activity year, a significant increase from last year. In all these movements/agitations the landless organisation received spontaneous support from all relevant stakeholders. As a result there has been a growing awareness that the local issues are not problems only for the

landless organisation but these problems are everybody's problem in general. This is a very important achievement for NK, most particularly for the landless people.

In the activity year 4,616 discussion meeting were held between landless organisation, administration and professional groups on local issues at the initiative of the landless groups. It may be mentioned that 2,906 meeting were held at the initiative of the landless group and 1,710 meeting were held at the initiative of the administration. This is 15% more than last year. It may be also mentioned that there is 3% rise in meeting initiated by the administration. In all these meetings the landless organisations have been able to present their problems and received very good support, particularly from the administration. This network and solidarity the landless group is being able to keep pressure on the administration for taking remedial measures.

#### 3.3B.2 District and National level

In the activity year all the activities were organised keeping in mind the issues important to the landless organisation. The issues are mainly khas land, water bodies, commercial shrimp cultivation, land registration amendment law, the negative impact of globalisation on life and livelihood, secularism, democracy, fundamentalism and above all the recent burning issue of garment workers wage and their job security. Following is a brief summary of the activities;

In the activity year Nijera Kori and ALRD jointly organized 5 workshops, "Khas water body: the position of the people deprived of land laws and their excess." Through these workshops, at district level it was possible to identify the problems and relevant solutions most of which are burning issues for the landless groups. At national level, Nijera Kori and ALRD jointly organised on 4 August 2005 a seminar on, "land registration (amendment) law 2004, Reality in Bangladesh and an attempt to bring relief in people's life." In this seminar the Minister of Law and Parliamentary Affaires, Government of Bangladesh, high officials and representatives from professional groups were present.

To revive the ideals of liberation war, from Intellectual Martyr's day on 14 December 2005 till 26 March 2006, procession with national flag was organised from central Shahid Minar on every Friday. Nijera Kori staff played a predominant role in this initiative. More than 100 pro-liberation war organisations gave institutional support and expressed solidarity with the initiative. Eventually in various district thanas similar processions were organised.

- For job security of the garment workers and for their rights security forum has been developed jointly by several development and human rights organisations and worker's federations. Nijera Kori played a predominant role in this initiative. This has resulted with significant success, most importantly in the recognition to form trade union in garment industry in which NK played a very important part.
- In Dhaka, prior to WTO's Hong Kong convention, NK and other organisation jointly organized activities on dissemination of news and creating public opinion. As part of this initiative, the landless organisations organized rallies and other activities at grassroots level. They also put their signatures on a banner which was raised in Hong Kong in one of the protests. Furthermore, on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2005 two day long convention was

organised in Rabindra Sarobor's open theatre jointly with the theme "Solidarity Forum for Fair Trade," In this convention the leaders of landless organisation related their experiences in the light of impact created by unfair global trade in the presence of national level professional personalities and intellectuals. Besides, after the open discussion of the day the landless cultural groups staged people's drama and people's song's to depict the impact of globalisation and it's reality and present their rightful demand. In the activity year Nijera Kori and ADD (Action on Disability and Development) have initiatied some joint activities and as part of this celebrated Disability Day on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2006, along with a seminar on the topic "National Disabled women's convention".

- Nijera Kori supported in the participation of an Adivashi delegation in India on the celebrations of the 150 years anniversary of Santal Hul Revolt.
- Nijera Kori also supported the participation of the representatives of "Bangladesh Dalit Human Rights Group" in Asian Social Forum.
- Nijera Kori has played lead role in forming a national "Facts Finding Mission" on the attacks on Ahamadiya Communities in Rangpur and greater Mymenshing areas.
- In Rasulpur areas of Debidwar thana in Comilla District, 20 landless families belonging to Hindu community have been victims of a brutal robbery. Together with landless groups, Nijera Kori and other human rights organisations formed a "Fact Finding Mission". The "Fact Finding Mission" visited the area on 9 August 2005. On the basis of facts presented by the aforesaid mission, the administration was compelled to accept the case and take security measures in the area.
- For Chittagong Hill Tract adivashi land rights, and various accusations of violence against women, including rape, Nijera Kori has undertaken a joint dialogue, including a Fact Finding Mission. Preparations on this are on-going.

#### 3.3B.3 National and International Level

- In the activity year at national and international level, Nijera Kori conducted/undertook various networking and advocacy activities jointly with other like-minded organizations... The organizations are ISANet (Industrial Shrimp Action Network), World Social Forum, Fian (Food First Information and Action Network) IMSE, EJF (Environmental Justice Foundation) FNB (Federation of NGOs in Bangladesh) ALRD (Association for Land Reform and Development) BELA (Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association) MAP (Mangrove Action Programme), SSNC (Swedish Society for Nature Conservation) and WRFM (World Rain Forest Movement)
- Nijera Kori also has undertaken other joint activities on peace building and violence against women. As part of this, NK has become member of three -networks, namely PISA (Piece in South Asia), SANGAT South Asia and Asia Shrimp Net-work. NK has been playing a very active role in all these networks.
- In the activity year Nijera Kori has initiated a joint partnership MKSS on exchange of experience on information dissemination and social audit. The joint activities will start next year.

- Nijera Kori organised a workshop on gender in partnership with SANGAT where its founder Kamla Bhasen, a noted women activist in South Asia also participated.
- On the issue of commercial shrimp cultivation, from the beginning Nijera Kori is conducting joint activities with ISANet (Industrial shrimp Action Network). In the activity year with the support of partner organisation ICCO, initiatives have been undertaken to develop network with producing countries in Asia. Nijera Kori is performing the role of secretariat in this network. Preparations for organising a regional meeting to formulate policy and coordinate activities in this regard are ongoing.
- In the activity year in total 584 news on issues of landless organisation's activities on movement/agitation and demands were published in 32 notional and local news papers.(National news paper like Dainik Sangbad, Dainik prothom Alo, Dainik Ajker Kagoj, Dainik Bhorer Kagoj, Dainik Ittefaq, Dainik BanglaBazar Patrika, DainikJonokantha, Dainik Somokal, Dainik Amader Samay, Dainik MathriBhesa, Dainik Manab Jamin, Dainik Amar Desh, The Daily Star, The Daily News, The Indipendent, Dainik Jugantar, local paper such as Dainik Rupashi Bangla, Dainik Comilla Kagoj, Dainik Koratoa, Dainik Mukta Kagoj, Dainik Juger Alo, Dainik UttarBango Barta, Dainik Jonodesh, Dainik Gnojagoran, Saptahik Dibakar, Jatiyo Gonofront, Maglumer Kantho, Saptahik somokal Barta, Saptahik Desh Kahini, Pakkhik Lok Sangbad etc.) Among these, the important news were on illegal occupation of khas land and water bodies, commercial shrimp cultivation, women persecution, fundamentalism and attack on landless men and women, agitation, movement, protest meetings presenting memorandum and gherao by 8 landless organisation. These are positive aspects in information dissemination and creating public opinion for realising the demands.

#### 3.3B.4 various means of implementing advocacy activities



o implement advocacy activities at national and international level it is important to gather information and translate these in Bangla. In the activity year Nijera kori has taken some steps on a few important issues. They are:

- Two books on "political Economy of khas Land in Bangladesh" and "Political Economy of Land Litigation in Bangladesh" have been translated in Bangla with the assistance of HDRC (Human Development Research Center).
- Nijera Kori and Ain O Shalish Kendra (ASK) have jointly undertaken an initiative to compile a report, based on local and national newspapers clippings, on revival of fundamentalist activities and country-wide bomb attacks.
- One position paper has been written on the present situation created by commercial shrimp cultivation. The paper will be presented in Asia shrimp Net-work Forum.
- In the activity year Nijera kori and Unnayan Onneshan have jointly published 4 quarterly IFI watch bulletin both in Bangla and English. As a result the role of international monetary institution, foreign aid or grant and it's impact have been made clear among the public.

### CHAPTER THREE SECTION 3: SPECIAL AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

# PART 3C accountability and implementation of activities

#### 2.3C Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Process

N ijera 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 (Executive Council) meetings, staff-representative meetings, field tours by staff-representatives, experience gathering tours, staff conventions and councils, ensure the participation of all persons.

Thirdly, activities are analyzed in the General and Executive Council meetings. This ensures accountability and transparency of NK's activities vis-à-vis all its stakeholders.

Besides, the Governing and general body participate, analyse, review and give necessary directions.

#### 2.3C.1 Participation of Landless Organisations in Planning, Monitoring and Analyzing

- The groups through 7,893 yearly meetings analyzed the group activities and approved the next activity year's plan. This participation has increased since last year by 2%.
- By organizing 293 group conventions at villages, unions, thanas and divisions the activities of particular areas are analyzed and next activity year's plan is formulated. This is an increase of 15% from last year.
- 1,342 representative meetings, 1224 joint meetings and 3,011 various level's committee meetings were held. In these meetings the group representatives and committee members reviewed the present position of the activities, identified their successes and failures and took decisions on necessary actions to be taken.
- By organizing 192 workshops the activities are reviewed and analyzed and a new work plan is formulated in the light of new experience.
- In the activity year, group members of Khulna division participated in experience sharing activities. In this programme the members travel from one area to another and live there 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 relevant policy.

#### 2.3C.2 The NK staff in Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Process

- In the activity year initiative was taken for village based planning for which, village committee meeting and representative meeting, were held.
- 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.
- It has been possible to hold regularly bi-monthly divisional parishad meetings, and quarterly Executive Council meetings. As a result necessary actions were taken in the light of experience gathering tours by the representatives.
- In the activity year staff council was organized. Nijera Kori's annual plan was formulated and approved in this meeting.
- In the activity year representatives' meeting was held twice. In these meetings, plans were made by reviewing all the activities and also by reviewing mid-term activities and exchanging experiences. Besides, in the representative meeting there were discussions on administration, account, report and necessary steps were determined. Recommendation of MTR and OPR were discussed and approved which are now being implemented.
- Regular organisational and training cell meetings were held. In the meetings detailed discussions were held on organizational and training activities and the necessary method of operation was determined to overcome the weaknesses and shortcomings.
- In the activity year the Governing Body held 4 meeting and General body held one Annual General Meeting and analysed and ratified activities and planning.
- 2.3C.3 Analysis of activities, participation of experienced personalities in assessing achievement

# N ijera Kori's general and executive council meetings were held regularly. The annual report and annual budget were approved in the annual general meeting. Quarterly financial report and quarterly budget have been approved in the Executive Council meeting after due discussion.

- In the activity year mid-term review was held in agreement with all the partner organisations. By analyzing the progress of the activities the report was duly approved. Some of the proposals of the report have already been implemented in Nijera Kori's staff representative meeting & council meeting 2004. Other proposals will be gradually implemented in next year.
- In the activity year a two- day- long partners' meeting was held on 23 and 24 February 2006. The representatives of Christian Aid, DFID, EED, ICCO, and the Swallows participated in the meeting.

#### Comment

In the activity year workshop was held for increasing the skill and efficiency of the staff for village based qualitative planning in the context of last years achievement and learning. This was done following DFID's recommendations for increasing NK's capacity in using revised Logframe and participatory monitoring process. Next year a professional team will help Nijera Kori in this respect for a short time. For this Nijera Kori decided to take long term help from experts as a matter of policy. It is expected that the present PME process will be made more logical and effective after re-evaluation.

#### Lesson learnt

In the activity year village based qualitative planning has been adopted. But there are still some weaknesses among the staff in fully utilizing the relevant tools and methods. However, it is expected that this learning will strengthen the future planning process.

#### 3.3C.4 Others and follow up activities

#### 3.3C.4.1 Other activities

#### 3.3C.4.1.1 Research Work

- Nijera Kori is taking part in the research work, "Survey of Agricultural Khas Land" under the management of Federation of NGOs in Bangladesh (FNB) following the decision taken in the 19<sup>th</sup> meeting of "National Agricultural Khas Land Management Committee" of Ministry of Land. Nijera Kori is doing surveys in two thanas of Noakhali and Khulna districts. Work of collecting information has been completed and the report will be ready in the next year.
- Although the vested property Act was cancelled it has been done only on paper., As a result, this has turned out to be rather a black law. Previously Nijera Kori participated with like minded institutions and played active role in various activities for the cancellation of this law. Nijera Kori jointly with ALRD and SAMATA has taken up research as a follow up study of the cancelled position of Vested Property Act before public. It may be mentioned that the research work is being done by the previous research institution HDRC. In this activity year collection of information is in process.
- Case study in respect of monitoring transparency and observing that participation of local communities are ensured by donors such as ADB and GEF in the now abandoned Sundarbans Biodiversity Conservation Project (SBCP) has been completed jointly by Nijera Kori and Forest Peoples Programme (FPP). Research work done by "Unnayan Onneshan". The findings were presented at the district level workshops in the activity year. Besides another study of the people dependent on the Sundarbans has been undertaken in the light of 10c of the Convention for Biological Diversity.
- In this activity year, work of information collection for a research project "A research based study of Brackish Water shrimp cultivation in Coastal Bangladesh and its consequences" is in process by Research and Advisory Services (RAS) on behalf of Nijera Kori. Exchange of experience sharing meeting was held with Nijera Kori staff with the information. The research report will be published in the activity year 2006-2007.

#### 3.3C.4.1.2 Role of elected members in Union Parishad and other committees

In the activity year elected members of landless organisation regularly participated in the various committee meetings with other members. In some cases the elected members raised

concerns and demands for holding regular meeting with such activities and initiatives elected landless members earned the confidence of general public It is evident from this that the members are capable of enforcing transparency and accountability. As a result other members are also subjected to the united pressure for transparency and accountability.

#### 3.3C.4.1.3 Solidarity Activities

In the activity year many facilities in Bagatipara area of Rajshahi Division were seriously affected by Tornado. Embankment in Baroaria working area within Paikgacha thana of Khulna Division in the coastal area was damaged by sudden on rush of water due to high tide. As a result many people became water logged. Affected people solved their problem temporarily with their own resources and help from others. As per request for financial help from landless organisation, financial help from the solidarity fund was given to 500 families of Bagatipara and 138 families of Paikgacha Thana to rebuild their houses under the management of groups.

#### Box :15

Rasulpur Union is within Debidwar Thana under Comilla District. Armed dacoity took place in 20 houses within one week from 6<sup>th</sup> July. Out of these 10 houses belonged to the minority community. Landless leader Fajar Ali, who is on elected member of Rasulpur Union Parishad informed to Fact Finding Mission," Netai Paul did not agree to file case for dacoty at Thana inspite of repeted requests". But on the following day of the incident he talked with the landless members and gave the names of probable dacoits to the Thana. He also informed "I went to the Union Parishad along with the landless. Chairman called a meeting of Union Parishad at dusk on the pressure of members. No good response was received from the meeting. But after the meeting chairman discussed with the landless members. We decided to guard our village every night unitedly."

#### 3.3C.4.1.4 Silver jubilee: 25 years of activism with the marginalized and the deprived

Nijera Kori began its work in the year 1980 with some socially committed individuals who were motivated with the principles of liberation war. The journey that was initiated at that time, have now completed its 25 years in the year 2005. and along the way have attracted fellow travellers of thousands of deprived people. From the beginning Nijera Kori is trying to unite the deprived people to form independent landless organization without any credit or service oriented programme and achieve self-sustainability so that they can protest against all types of irregularities, corruption and disparity and establish their constitutional rights. Nijera Kori believes that micro credit and service oriented programme increase dependability of the poor people. It is more important to unite the people and increase awareness rather than providing microcerdit and service. Nijera Kori also thinks that it is possible to develop a nation without disparity by uniting and awarding the deprived men and women of the rural areas. Towards that goal Nijera Kori is working for the last 25 years as an acceptable institution of all. During the last 25 years landless organisation organised movement and struggle on various crises, e.g. commercial shrimp cultivation, establishment of rights on khas land, violation against women, gender equity, fair wage, fundamentalism and all types of injustices and corruption including establishment of human rights. In this way they have earned the confidence of grass root people. As a result oppressed people are becoming more aware about their rights and realising

the importance of movement and struggle for establishing their rights. 25 years of movement and struggle have enriched the achievement of Nijera Kori and made the future hopeful. Future promises were strengthened by the sacrifice of landless leader Saheed Karunamoyee, Kashmati and Joynal. They have become Shaheed in the barbarous attack by the shrimp cultivators and land grabbers for taking possession of the land of the landless. Many landless men and women and their friends were subjected to various attacks and oppression during the long years of movement and struggle. So to commemorate the completion of 25 years of movement of pride and honour, year wide programme were drawn up.

Silver Jubilee celebration was inaugurated on 9 June 2005 at Noongola of Bogra after the end of Nijera Kori annual staff convention.

Seminar on the "Economy of Fundamentalism in Bangladesh" "Poter gan" served by Nijera Kori staff, two dramas by Center for Asian Theater (CAT), drama Chey's Cycle, by Bangla Theater were included in the inaugural programme. Some of the Nijera kori staff narrated past stories of Nijera Kori. Besides Nijera Kori staffs many prominent persons also attended the inaugural programme.

Later Silver Jubilee was celebrated through out the year in 21 places, namely Tangail Sadar, Deldwar, Chandina, Daudkandi, Debidwar, Noakhali Sadar, Char Jabbar, Sandwip, Ramgoti, Gangni, Kumarkhali, Paikgacha, Batiaghata, Dumuria, Shaghata, Pirginj, Palasbari, Natore, Bagatipara, Raygonj, and Khansama. Thousandes of landless men and women of landless organisation were present in each celebration. Stories of NK by landless leaders for 25 years, discussion meeting and mass musical song and mass drama were included in the programme. It is apparent from the initiative of the landless leaders that silver jubilee is not Nijera Kori's alone but it is of landless organisation also. Professionals, well wishers and labourers were present in the celebration. In continuation to the celebration two day celebration was held on 27 and 28 January 2006 at Dhaka. Past stories by landless member and staff, discussion, mass drama, mass music were included in the central programme. Four drama namely 'Jiban Badal', 'Halkhata','Kader Mollar Kischa', 'Kul Nai Kinar Naire' were staged. Besides Poter gan 'Anek Kather Kichu Katha' was also staged. Through this 25 years of Nijera Kori activities/ histories were shown. It may be noted that Silver Jubilee celebration will be concluded through staff council 2006.

#### 3.3C.4.2 Follow-up activities

#### 3.3C.4.2.1 Information centre

In order to strengthen advocacy programme, and for collection and dissemination of information two centres at Khulna and Noakhali have been established. As a result collection of information and dissemination have increased in respect of commercial shrimp cultivation, violation of human rights, commercial tobacco cultivation and illegal possession and use of government khas land and water bodies. These information are being published in the local and national newspapers.

#### 3.3C.4.2.2 Health Watch Committee Activities

12 Health Watch Committees, 4 at thana level and 8 at union level, have been formed on experimental basis with landless members and representative in four divisions and all the committees are now functional. The committees collect information about the duty records of doctors, treatment with patients, providing medical service in exchange of money at the hospital, procedure of supply of free medicine, etc. and then disseminate those information among the public. People are now getting proper treatment from the doctors at the hospital, besides the relevant information on Health services. To create the motto of "health services are not donation but fundamental rights" discussion meeting and dramas are being organised. It may be mentioned that one group from International Women's Health Coalition (IWHC) visited Bagatipara Health Watch Committee to see the activities of the committee.

#### 3.3C.4.2.3 Civil Construction

Nijera kori has taken the initiative of building infrastructure to facilitate activities. Details of new constructions, extensions and repairs in the activity year are given below;

- Buildings with land were purchased for Khulna Training centre in Maniktala near Khulna Town.
- Land has been purchased for Bagatipara area office. Civil construction work will be taken up later on with the availability of fund.
- Repair and extension work at Baroaria under Paikgacha area and Bagga sub-centre of Char Jabbar area were completed.

It may be noted that a committee is formed in each area for the purchase of land and construction, extension and repair of building. In the case of purchase of land and building for Khulna Training Centre, senior member of Nijera Kori Managing committee was appointed as chairman of the purchase committee. All activities of purchase of land and civil construction are executed through the purchase committee.

#### 3.3C.4.2.4 Administration and Financial Statement

83 staff were appointed in the activity year. There are at present 461 staff (male 318 and female 143). Out of these 108 (male and female) are service staffs. In the activity year TK. 81,206,911.19 were received from the partner organisations and TK. 86,823,209.66 were spent. Details are stated in the annual financial and audit report.

### **CHAPTER FOUR**

### CASE STUDY

CASE STUDY 1 Irregularities in land management: Conditions of landless and marginal population

#### Irregularities in land management: Conditions of landless and marginal population

D uring the activity year, the leaders of the landless organisations have been waging movement/ agitation in various work areas for establishing the rights of the landless population and against the irregularities prevalent in land management. Present activity years noticeable movement/ agitation ridden areas are Char Jabbar, Paikgacha, Sandwip, Rangpur, Raumari and Ramgati.

#### Important issues of the movement/agitation

n the activity area the main issues for which the landless organisation is waging  $\mathcal{I}$  movements/agitation follows as such - establishing the rights of the landless on khas land during land management demanding and ensuring the enlistment of genuine landless people, resisting looting of crops, sown by the landless people on the khas land. Besides, agitation/movement is also organised in various areas against the irregularities prevailing during survey of land -such as during survey in Rajibpur work area in Roumari.

### CASE STUDY 1.1 Resisting illegal occupation: Establishing the rights of the people on Khas land

#### Background

he char areas in Subarnachar thana, in Noakhali District have been solely under the jurisdiction of Ί the jotdar. Whenever a new char/khas land emerges the jotdars apply various tactics to occupy and keep the land under their control. By applying unscrupulous tactics the jotdars manipulate the landless people and use them. Actually, the jotdars, by exercising authority and by formulating social laws reduce the landless masses to the status of slaves. The jotdars persecute the women, dislodge the landless and if ever protests are made, than they face inhuman harassment and maltreatment. Even in 2001, according to the information published in the new papers, 47 jotdar/ terrorists were killed by the law enforcing agency alleging that they were pirates. At present the landless organisation is resisting the illegal occupation of land by shrimp cultivators, who by establishing entente with the jotdars are attempting to occupy land by hiring terrorists and lathials.

#### Landless organisation and protest

In the char areas of Noakhali the activities of the landless organisation is going on for a long time. But due to the disruption in communication, landless organisation was formulated in Char Zia., Char Uria and some other Chars in 2003-2004. It is because of the landless organisation that the deprived people are able to become a combined force to establish their right.

#### Box 16

News about the resistance movements by the landless members against the landgrabbers an d their terrorist activities in char areas have been published not only in local news papers but also in national dailies like Janakantha, Prothom Alo, Ittefaq, Sangbad, Manobjamin, Bhorer Kagoj, Samokal, Bangla Bazar Patrika, Jugantor, Ajker Kajog, the daily star, the daily Independent New Age etc

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Table 21: Possession and regain of khas lands and
water bodies in work areas

Area	Possession of Khas land	Possession of Water body	Regain of marginal farmer's land
Madhupur	-	5.87	-
Paikgacha	-	181.00	301.00
Kumarkhali	1.95	-	-
Gangni	2.13	0.41	-
Comilla	4.90	-	-
Ramgati	40	5.50	-
Sandwip	5.50	7.50	-
Char Jabbar	20,957	-	15.13
Roumari	0.39	-	0.46
Raygonj	96.70	-	-
Gaibandha	-	176.98	-
Total	21,108.57	377.26	316.59
Beneficiary	36,063	11,329	2,051

In the char areas of Noakhali, the landless population held a meeting on 2nd November 2005 to reinforce their movement for khas land. About 5 thousands male/female attended this meeting. In the meeting the landless members demanded that the government khas land must be distributed among the landless people according to government policy. At the same time they declared that the jotdars would not get a share of the crops sown in the khas land. After this declaration by the landless people the jotdars and shrimp cultivators made alliance and attempted to occupy land by harassing. intimidating and creating terrors. Since 2005, Globe Agrovate Industries Ltd. has been trying to expand shrimp gher by forcibly occupying land

through hired terrorists. With the assistance of the dacoits residing in the forest they created new ghers by building embankment in the land. On the other hand, the members of the landless organisation began to organise themselves against this. On 12th November 2005, the landless leader Shamsun Nahar and Siraj organised resistance against the occupying terrorists where about 2 thousands male/ female participated. In the face of united resistance the hired terrorist fled. Khas land was retrieved and the right of the landless people was established. During this movement when the police arrested one landless member the landless members gheraoed the police station and were able to free landless leader Siraj. It may be mentioned here that when the landless members went to the police station to file case for their security the case was not filed. On the other hand the case against the landless people by the shrimp cultivators was accepted.

Char Uria, 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2006, equipped with about 200 hired terrorists Jotdar Bhulu member came in the early hours of the morning to dislodge the landless members from the land. The terrorist suddenly barricaded all around char monja. To resist this attack instantly about one thousand male and female members of the landless groups gathered. By blowing horn, (in char areas this is practiced to transmit signal) they alerted the landless members of adjoining areas of Char Uria monja and the landless members after receiving the signal surrounded the terrorist from all sides. In this situation, to safeguard the interest of Bhulu member police force and the local chairman appeared in the scene to explore strategy for self-defense. They suggested that, dialogues should be held by both the feuding parties. The members of the landless organisation agreed to this suggestion to avoid impending clash. Bhulu member, for selfdefense also agreed to this proposal. Consequently, in the presence of thousands of landless members, Bhulu member admitted his mistake and expressed regret. He also promised in the midst of the landless members that in the future he would never come to the char areas again.

On February 2006, another incident of attack and counter resistance and movement occurred in Nobogram. One day a non-local jotdar, Bachchu Bandari gang hired hundreds of terrorists who

came on 10-15 motorcycles and 2 pickup vans and made a sudden expedition to dislodge the landless members from the khas land. When this news became known, an instant resistance by public was organised by the landless leaders. In the face of this formidable resistance the terrorists attempted to leave the scene by exploding few grenades. But the landless members, from before, surrounded them with a strong barricade. Hence while they were fleeing the members of the landless group caught 14 hired terrorists with two motorcycles and 2 pickup vans and handed them to the thana and filed case. A similar incident occurred in Char Clark. 15 March 2006, alliance leader Bashir Gang occupied khas land in Char Clark. On March 20 when the landless members went to uproot the flag of the occupiers, the hired terrorists of Bashir gang attempted to prevent them. But in the face of incredible resistance by the members of the landless groups, they fled.

CASE STUDY 1.2 Marginal farmers' right to food versus reign of plunder

#### Background

P arramnathpur is the name of the Char that has emerged from Kopotakkha River in Paikgacha thana of Haridhali union in Khulna district. In 1980 the impoverished landless families from neighboring area started settlement in this char. In 1985 the settled landless people of the char filed a case in the court for getting yearly lease of the land and the court gave verdict in favour of the landless people. Hence from 1985 onward the 44 families dwelling in the char started cultivating the land by taking yearly lease. In 2005 when the landless farmers appealed for lease, the lease was cancelled without any valid reason.

#### Landless organisation and protest

In this situation the landless people had a dialogue with the professional groups. According to the decision of the dialogue a group represented by lawyers and leaders of the landless groups met the district administration officer and submitted a written petition. The landless farmers from the neighboring areas also volunteered to help them in cutting the paddy without any wage. As a result almost 3 hundred landless farmers managed to reap and store the paddy from 36.87 acres of land on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2005.

On the 11<sup>th</sup> December 2006 nearly two thousands male/female landless members went to the office of the TNO. In the face of the demand of the landless members the TNO visited the area personally.

#### Result

The landless members thrashed the paddy and equally distributed among themselves. It may be mentioned that on the issue of khas land from 1980 to 2006, 80 cases filed in the name of the landless members are still going.

Table 22: Amount of paddy           in work areas			
Area	Amount of paddy (maund)		
Paikgacha	4,025		
Comilla	532		
Ramgati	105		
Char jabbar	931,395		
Roumari	25		
Total	936,082		
Beneficiary	39,809		

### CASE STUDY 1.3

Land Survey: Increase or Decrease or Land Complexity

Background

ad management in accurate preparation of record of rights about ownership and preservation of records are the main problem of land survey. For this reason increase of land litigation cases have created negative impact on the agro-based economy. These problems were not solved through various land surveys, rather problems were kept alive. In some cases problems were aggravated. The marginal farmers are entangled in various cases due to land law complexities which are created by the influence of the powerful elite controlled survey groups and their local touts. As a result in many cases the marginal farmers are losing their land and properties.

#### Irregularities and Injustice

Land survey of Rajibpur Thana under Kurigram District may be cited as an example. Land survey in Rajibpur thana began in October 2005. Employees of local settlement office created major complications in the papers relating to land survey purposely for illegal gratification during field survey, e.g. increasing or decreasing the amount of land, adding name of other in record of rights and creating differences with field *Parcha* and *Khatian*. Harassments and spending money became rutine matter to get out of this complexities but this situation is very difficult for the small and marginal framers. In this situation these problems are discussed in the group meeting of the landless. Unorganised farmers also request landless organisation to take necessary steps.

#### Landless organisation and Protest

Landless organisation decided to protest against irregularities and corruption in the union committee meeting of the landless and draw their programme of activities. According to the programme a group of trained members on land laws and management met settlement officer on 19 October 2005 under the leadership of union committee. Instances of irregularities and corruption of settlement staffs was revealed during discussion and in replies to various question of the landless members. Landless group members have meeting with various professional groups and mobilised public opinion. On 23 October 2005 landless organisation met in representative meeting for taking next programme. In the meeting programme was drawn up for submitting memorandum to the TNO and holding protests. On 25 October 2005 more than thousand men and women took part in the protest and rally. President of the protest and rally landless leader Hafiza Begum said, "We have come to protest against irregularities and corruption. Our movement will continue till the realisation of our demands. We want to live a proper life. We do not want to live like touts for others." At the end of the protest rally memorandum with mass signature was submitted to the TNO. In view of the memorandum TNO promised to take immediate action about the irregularities and corruption. Landless organisation clearly informed that they will go for greater movement if proper actions are not taken of their demands within two weeks. Copies of the mass signed memorandum was given to the Deputy Commissioner, Rangpur, Zonal settlement, officer, Rangpur and to all local level administration. On 6 December 2005 settlement office served a notice for making on the spot enquiry on the complaint of the landless organisation..

#### Result

At present activities of Rajibpur settlement office is controlled by Rangpur zonal office. As a result activities of local touts have reduced. Many problems of about 14 thousand families have been resolved in the meantime without bribe. Marginal and small farmers are discussing land related problems with landless leaders. In January 2006 TNO gave the responsibility for repairing the road from Rajibpur thana Head quarters to Noukaghat to the landless organisation.

CASE STUDY 1.4 Irregularities in the selection of landless, inclusion of jotdars and outsiders: challenge by the landless

#### Area

Noakhali district, various moujas of Subarna Char thana

#### Background

L and less people are habitating in char areas of Subarna char thana for the last 10-15 years. But due to the negligence of land administration no initiative was taken to declare their char lands as khas and give settlement during this long time. In 2003 these char lands were declared as khas. In 2005-2006, selection of landless began as per decision of Subarna char thana agricultural khas land settlement committee.

#### Irregularities

Landless people from far away detached char areas came to local tohsil office on foot for collecting and depositing forms. In most cases, office was found closed; even when it was open they refused the landless people on some pretext or other. They demanded money from the landless people for various works. Local powerful elites, jotdars, musclemen of shrimp cultivators threatened the landless who went to the tohsil office for collecting and depositing forms.

#### Protest and obstructions

Landless thana committee held a representative meeting on 18 July 2005 with the leaders of areas when they were receiving complaints of irregularities and corruptions from various areas. In the meeting it was decided to organise various programmes, movements and protests e.g. submitting memorandum with mass signature to the Deputy commissioner, protest rally of the landless on the day where the landless selection board will meet and to challenge and request cancellation if names of powerful elites and absentee landless are announced, etc. The landless selection board met on 25 August 2005 at tahsil office, Char jabbar, 3 August 2005 at Akther Miar Hat, 27 February 2006 at Char Uria- Char Noman-Char Biojid. Thousands of landless men and women appeared before the selection Board carrying form to protests. On 25 August TNO who is the chairman of Char Jabbar selection committee and the asst. commissioner (land), member secretary discussed about the preliminary rules and procedures and selection processes. At the end of the discussion landless people narrated about irregularities and corruption of tahsil office with proofs and submitted mass petition to the selection board. The landless members demanded that in order to follow correct procedure in selection it is

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imperative to stop the selection of names that are questionable. At that time thousands of landless men and women sat around the selection board and announced about there sit down strike. At this stage TNO, chairman of the selection board expressed his regret on the issue of complaints of the landless and promised to take necessary administrative action after enquiry. He announced that, "from now onwards selection board will accept forms from the landless for one hour and hence the landless would not have to deposit form in tahsil office"

#### Selection board and the challenges by the landless

Names of absentee people and names of people who have land are sometimes announced during the meetings of the selection board. Landless members promptly challenged their names. Opposite party could not present reasonable reasons in their favour and their names were cancelled. The officials appreciated the role of the landless in giving reasonable reasons and encouragement in the preparation of accurate list of the landless even though they were not included in the list.

#### Results

As per rule selection and preparation of list of the landless is the first step for settlement of khas land. So if their names are not included in this list, then there is no hope for getting settlement of khas land. About 25 thousands landless were included in the selection list so far due to their movement and struggle. In this connection landless leader Kader Majhi of Char Mahiuddin said, "we are protesting against injustice and corruption. We could include our names in the selection list. This is the beginning of movement of settlement of land."

CASE STUDY 2 Politics of the unemployed: Wages of the labourer

### Background

I n the rural areas unemployment is a huge problem for the day labourers. The employers, taking advantages of this situation, do not raise the wage of the day labourers. In the year, during some season the rate of the wage goes down to taka 15-25, especially in the north Bengal. In fixing the wage the opinion of the day labourer is ignored. The owners decide the wage unilaterally. On the other hand discrimination in wages between male and female is also a big problem.

#### Areas of movement and period

These are villages named Roumari, Bagatipara, Kumarkhali, Gangni, Ramgoti, Khoksha, Paikgacha, Shaghata, Polashbari. These are within NK's working areas' subcentres.

Duration: June 2005- March 2006.

#### Box 17

"We produce rice, pulses, atta, oil, salt etc. We have not asked you to raise the prices. You raise the price for your benefit. Now we are asking to raise the rate of our wages. Why should we not do it? If price of essential commodities go up, then why our wages should not be raised? Don't we require more money to make our purchases?"

Speech by a landless leader, Jahanara Begum Ramgati, in the meeting

#### Background before the movement

In the past few years, the landless organisations, in many of NK's work areas are organizing movements for raising wage. In many areas they have achieved success in their movement for raising wage. By sharing group experience and activities from these areas the members of landless organisation from other areas can derive inspiration and take lessons from their success. In the activity year, keeping May Day in minds the landless organisation; in various areas were organizing movements for job security and raising wage. As a result a huge public both from landless group organisation and outside, stood in solid support for organizing this

movement.

#### **Box 18**

# *Threat and uncertainly versus challenge*

The influential people kept on giving threat and in Bagatipara the elite group commented, if they do not work for one day they face starvation, how they would organise movement. We will see how long they can continue. "In reply to this landless leader Intaj Ali said," those who cannot have their meals without our toil are waiting to see our desperation This is sheer ironv." Besides, the mullahs in Roumari thana sided with the owners and declared, "for safe guarding social decorum women should not go out of the house, and to work in the field with men is a religious taboo." Besides, the weaving factory owners and the ricemill owners threatened to retrench the laborers from their lobs.

#### Employment sphere of the day labourer

Rice mill labourers, agricultural and earth digging labourers and labourers employed in weaving etc. In all these works both male and female are employed. But in the movement in Roumari thana the main objective was ensuring security and rightful wage to female labourers.

# Landless organisation in demanding their rights and realising them

In the light of last year's experience the landless orgnaisation discussed various aspects in demanding a raise in wage. In many work areas representative meetings, committee meetings they discussed the strategy for conducting the movement. They attempted to mobilize public opinion in favor of enhanced wage and against discrimination in wage between male and female by staging drama depicting these themes in the rural areas. They arranged meetings with the unorganized day labourers of the neighboring areas. The landless members held discussions with the ringleaders of the earth digging

labourers. But in many instances the members of landless organisations encountered threat from influential farmers and ringleaders. For strategic reasons the leaders of the landless organisation established contact with the professional groups, rickshaw pullers association, bus-truck drivers and journalist in their activity areas. By organizing this network of public relationship, it was possible to build a strong platform with organized and unorganized day labourers for staging movement. As per decision with landless organisation's leadership, the organized and unorganized male/female day labourers staged meetings in various market places demanding raise in wage. On behalf of the day labourers the landless organisation's leaders gave the owners 3-7 day time to come to a settlement. Apparently, the influential owners were not ready to accept the demand of the day labourers. On the contrary the owners and the ringleaders were preparing to employ labourers from the adjoining thanas/villages. The owners stated, "if necessary we will pay more wage to labourers brought from outside, but we will not employ the labourers from our own villages."

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Big landowners, the ringleaders of earth digging labourers, rice mill owners and weavers employed day labourers from outside in some places and were getting their work done. The leaders of the landless organisation again held discussion with the labourers from outside. Except Roumari and Ramgoti, the outside labourers in other areas expressed solidarity with the labourers involved in movement and declined to work. The landless organisation also obstructed the outside labourers from coming to work. In meetings the organized and unorganized male/female labourers in various areas declared abstention from work until their demands were fulfilled. As a result works ceased in rise mill, weaving factory, seasonal agricultural and earth digging sphere.

Besides, the targets for completion of various projects involved in earth digging became uncertain. In the mean time, in various areas the day labourers' submitted memorandum with mass signatures to TNO against misappropriation of fund allotted in view of price hike of essentials by the officers of earth digging projects and contractors. Thousands of male/female labourers staged protest and meetings in the village bazaars demanding this money. The rickshaw pullers, truck drivers, bazaar coolie and other labourers spontaneously supported the movement by the day labourers. In Gangni work area, the earth digging labourers engaged in road digging project under local government and engineering works department supervised by union parishad went to the office of the TNO on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2006 and held meeting and demanded the return of the misappropriated fund. In most cases the professional groups, especially the local teachers, reporters, women leaders attend the meetings of the landless organisations and expressed their support.

The movement for enhanced wage gained massive public support after the landless group declared abstention from work. In this situation, the owners were compelled to propose to the leaders of the landless organisation to hold discussion. In some case this proposal came within 7 days and in some case within 10 days. According to proposal, the owners and landless leaders agreed upon a wage after discussion. In Roumari, Bagatipara, Kumarkhali, Ramgoti, Paikgacha the representatives of the owners expressed regret in public for indecent statement and accepted the demand for wage on mutually agreed terms.

#### Box 19

In Ratanpur village (Khoksha work area) Anwara Begum (32) has joined in jute processing /washing work. Her experience, "with only my husband's earning we can not have full meal with four children. Previously for fear of adverse comment and out of shame I did not go out to work. I am familiar with landless organisation. But I am not a member. This time I attended meetings, processions for rightful wage. My aunty forced me to attend one meeting. From than onward I am doing the processing of jute with my aunty. Daily wage is Tk. 40/=. I am much better now.

#### Result

The landless groups organized movement for wage in various villages within 9 thanas in the

work areas. The leaders of the landless group think that about 30-40 thousand day labourers are benefiting from this - by setting enhanced wage. Landless Sufia leader Khatun from Tigkandi village in Rowmari thana says "The mullahs are against us, the landowners want to purchase us, but we do not compromise. Is the farmer's demand for enhanced wage only our problem? All the farmers and labourers will benefit from this". Another of aspect this movement is the significant participation of the women. In various stages of the movement the discrimination of wage between male and female was elaborately discussed and demand for enhanced wage for female was made.

Table 23: Rate of wages of the day labourers at different work areas

Work area		Agricultur al wage		Labourers in Weaving industry		Earth digging labourers		Rice mill labourers	
		PS	PT	PS	PT	PS	PT	PS	PT
Shaghata	Μ	45	55	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	30	40	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Μ	45	55	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polash Bari	F	30	40	-	-	-	-	1 kg rice & 1 me al/d ay	2 kg rice & 2 meal /day
Rowmari	Μ	50	60	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	30	40	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bagatipara -	Μ	55	70	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	35	40	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kumarkhali	Μ	-	-	18	19			-	-
Gangni	F	-	-	-	-	1,100	1,300	-	-
Ramgoti	Μ	70	80	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	45	55	-	-	-	-	-	-
Koksha	Μ	70	80	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	50	60	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paikgacha	-	-	-	-	-	900	1,100	-	-

As a result, male labourers accepted the demand for enhanced wage for female without any objection. As a result of this wide -spread movement in various industries male and female labourers have become more co-operative towards each other. Above all, more women are now working in the field.

This have also enabled the women to have their say in family matters. It may be mentioned that in earth digging project male and female get equal wages. From earth digging project 1,300 labourers have succeeded in reclaiming a misappropriated fund of Tk. 92,830/=..

CASE STUDY 3 "They want to kill me; I want to live, please save me"

> "They want to kill me; I want to live, please save me" Kulsum, Dhaka, Medical College Hospital.

n the activity year in every work area the landless organisation have been able to organise protest /resistance against women's persecution. It may be mentioned that in the last two years, protest/movement organised by landless groups against women's persecution and child trafficking has achieved a new dimension.

#### Area

Camilla District, Pirojpur village in Debidwar thana.

#### Life struggles of Kulsum

Kulsum Akther (20), father-Lalmia, occupation- day labourer, amongst 7 brothers and sisters Kulsum was youngest. She started her life struggle in 2002 when she joined "Macksim Garments" in Chittagong as worker. Though she was the youngest still she had to take responsibility for the family due to dire need.

#### Marriage and dowry

Her labourer father and rickshaw puller brothers were keen to get Kulsum married so that they could be released from the responsibility. In 2003 she was married to Anisur Rahman from neighboring village Mashikara. According to the agreement during the wedding Kulsum's father had to pay TK 15,000/= out of 20,000/= as dowry. This money, borrowed with interest, was handed over to son-in- law Anisur. During their marriage though TK 50,000/= was fixed as "denmohar" but the marriage document was not registered as Kulsum's father had not yet paid the remaining TK 5000/=.

#### Anisur Rahman's greed for dowry

Kulsum's husband Anisur Rahman is 32 years old, his father is dead. He hails from Mashikara village, thana Debidwar. He is a rickshaw puller by occupation. In 2001 Anisur divorced his first wife for failing to fulfil his demand for dowry. But he did not reveal all these facts when he married Kulsum. He is evil and greedy and works as a terrorist for the party in power.

#### Women and their security

Shortly after their marriage Anisur became impatient to get the remaining dowry money. He kept on pressing Kulsum to get the rest of the dowry money. He forced Kulsum to go to her father's house and get the money within 3 months. But her day labourer father was in tremendous mental pressure as he could not repay the money he had borrowed with interest. In this situation Kulsum's father requested Anisur for some more time. Since then Anisur started torturing his wife. She was tortured mentally as well as physically. In the midst of this agony Kulsum gave birth to a child. Haplessly the time limit for paying dowry money by Kulsum's

father to Anisur also expired during this period. Kulsum's father Lalmia failed to pay the money within schedule. After this Anisur started inhuman torture on Kulsum. Almost everyday he demanded dowry money and beat her severely. Kulsum's father could not endure his daughter plight any more and at one stage he sought justice from local Union Parishad Chairman. The Chairman casually called Anusur and asked him not to torture his wife. At this Anisur felt insulted.He became more enraged and increased his torture on Kulsum. After being beaten mercilessly by Anisur, Kulsum lost her consciousness and in that state she was admitted in Debidwar Health Complex on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2005. Even after regaining her senses Kulsum stayed in the Health Complex for five days in critical condition.

Meanwhile Lalmia managed to collect TK 2000/= and handed this amount to Anisur and he also sought one month's time for paying the remaining one thousand taka. But at the end of one month Lalmia could not pay the money. On the night of 25<sup>th</sup> June 2005, pregnant Kulsum was inhumanely tortured. Anisur burnt her arms and feet with lighted cigarette butt. Next day on 26th June, 2005 when Kulsum was washing pots and plates mother her -in-law. brother-in-law and Anisur were chatting in the courtyard. Suddenly Anisur soaked Kulsum with kerosene and set alight. The neighbours came running when they heard the agonising entreaty of Kulsum and attempted to rescue Kulsum though they were prevented by Anisur, his brother and his mother. At last they rescued Kulsum in a critical condition and took her to Debidwar Health Complex. On the other hand the local influential people and the

#### Box 20

#### Brutality: Security of children

Tangil district, Gala village in sadar thana. Amena Begum (6), student in class1 in Ahsanullah High School. Father Borhanuddin, Occupation rickshaw puller, with father's encouragement Amena was admitted in school.19 June 2005, 8-o-clock in the morning; both the parents were not at home due to their work. Amena was getting ready to go to school. At that time Amena's school teacher Asfakur Rahman Babu entered the house. He asked Amena to give betel leave. When Amena came with the betel leave teacher Asfakur behaved indecently, forcibly tried to sag her and attempted physical torture. At one stage hearing the cries of Amena her elder sister appeared in the scene and seeing her Asfakur fled. Later on injured Amena was admitted in the hospital. The same evening the landless organisation held meeting and expressed repulsion and demanded exemplary punishment. As per decision on 23rd June 2005, protest/ procession was held in the local bazaar, office of T.N.O. was gheroed and memorandum was submitted. The landless organisation initiated the filing of case in thana under woman and children persecution Act. The number is 230/2005. It may be mentioned, that culprit Asfakur's uncle, ex D.C. Azharuddin Talukdar tred to diffuse the case lay influencing local administration.

**Result**: The school authorities immediately sacked culprit Asfakur from his job. On the demand of the landless organisation police super (Tangail) came in person to inspect the incident. Thousands of students led by the landless organisation compelled the police super to give order to the duty officer of the thana to submit charge sheet quickly. terrorists sided with Anisur in this matter and they tried to pressurise the neighbours by intimidating them. As a result they became silent. To hide this incidence of murder the influential people and the terrorists coerced dying Kulsum's brother Farid to sign a stamp paper admitting that "if Kulsum dies in the health complex no one is to be blamed". This confession was extracted from Farid by threatening that "Kulsum would be killed by injecting poisonous injection by the aya (*who was Anisur's Aunty*) in the health complex if Faird did not sign the paper. When Farid Ali signed the paper they desisted from perusing their intrigue. After this Kulsum was shifted to an abandoned room where she remained for six days. When Kulsum was confined in this room only the health complex's sweeper Mina visited her at random to change the dressings

#### The role of landless organisation in rescuing Kulsum

Though Debidwar thana is within the work area of the landless organisation but the location of the frontier village Pirjpur is some distance away form the work area. On 1<sup>st</sup> July 2005, landless leader Ayesha from Lakshipur village was admitted in Debidwar thana's health complex for treatment. On 2<sup>nd</sup> July, some landless leaders came to visit her. During this visit they became suspicious when they in hailed rotten stench and came to know about Kulsum. They wondered why this critically ill patient was kept in the health complex! But despite their attempt they failed to get any information about the patient. So their next strategy to gather information was to inform the local press club about the matter. As according to the information given by the landless leaders some local journalists visited the health complex and after collecting information about Kulsum sent report in the national newspapers. When this news was published the influential people realised the risk involved. To avoid hassle on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2005, by forming entente with the local administration they shifted Kulsum to Comilla Medical Collage. But the doctors in Comilla Medical College on examination when they found that gangrene had spread even alarmingly in Kulsum's body, and they suggested that she should be shifted to Dhaka Medical College. But Kulsum's father did not have the financial solvency to pay the cost of treatment. On the other hand this was the only alternative left to save Kulsum. In this situation the landless organisation came forward to pay for Kulsum's treatment by collecting donation. On 9<sup>th</sup> July 2005, the landless organisation admitted Kulsum in Dhaka Medical College Hospital. With the assistance of the Nijera Kori she was admitted in burn unit. Nijera Kori took over Kulsum's treatment expenditure but by this time gangrene had set in over 80% of her body. As a result she died in the early hours of 11<sup>th</sup> July 2005.

#### **Protest-Movement**

From the time the story of inhuman torture on Kulsum was revealed the landless organisation endeavoured to organise protest movement on this issue. As the incident did not occur within landless organisation's work area hence some time was required to establish mass network. On 14th July 2005, the landless organisation called for a protest meeting to condemn this incident. Thousands of male/female attended this protest meeting and demanded the arrest and punishment of the perpetrators of this incident. In this meeting the local journalists A.B.M. Basar said, "We can not accept the murder of Kulsum by inflicting inhuman torture. This is a barbaric and brutal incident. We all demand justice." He also added, "We have not been able to do anything for this barbaric incident, but the landless organisation by organising meeting and submitting memorandum made protest. We shall support them," It may be mentioned that together with the landless organisation a team comprising members from N.K, Manobadikar Commission, BLST, local press club, Ain-O-Shalish Kendra visited the place. Debidwar Thana health complex office expressed astonishment and told this team that though Kulsum was admitted in the health complex 7 days back but nobody informed him about this patient. The fact that attempt was made to kill Kulsum by injecting poisonous injection was not known to

#### Box 21

# Activities of the trafficking by taking advantage of unemployment

District Lakhipur. Mahbub and Putul Rani from Mishirpur village, Begumgang thana. To provide job in house hold on 25<sup>th</sup> Decembers 2005, Rogina Begum (10) was taken from Ramgoti thana's Hazigonge cluster village. She was confirmed in a house in Misirpur village. Next day to collect some more girls they again went to Hazigonj. This aroused the suspicion of the members of the landless organisation and they got hold of members and interrogated him. His answers were irreverent and the landless organisation suspected that he was woman trafficker. The landless organisation informed their about the neither police came arrested Mahboob. According to Mahboob's confession police rescued many girls who were confined form Mishirpur village in Begamgonj thana. The officer on duty in the thana filed a case under women trafficking. Arrested Mahboob is at present in the jail.

him. Debidwar thana's O.C. Enayet Uddin said, "till now no complaint was made in the thana, though S.I. Dilip Barua has been given the task of investigating the incident." The visiting team requested the administration to mete out exemplary punishment to the culprits. Till now there is no response from the administration on this issue.

#### Latest prevailing situation

The landless organisation in association with the professional groups formed a combat committee to protest against inhuman torture on Kulsum for dowry. Movement and agitation being held by this committee. With the support and courage given by the landless organisation Kulsum's brother Farid Mia filed a case in the thana on 4<sup>th</sup> July, 2005, (case no. 2/91-2005). As a result of movement and agitation killer and persecutor Anisur Rahman has been arrested as the main culprit. At present the case is under Special Tribunal.

### CASE STUDY 4 "We are not voters from anywhere"

#### Area

M ost areas from Sadar thana in Noakhali District consists of Chars. For the last few years with the emergence of new chars, the demography of this thana has expanded. This new phenomenon created communication problem between the scattered chars. For this reason the government, last year, demarcated the sadar thana into two thanas. One is called Sudharam and the other is called Subarna char.

#### **Past Scenarios**

Subarna Char consists of both new and old chars. Thousands of landless families from other thanas who had become victims of river erosion had come and had taken shelter in these new chars. These families have been living permanently in these chars for the last 10-12 years. They are regularly paying choukidari tax in the union parishad. They are obeying the verdict imposed on them in the shalish/ arbitration by the member chairman. Still these landless families have not been enlisted in the voter's list though the list was rectified a number of times.

#### Box 22 *We have no standing*

"We have no standing, we are not voters." - informed Salina Khatun, 38, Char Zia,, before getting enlisted in voter's list

"We have fought to become voters, now we shall settle account with chairman, members"

Rahima Begum, 41, Char Uria.

# Why are the marginalized populations being excluded from the voter's list?

Some of the chars in Subarna Char thana are char ziauddin, east char majid, char noongola, char baozid, char numan, south charclark, char uria and west char luria. The entire land in these chars is khas land. According to government regulation all these khas land ought to be distributed among the landless families who are residing there. But few unscrupulous land

#### Box 23

#### From the perspective of marginal population

- Right to vote is a democratic right and assurance for practicing the right
- If we are enlisted in the voter's list the powerful group will get defeated in giving accountability.
- As we are not enlisted in the voter's list, union parishad does not issue us identity card. But this identity card is essential to get khas lands.
- The administration does not treat us with dignity, as we are not enlisted in the voter's list. We are deprived from government benefit and services.

grabbers in connivance with the administration are claiming, on the basis of the voter's list that is no settlements by landless families in these chars. On the basis of the voter's list, by showing the absence of landless families in the administrative papers, the land grabbers are occupying these lands illegally. Beside this, the land grabbers, industrialists and shrimp cultivators have formed alliance and have established liaison with the politically powerful people and higher authorities in the administration. To protect the interest of the powerful coterie the government declared in May 2003 all the land in the char areas as shrimp mahal. Then they started innovating new strategy to grab land illegally for shrimp cultivation. But the landless organisation and few other development agencies declared shrimp mahal illegal and filed a case in the court. The verdict of the court in their favour made the position of the landless organisation stronger.

#### Demand for getting enlisted in the voter's list

The landless thana committee leaders communicated with the information collecting supervisor for getting the char settlers enlisted in the voter's list. "We cannot enlist you in the voter's list. It is forbidden from the higher authority." Afterwards, the local elite/ terrorist and the information collecting supervisor stood in vigil constantly. The landless organisation organised extensive public opinion, organised protest in front of 3 union parishads on January 27 .The chairman promised to take action but he was wasting time. As a result, the landless organisation organised huge public support through processions and gatherings in the bazaar and public places.

On 29<sup>th</sup> January they demanded the right to vote in a press conference. They sought the support of local and national level civil society. When reports were published in the national dailies about the conspiracy of the jotdar and the demand of landless people, the administration was questioned. To evaluate the situation the members of the landless organisation gathered in a representative meeting.

### Box 24

# Politics, condition of the marginal population

In Sandwip thana, 370 members from minority community have not been enlisted by the information collecting supervisor with political support. When the members enquired repeatedly, they were informed that information collection procedure was already complete. Under this circumstance about 500 members protested in front of the residence of the supervisor. They demanded explanation why these 26 families were not enlisted. Due to the demand of the landless organisation, the supervisor was compelled to beg forgiveness publicly in the local bazar and enlisted their names in the voter's list.

#### Box 25

#### Recognition of the deprived

For a long time the local chairman and members are saying that those who are not enlisted in the voter's list they are not settlers of these areas. On this ground thousands of char dwellers have been deprived from all types of government facilities. As a result of movement the administration has enlisted their names in the voter's list. Within two months of enlistment in the first enquiry 15 VGF (Vulnerable Group Feeding) cards allotted to 15 influential/ affluent and member's families were cancelled. These 15 cards were allotted in the names of families suggested by landless organisation.

According to the decision in the meeting on 31<sup>st</sup> January about 5 thousands men/ women organized procession and went to the office of the Subarna Char thana, and through protest and gathering they made their demands to the authority.

After the gathering a memorundam and 10 thousands signatures were submitted to the thana nirbahi officer. After discussion with the members of the landless organisation, it was declared that within 7 days all the names of the landless people will be enlisted in the voter's list. According to the declaration, in the presence of the Nirbahi office, enlisting of names in the voter's list has started from 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

#### Result

A total of 3200 landless male/female have been enlisted in the voter's list. The landless members feel that this success will strengthen their position to demand khas land, government

facilities and services and seek accountability.

CASE STUDY 5 Politics with the rights and assets of the adivasi people

"We are all human beings. Adivasi people and Bengalis are all citizens of this country. We will not allow any plea to tamper with the right of the people."

> *Belal Ahmed* Landless group member Mithapukur

#### Area and settlement

Binodpur village is in Rangpur District Mithapukur thana. For generations this village has been inhabited by the adivasi people.

#### Past observation and movement

"In Durgapur union we were majority, but now we are only a few families"-said landless leader Albert Kerketa. Landless leader Baburam Kerketa informed, "The land in which we lived for generations was declared abandoned property by the government in 1995. Since then the jotder group with the assistance of local administration has been attempting to dislodge and occupy our land through coercion, terrorist attack and by making false cases."

The movement started with demand for land. After a protracted movement, in 1998 the government was forced to declare the abandoned property as khas land. According to the declared law government started the process of giving 719 acres of khas land to the adivasi people for permanent settlement. The powerful land grabber groups were legally defeated. To safe guard the interest of the powerful land grabber group, in 2004 the administration, all on a sudden, declared closed the process of land distribution.

Notice was served to the settled adivasi people for vacating the land so that dwellings could be constructed on the referred land and allotted both to the Bengalis and adivasi people. In the meantime, professional groups from thana and district level started giving support to the movement for land by the landless groups. Instead of "settlement project", the demand for only "adivasi project" was the core of the movement. After a series of programmes like submitting memorandum, to various levels in the administration, conventions orgnaised by the journalists, procession, meetings etc the government accepted the demand for construction of the "adivasi project".

According to the commitment, after constructing 5 cluster buildings,, again, with the assistance of the administration, the powerful jotder group manoeuvred to get the allocation in their names. In this situation, 50 adivasi families with the leadership given by the landless group, succeeded in occupying the settlement.

#### **Present situation**

In 2005, the government again started expanding the "adivasi project". Five new cluster building were constructed. The local Union Parishad member, jotder group and the administration joined in alliance and attempted to allot rooms in their names.

#### **Protest-movements**

Under these circumstances to evaluate the situation and to determine strategy for protestlandless movement adivasi groups together with the landless groups from the area gathered in a representative meeting. To win support for the protest-movement the landless groups organized procession and road side gathering in various villages. They collected almost 4000 peoples' signature. In the meantime strong solidarity developed among the grassroot people and professional groups also came forward with support. In 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2005 almost 2 thousands men and women went to the office of the member parliament and submitted memorandum а demanding the allotment of adivasi rooms in peoples' name, and protesting against the partiality and inhuman conduct against them, intimidation by the local jotder coterie, false cases, terrorist attack and demanding justice against all these. Though the

#### Box 26

#### Government services and adivasi community

The adivasi community in Chougasi village of Natore district's Sadar thana's Kakulia union. This adivasi community is deprived from all government services. "During election the member, chairman came to us. They made us feel wanted. Once the election is over we are no longer treated as human beings." - informed adivasi landless leader Nalmoni.

In 2005 to contain temporary shortage of grain the government issued VGF (Vulnerable Group Feeding) cards. Due to partiality and partisan altitude of the chairman none from the impoverished adivasi community were enlisted in the VGF list. Against this gross irregularity, the landless organisation's members, through discussion and evaluation decided to organise movement. The members of the landless orgnaisation unitedly demanded the UP chairman to issue cards in adivasi peoples' name. But the chairman, instead of complying with this demand, attempted to dislodge the adivasi though threats of terrorists attack. In this situation, the members of the landless organisations organized procession comprising nearly 5 hundred men, women and submitted a memorandum to the thana nirbahi officer demanding protection and allotment of VGF cards for the adivasi people. But the administration did not take any positive action. To realize their demand the landless group went to the union parishad office on 6th October, 2005 and sat-inprotest. The chairman was compelled to promise to issue cards. But the members demanded that the cards must be issued in the presence of public. In response to this demand, on October 20, 2005 the chairman issued cards to 20 adivasi families in the local UP office ground.

parliament member pledged to fulfill their demands but he delayed to execute the matter. In this situation, the landless organisation went to the upazilla administration office on 6<sup>th</sup> November. After four hours of sit-in- protest the thana nirbahi office allotted rooms in public in adivasis' name.

#### Result

On the same day when administrative declaration of allotment was announced, the members of the landless groups took possession of 50 rooms of the project. At present 110 adivasi families are residing in the project. The success of the movement has strengthened the status, identity and mind-set of the adivasi people. Above all the adivasis have been able to win the recognition of the administration.

### CASE STUDY 6

Government, non-government Services and conditions of marginal people

n every work area under leadership of the landless orgaisation protests and agitations organized are against regulations in government and non-government service sectors and also for generating accessibility and establishing right to these services, besides, regulations in the distribution of government, safely net programme such VGD, VGF cards also are being highlighted in these movements and agitations. The following case studies reveal these irregularities.

**Area:** Khansama thana is in Dinajpur district.

# Condition of the Health complex

For a long time irregularities and corruption have become regular feature in Khansama than's Pakerhat health Medicine complex. is not available in the health complex, but these medicines are available in the local market. Doctor attends the health complex, but the patients are required to pay fees. Certificates are available for 2/3 thousands taka. Instead of 3 meals the patients get only one meal a day.

#### Box 27

#### mismanagement within management

District-Lakshipur, Thana- Ramgati, Chariafjal village. The chariafial primary government school has three hundred students - boys and girls, and three teachers. For the last one year one teacher is absent on P.T.I training. One has gone on deputation and the other teacher attends school randomly at his will. No steps effects are taken by the school management committee to fill up this shortage of teacher. On the other hand, last 14th September 2005, the school management committee in a meeting increased the examination fee. In class One and Two instead of Tk 5/= they have increased Tk. 20/= in class Three, Four and Five instead of Tk 8/= they have increased Tk 30/=. In addition to this they have given employment to a teacher who is related to the committee's chairperson by slashing a pertain of fund from the students scholarship and giving him salary. On the basis of protest made by the student over a long time the land less organisation decided to organise movement/protest. As per decision on 14 September about three hundred males, females meet in the school ground, and after a protest procession handed over to T.N.O and thana education officer memorandum with mass signature on 16th September 2005, in a press conference in the local press club they expressed the irregularities of the school management committee and presented the demands of the students. When news about these irregularities were published in the news paper the school management committee felt threatened. As a result, on 21 September 2005, a meeting was held in the school ground with T.N.O, education officer of the school management committee, guardians and representative of landless group.

**Result**: After the meeting the T.N.O declared publicly that enhanced examination fee was cancelled and the students would get the scholarship regularly with arrear claim that was slashed irregularly. Decision was made to release the teacher illegally appointed, besides, it was decided that monthly decision meeting between school management and guardians will be held regularly in the school ground.

#### Reasons for these irregularities

The local people of the area complain that the health complex is being run by the local elite. Supplier of food for the health complex is a leader from the power elite. They are conducting medicine business with the health complex's medicine supply. As a result there is total lack of responsibility and accountability.

#### Information dissemination and creating public awareness

The landless organisation collected all the information regarding these irregularities. The landless cultural group composed dramas about real incidents and staged them in local bazaars, schools etc. On the other hand the landless organisation started creating mass awareness by organizing processions and meetings. Besides, the landless organisation also held decisions about these problems with rickshaw puller samity, bazaar committee, teachers, students, journalist, lawyers and other professional groups. As a result formidable public opinion was created against these irregularities.

#### Landless organisations protest- movement

To determine the strategy and programme for conducting protest/movement decision was held on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2005, between the leaders of the landless orgaisation and the professional groups. The landless members collected nearly 3thousends mass signatures. According to schedule, on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2005 procession was held in thana sadar and protest meeting was conducted in the thana parished ground. In this meeting the terrorists employed by the food supplier of the complex attempted to attack. They fled forced by mass resistance. Under the leadership of landless organisation procession was organised and a memorandum with signatures was handed over to the T.N.O. copies of this memorandum with signature were distributed to officials at all level. In the evening in the local press club the landless leaders presented the problems of the health complex and demanded solution in the press conference. The news about the irregularities in the health complex were published in the local and national news papers. On 13 September 2005, the local parliament member visited the area. When they heard this news about 3 hundred-male/female members and representative of professional group related the irregularities of the health complex to the parliament member and demanded redress. The parliament member gave assurance that the matter will be discussed with the local administration. In September 2005 in district law and order committee meeting the representative of teachers, lawyers and journalists discussed about the memorandum submitted by the landless organisation. According to the discussion of the meeting and enquiring committee was formed with the civil surgeon the concerned. On 20<sup>th</sup> September 2005 the enquiring committee came to the concerned area for conducting inquiry. The complaint raised by the landless organisation was

#### Box 28

#### Is it medical service or the right?

District-Cumilla, Thana- Chandina, village-Laharang. Landless organisation member Jamila Bhagum's 7 months old infant suddenly developed respiratory problem. On 25 November 2005 the infant was admitted in chandina thana's health complex. As prescribed by the doctor when they asked for the medicine the employees asked them to buy the medicine from outside. When condition deteriorated rapidly at might the duty nurse demanded on enhanced fee of Tk. 200/= for ventolin nebuliser. Next morning the matter was reported to the landless leaders. Almost two hundred males, females gheraoed the health complex chanting slogan, " medical service on right," They organised protested procession and handed over memorandum to T.N.O against the absence of doctor in the health complex and demanding fees from patients, selling hospital medicine and the unscrupulous conduct of the employees etc. Treatment is our fundamental right the movement that stemmed from this slogan successful enabled Jasmine to set all the medicines from the hospital free of cost. The T.N.O premised to from enquiring committee to probe into these irregularities.

established and justified The enquiring committee, civil surgeon gave oral assurance of taking necessary measures.

#### Result

Related to irregularities than health complex officer Khansama has been transferred, patient diet is being supplied regularly according to the weekly food list. Inventory of medicine has been hung on the wall of the health complex. Entitlement of poor people to health services has increased. Through protest and agitation liaison, interaction and mutual sharing with professional groups has been strengthened.

#### Box 29

# Protest against various irregularities in issuing V.G.F cards

The landless organisation has organized protest/agitation against irregularities in issuing V.G.F., V.G.D. cards, widow and elderly people's grant in Sandwip thana in Chittagong district. On 9 September 2005, landless member Tajul Islam, Jasimuddin, Nur Islam and Fakiruddin from Sandwip thana's Santoshpur pusbaberi went to santoshpur union parishad to collect rice allotted against V.G.F. card. The local member informed them that their names were cancelled from the list according to the directive of T.N.O. office. But the landless members observed that during distribution of rice according to the list the allotted rice instead of giving to them was given to people affiliated with the party and to the people related to the chairman. Under the leadership of the landless

organisation's anchal committee's chairperson instant protest was organized

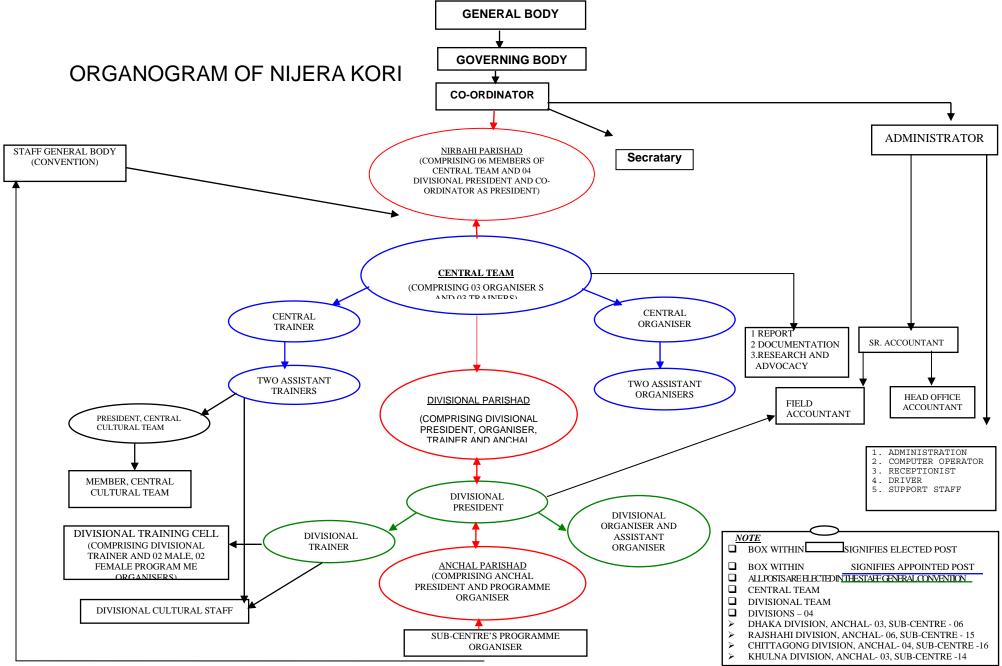
**Result:** As a result of landless organisation's movement in the working areas of Nijera kori irreaularities and corruption in aovernment's

# Table 24: Different Cards receivedfrom the Govt. by Landless people(Mostly throw bargaining)

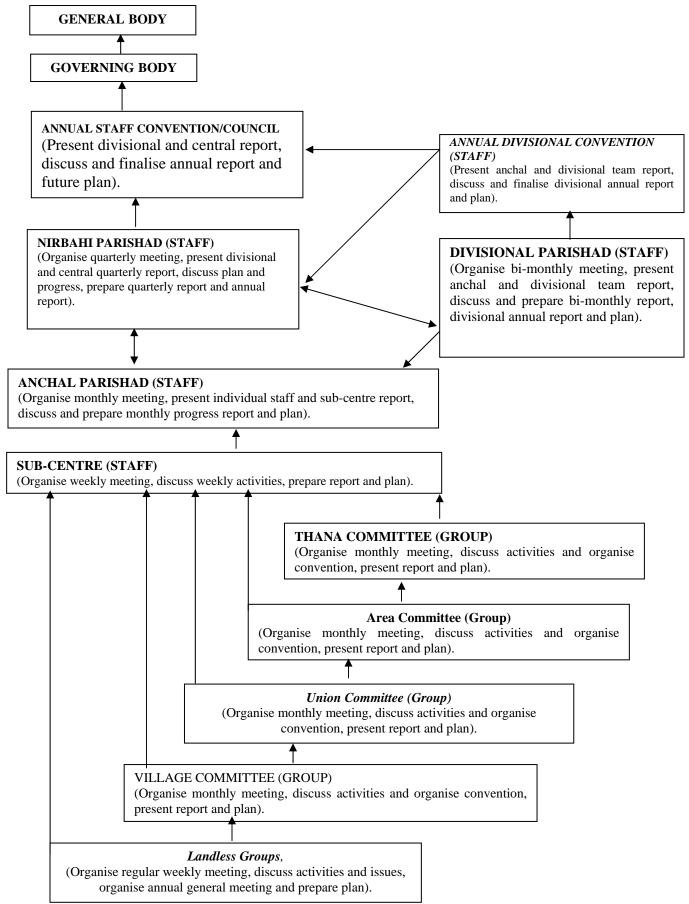
Area	V/V	EA	WA	FA
Tangail	23	102	42	2
Madhupur	130	84	218	0
Sribordi	15	4	9	0
Paikgacha	842	226	103	8
Kumarkhali	151	44	32	0
Gangni	254	178	154	0
Comilla	296	218	134	39
Ramgati	445	212	198	0
Sandwip	34	36	31	5
Char Jabbar	668	853	805	220
Bagatipara	356	168	181	5
Roumari	615	140	110	0
Raygonj	545	1,042	396	48
Rangpur	65	137	53	3
Dinajpur	42	18	9	0
Gaibanda	6,088	606	739	0
Total	10,569	4,068	3,214	330

Note: V/V=VGF/VGD; EA= Elders Allowance; WA=Widow Allowance;

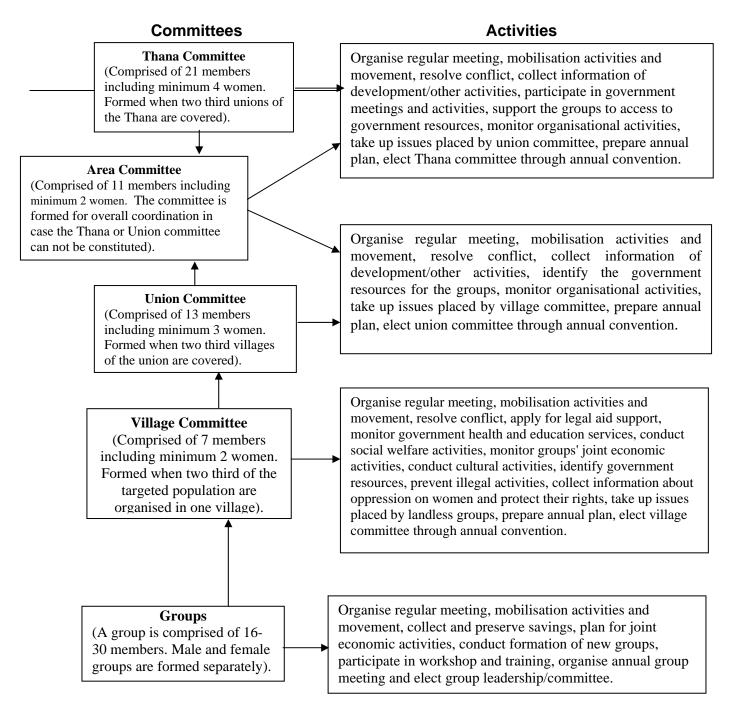
# Annex



## PLANNING, MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REPORTING SYSTEM



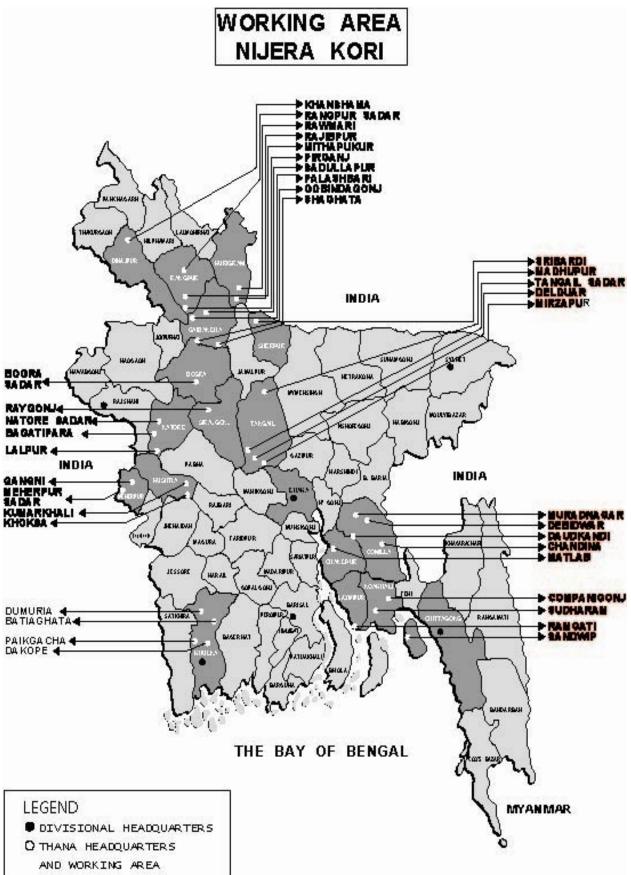
### FLOW CHART: LANDLESS ORGANISATION OF NK



### RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2006

RECEIPTS:	AMOUNT	AMOUNT
Opening Balance		10,135,698.52
Project Grant:		
Christian Aid	7,293,848.20	
D.F.I.D	60,178,820.72	
E.E.D	7,173,410.60	
I.C.C.O.	5,520,374.26	
Interpares	277,895.50	
The Swallows	762,641.91	81,206,991.19
Others Fund		1,679,321.98
Development Fund		3,551,680.00
Other Receipts		457,280.45
Loan and Advance		237,505.00
	Taka _	97,268,477.14
PAYMENTS:		
Civil Construction		6,999,130.00
Other Material Inputs		340,983.00
Personnel		42,028,740.00
Training Expenses		8,591,523.50
Seminar, Meeting, and Conference		6,057,179.20
Office Accommodation		2,954,200.00
Office Equipment		395,510.00
Vehicles		35,030.00
Traveling and Daily Allowances		4,665,624.84
Contingency		5,656,181.85
Others		9,099,107.27
Others Fund		216,941.00
Closing Balance		10,228,326.48
	Taka _	97,268,477.14

ANNEX-E-A



### ANNEX – E-B TABLE – 01: Geographical Location of Programmes of Nijera Kori

S1.	Division	District	Thana	Area	Sub-		nsion in 15-06		up to h 2006		llage Covera	-
No	DIVISION	District	Thana	Alea	centre	Union	Village	Union	Village	March 2005	New Coverage	March 2006
0.1		Comilla	Chandina Daudkandi Debidwar Muradnagar	Comilla	05			29	136	22	01	23
01.	Chittagong	Chandpur	Matlab									
		Noakhali	Sudharam Companigonj	Charjabbar	05			08	43	02		02
		Lakshmipur	Ramgoti	Ramgoti	02			06	28	02		02
		Chittagong	Sandwip	Sandwip	04			14	34			
	01	05	09	04	16			57	241	26	01	27
02.	Dhaka	Tangail	Mirzapur Delduar Tangail Sadar	Tangail	03			11	77	17	3	20
			Madhupur	Madhupur	02		03	11	116	14	02	16
		Sherpur	Sribardi	Sribardi	01		01	02	21			
	01	02	05	03	06		04	24	214	31	05	36
		Kushtia	Kumarkhali khoksa	Kumarkhali	02		01	07	51	08	01	09
03.	Khulna	Meherpur	Meherpur Sadar Gangni	Gangni	03		02	07	46	15		15
		Khulna	Paikgacha Dumuria Batiaghata Dakope	Paikgacha	09		01	17	166	25	05	30
	01	03	08	03	14		04	31	263	48	06	54
		Sirajgonj Bogra	Raygonj Bogra Sadar	Noongola	03		01	05	81	08	01	09
		Rangpur	Rangpur Sadar Mithapukur	Rangpur	02		02	09	74	12	02	14
		Dinajpur	Khanshama	Dinajpur	01			04	22	02	01	03
04.	Rajshahi	Kurigram	Rowmari Rajibpur	Rowmari	02		03	07	91	12	02	14
U- <b>r</b> .	Aujonani	Gaibandha	Palashbari Saghata Sadullapur Gobindagonj Pirgonj	Gaibandha	04			23	189	24	17	41
		Natore	Bagatipara Lalpur Natore Sadar	Bagatipara	03		05	10	160	16	06	22
	01	07	15	06	15		11	58	617	74	29	103
Т	04	17	37	16	51		19	170	1,335	179	41	220

T= Total

#### ANNEX - F

#### LIST OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2004-2005

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

- Chairman
- Vice-Chairman
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Asst. Treasurer
- Member

Division	Up	to March 20	)05		Plan		Im	olementati	on	Total u	up to March 2	006
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Rajshahi	1,859	2,132	3,991	187	206	393	144	175	319	2,003	2,307	4,310
Dhaka	624	742	1,366	48	52	100	27	32	59	651	774	1,425
Khulna	764	1,150	1,914	73	97	170	49	68	117	813	1,218	2,031
Chittagong	1,727	1,989	3,716	188	173	361	148	135	283	1,875	2,124	3,999
Total	4,974	6,013	10,987	496	528	1,024	368	410	778	5,342	6,423	11,765

#### TABLE – 02 (Group Formation)

#### TABLE – 03 (Group Member)

Division	Upt	to March 2	005		Plan		Im	olementat	ion	Total u	up to March 2	006
DIVISION	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Rajshahi	40,492	41,987	82,479	3,740	4,120	7,860	2,894	3,460	6,354	43,386	45,447	88,833
Dhaka	13,745	14,734	28,479	960	1,040	2,000	507	602	1,109	14,252	15,336	29,588
Khulna	18,003	24,451	42,454	1,460	1,940	3,400	960	1,306	2,266	18,963	25,757	44,720
Chittagong	37,943	38,774	76,717	3,760	3,460	7,220	2,890	2,641	5,531	40,833	41,415	82,248
Total	110,183	119,946	230,129	9,920	10,560	20,480	7,251	8,009	15,260	117,434	127,955	245,389

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

Division		or Group N ended by S		-	entation o ing attend Staff	of Group ded by	Gro	ementatic oup Meeti d by Only	ng	Gr	nplementa oup Meeti oup and St	ng	Án	ementation nual Grou Meeting	-
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Rajshahi	41,124	49,212	90,336	20,331	29,447	49,778	15,172	22,255	37,427	35,503	51,702	87,205	1,334	1,770	3,104
Dhaka	18,520	30,592	49,112	8,555	8,172	16,727	4,081	7,935	12,016	12,636	16,107	28,743	352	410	762
Khulna	21,376	28,780	50,156	15,254	18,339	33,593	5,770	9,437	15,207	21,024	27,776	48,800	455	765	1,220
Chittagong	42,604	49,252	91,856	22,460	-,,			14,292	24,300	32,468	39,441	71,909	1,256	1,551	2,807
Total	123,624	157,836	281,460	66,600	81,107	147,707	35,031	53,919	88,950	101,631	135,026	236,657	3,397	4,496	7,893

Division		Wor	kshop		Poproso	ntative Meeting	loint Gr	oup Meeting
Division	P	lan	Implem	entation	Kepreser	inalive meeting	50111 01	oup meeting
	Number	Participant	Number	Participant	Plan	Implementation	Plan	Implementation
Rajshahi	58	1,450	57	1,375	447	421	400	511
Dhaka	31	775	29	692	173	164	100	115
Khulna	50	1250	48	1,149	275	268	300	323
Chittagong	59	1,475	58	1,390	490	489	250	275
Total	198	4,950	192	4,606	1,385	1,342	1,050	1,224

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

## TABLE – 06 (Formation of Structural Committee)

	Tota	l up to l	March 20	05		Pla	ın		l	mpleme	ntation		Tota	l up to l	March 2	006
Division	Nar	ne of the	Committe	е	Nai	me of the	Committe	e	Nar	ne of the	Committe	e	Nai	me of the	Committe	ee
	Village	Union	Thana	Area												
Rajshahi	88	11	1	5	18	2	0	1	18	0	0	0	106	11	1	5
Dhaka	31	6	1	3	8	1	0	0	5	0	0	0	36	6	1	3
Khulna	38	3	0	5	9	1	0	6	5	0	0	6	43	3	0	11
Chittagong	57	1	1	13	4	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	58	2	1	13
Total	214	21	3	26	39	6	0	7	29	1	0	6	243	22	3	32

 TABLE – 07 (Committee Meeting and Group Convention)

			Con	nmittee	e Meeting	gs					Gro	up Cor	nventio	n		
Division		Pla	n			Impleme	ntation			Pla	n			Impleme	entation	
DIVISION	Nar	ne of the	Committe	e	Nar	me of the	Committe	e	Nar	ne of the	Committe	e	Nan	ne of the	Committ	ee
	Village	Union	Thana	Area	Village	Union	Thana	Area	Village	Union	Thana	Area	Village	Union	Thana	Area
Rajshahi	1,104	136	6	61	1,049	126	6	58	106	13	1	6	104	11	1	5
Dhaka	383									7	1	3	36	6	1	3
Khulna	468	38	0	102	396	27	0	99	47	4	0	11	41	3	0	11
Chittagong	692	14	6	156	635	13	5	154	61	3	1	13	55	2	1	13
Total	2,647	261	24	355	2,420	222	23	346	253	27	3	33	236	22	3	32

## TABLE – 08 (Group Saving)

Division	Total u	p to Mare	ch 2005		Plan		Imp	lementa	tion	D	stributio	on	Total u	p to Mare	ch 2006
Division	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Rajshahi	2,959,542	3,623,643	6,583,185	906,696	1,047,672	1,954,368	794,085	1,134,323	1,928,408	1,039,416	1,134,023	2,173,439	2,714,211	3,623,943	6,338,154
Dhaka	1,608,498	1,608,247	3,216,745	393,432	464,688	858,120	738,042	239,016	977,058	479,364	583,298	1,062,662	1,867,176	1,263,965	3,131,141
Khulna	1,661,202	4,091,330	5,752,532	440,568	553,608	994,176	509,789	871,180	1,380,969	561,146	734,238	1,295,384	1,609,845	4,228,272	5,838,117
Chittagong	4,156,533	6,447,874	10,604,407	892,920	925,992	1,818,912	787,349	937,293	1,724,642	1,381,843	1,253,038	2,634,881	3,562,039	6,132,129	9,694,168
Total	10,385,775	15,771,094	26,156,869	2,633,616	2,991,960	5,625,576	2,829,265	3,181,812	6,011,077	3,461,769	3,704,597	7,166,366	9,753,271	15,248,309	25,001,580

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

				E	Bank Accou	nt					Position of (	Froup Saving	
Division	Total u	up to March	n 2005	New Inc	reases in 20	05-2006	Total u	up to Marcl	n 2006		Total up to	March 2006	
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Bank	Cash	Investment	Total
Rajshahi	327	591	918	38	55	93	365	646	1,011	168,072	130,334	6,039,748	6,338,154
Dhaka	216	325	541	28	45	73	244	370	614	86,480	150,288	2,894,373	3,131,141
Khulna	178	517	695	15	62	77	193	579	772	135,473	253,150	5,449,494	5,838,117
Chittagong	482	773	1,255	13	27	40	495	800	1,295	195,832	119,890	9,378,446	9,694,168
Total	1,203	2,206	3,409	94	189	283	1,297	2,395	3,692	585,857	653,662	23,762,061	25,001,580

		Raj	shahi			D	haka			Kł	ulna			Chit	tagong			٦	otal	
Subject	Ν	P	articipan	t	Ν	F	Participa	nt	N	F	Participar	nt	NT		articipan		NT		Participa	nt
-	0	М	F	Т	0	М	F	Т	No	Μ	F	Т	No	М	F	Т	No	М	F	Т
HUMAN DEVELOPME	NT TI	RAINING	Ţ	-	-		-	-									-			
Basic																				
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
Plan	20	250	250	500	12	150	150	300	13	150	175	325	17	200	225	425	62	750	800	1,550
Implementation	20	242	241	483	12	143	141	284	13	146	162	308	17	194	216	410	62	725	760	1,485
Total up to March 2006		2,791	2,755	5,546		1,330	1,568	2,898		1,580	1,575	3,155		2,560	2,764	5,324		8,261	8,662	16,923
Advanced																				1
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
Plan	6	76	74	150	2	26	24	50	4	52	48	100	4	52	48	100	16	206	194	400
Implementation	6	73	71	144	2	23	21	44	4	44	48	92	4	46	47	93	16	186	187	373
Total up to March 2006		916	953	1,869		436	479	915		621	603	1,224		634	813	1,447		2,607	2,848	5,455
Higher Selection																				1
Up to March 2005		273	240	513		136	135	271		189	159	348		207	223	440		805	757	1,572
Plan	4	50	50	100	2	25	25	50	4	50	50	100	6	75	75	150	16	200	200	400
Implementation	4	48	48	96	2	20	24	44	4	44	47	91	6	66	71	137	16	178	190	368
Total up to March 2006		321	288	609		156	159	315		233	206	439		273	294	577		983	947	1,940
Higher																				
Up to March 2005		28	17	45		15	17	32		29	15	44		25	17	42		97	66	163
Plan				0				0				0				0	2	25	25	5(
Implementation		10	5	15		3	4	7		6	5	11		8	7	15	2	27	21	48
Total up to March 2006		38	22	60		18	21	39		35	20	55		33	24	57		124	87	211
OTHER TRAINING																				
Production & Manage	ement																			
Up to March 2005		67	28	95		42	31	73		66	31	97		71	56	127		246	146	392
Plan	2	26	24	50	1	13	12	25	2	26	24	50	1	13	12	25	6	78	72	150
Implementation	2	23	20	43	1	14	10	24	2	21	24	45	1	12	11	23	6	70	65	135
Total up to March 2006		90	48	138		56	41	97		87	55	142		83	67	150		316	211	527
Leadership Developmen	t																			
Up to March 2005		77	41	118		49	36	85		64	31	95		51	49	100		241	157	398
Plan	1	13	12	25	1	13	12	25	2	26	24	50	2	26	24	50	6	78	72	150
Implementation	1	14	10	24	1	14	11	25	2	24	24	48	2	29	19	48	6	81	64	145
Total up to March 2006		91	51	142		63	47	110		88	55	143		80	68	148		322	221	543
<b>Right &amp; Access to Inform</b>	nation																			
Up to March 2005		53	34	87		42	43	85		61	33	94		61	38	99		217	148	365
Plan	1	13	12	25	1	13	12	25	1	13	12	25	1	13	12	25	4	52	48	100
Implementation	1	14	10	24	1	14	11	25	1	11	11	22	1	11	13	24	4	50	45	9:
Total up to March 2006		67	44	111		56	54	110		72	44	116		72	51	123		267	193	460

M= Male, F= Female, T= Total

		Raj	shahi			Dh	aka			Kh	ulna			Chitta	agon	g		Т	otal	
Subject	No	Pa	articipar	nt	No	Pa	rticipa	nt	No	P	articipa	ant	No	Pa	rticipa	nt	No	F	articipar	nt
	INO	М	F	Т	INO	Μ	F	Т	INO	М	F	Т	INU	М	F	Т	INO	М	F	Т
<b>Globalization &amp; Sustai</b>	nable	<del>)</del>																		
Up to March 2005		474	234	708		49	46	95		583	590	1,173		411	266	677		1,517	1,136	2,653
Plan	2	25	25	50	3	45	30	75	4	52	48	100	5	65	60	125	14	187	163	350
Implementation	2	20	15	35	3	41	28	69	4	47	46	93	5	66	54	120	14	174	143	317
Total up to March 2006		494	249	743		90	74	164		630	636	1,266		477	320	797		1,691	1,279	2,970
Citizen Rights & Consti	itutio	nal Gu	arante	es																
Up to March 2005		408	366	774		175	162	337		526	432	958		338	404	742		1,447	1,364	2,811
Plan	2	25	25	50	4	50	50	100	3	38	37	75	5	63	62	125	14	176	174	350
Implementation	2	19	19	38	4	45	42	87	3	32	34	66	5	63	58	121	14	159	153	312
Total up to March 2006		427	385	812		220	204	424		558	466	1,024		401	462	863		1,606	1,517	3,123
Land laws & Manag	emen	t Syster	n																	
Up to March 2005						15	11	26		12	12	24		13	12	25		40	35	75
Plan	1	13	12	25	2	26	24	50	3	40	35	75	2	26	24	50	8	105	95	200
Implementation	1	10	5	15	2	21	19	40	3	39	29	68	2	25	15	40	8	95	68	163
Total up to March 2006		10	5	15		36	30	66		51	41	92		38	27	65		135	103	238
Cultural (Basic)																				
Up to March 2005		106	4	110		113	18	131		112	18	130		70	18	88		401	58	459
Plan	1	20	5	25	1	18	7	25	1	18	7	25	1	18	7	25	4	60	20	80
Implementation	1	20	3	23	1	13	6	19	1	16	4	20	1	13	7	20	4	60	19	79
Total up to March 2006		126	7	133		126	24	150		128	22	150		83	25	108		463	78	541
Cultural (Advance)																				
Up to March 2005		25	3	28		21	6	27		23	7	30		18	7	25		87	23	110
Plan																	2	25	15	40
Implementation		8	3	11		5	4	9		5	3	8		7	3	10	2	25	13	38
Total up to March 2006		33	6	39		26	10	36		28	10	38		25	10	35		112	36	148

#### TABLE – 10 (Training)

M= Male, F= Female, T= Total

		Refresh	er Training		Training	g Forum	Forum Meetings			
Division		Plan	Impler	nentation	Lin to March 2005	Up to March 2006	Plan	Implementation		
	Number	Participant	Number	Participant	Op 10 March 2005	Op 10 March 2000	Fidii	Implementation		
Rajshahi	43	1,075	42	1,013	16	16	192	186		
Dhaka	18	450	17	396	4	5	50	43		
Khulna	30	750	29	678	12	12	144	139		
Chittagong	43	1,075	42	1,026	9	9	108	103		
Total	134	3,350	130	3,103	41	42	494	471		

# TABLE - 11 (Refresher Training and Training Forum)

## TABLE – 12 (Cultural Activity)

	Cultura	l Group	Cultural Activity											
Division	Cultura	l Gloup			Plan				Im	olementa	tion			
Division	Up to March	Up to March	Meeting	Discussion	Drama	Padajatra	People	Meeting	Discussion	Drama	Padajatra	People		
	2005	2006	Meeting	Discussion	Diama	i adajalia	Song	weeting	Discussion	Diama	i adajalia	Song		
Rajshahi	19	19	228	46	123	1	60	212	64	170	-	79		
Dhaka	13	15	160	21	88	1	40	154	25	76	1	49		
Khulna	13	14	159	26	105	1	40	152	29	90	1	50		
Chittagong	8	8	96	16	83	1	130	96	13	147	1	157		
Total	53	56	643	109	399	4	270	614	131	483	3	335		

#### TABLE – 13 (Joint Economic Activity)

Description	_	Agriculture	Fishery	Livestock	Rickshaw/Van	Shallow/ Crasher	Small Business	Total
Up to March 2005		-	120	264	1.40			1 500
	Male	654	120	264	140	4	398	1,580
Group	Female	488	25	120	15	0	522	1,170
	Total	1,142	145	384	155	4	920	2,750
	Male	13,586	2,049	5,496	2,512	131	8,113	31,887
Member	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	1,690
Investment in taka		10,402,865	1,654,977	2,075,379	1,231,323	100,500	3,661,288	19,126,332
Increase in April 2005- March 2006								
	Male	113	146	58	15	0	93	425
Group	Female	86	41	43	1	0	195	366
	Total	199	187	101	16	0	288	791
	Male	2,318	3,035	1,005	238	0	1,858	8,454
Member	Female	1,626	793	839	18	0	3,533	6,809
	Total	3,944	3,828	1,844	256	0	5,391	15,263
Quantity		252.38	137.85	145	23	0	0	558
Investment in taka		3,339,929	995,879	792,611	106,900	0	1,069,659	6,304,978
Decrease in April 2005- March 2006								
<b>b</b>	Male	21	21	38	3	0	19	102
Group	Female	24	16	13	0	0	43	96
1	Total	45	37	51	3	0	62	198
	Male	403	398	603	63	0	336	1,803
Member	Female	473	318	212	0	0	713	1,716
	Total	876	716	815	63	0	1.049	3,519
Quantity		9.58	16.73	48	7	0	0	81
Investment in taka		523,023	335,190	372,468	27,700	0	410,868	1,669,249
Total up to March 2006			,				- ,	,,
	Male	746	245	284	152	4	472	1,903
Group	Female	550	50	150	16	-	674	1,440
F	Total	1,296	295	434	168	4	1,146	3,343
	Male	15,501	4,686	5,898	2,687	131	9,635	38,538
Member	Female	10,317	1,027	3,101	290	-	12,968	27,703
	Total	25,818	5,713	8,999	2,977	131	22,603	66,241
Quantity	Total	813	338	668	332	151		2,167
Investment in taka		13,219,771	2,315,666	2,495,522	1,310,523	100,500	4,320,079	23,762,061
Profit in cash (2005-06)		3,770,687.00	771,062.00	501,262.00	487,759.00	0	1,415,889.00	6,946,659

Description	VGF/VGD Allowances	Bayaska Allowances	Widow Allowances	Freedom Fighter Allowances	Total
Rajshahi	7,711	2,111	1,488	56	11,366
Dhaka	168	190	269	2	629
Khulna	1,247	448	289	8	1,992
Chittagong	1,443	1,319	1,168	264	4,194
Total	10,569	4,068	3,214	330	18,181

#### TABLE – 15 (Legal Aid Activity)

	Cases up to	New	Total	Cases	Re	sult	Cases on	Remaining	Nijera Kori	Group Run
Division	March 2005	Cases	Cases	Settled	Favour	Against	Appeal	Total Cases	Run Cases	Cases
Rajshahi	97	22	119	6	5	1	1	114	19	95
Dhaka	115	3	118	10	10	0	0	108	33	75
Khulna	283	21	304	194	184	10	10	120	53	67
Chittagong	238	62	300	29	24	5	5	276	120	156
Total	733	108	841	239	223	16	16	618	225	393

## TABLE – 16 (Level of Group Consciousness)

Description	F	Rajshah	i		Dhaka			Khulna	l	CI	hittagoi	ng		Total	
Description	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Secondary Level															
Up to March 2005	214	151	365	41	27	68	159	120	279	233	216	449	647	514	1,161
Plan	60	40	100	46	36	82	49	40	89	57	42	99	212	158	370
Implementation	42	41	83	15	19	34	20	21	41	35	28	63	112	109	221
Total up to March 2006	256	192	448	56	46	102	179	141	320	268	244	512	759	623	1,382
Third Level															
Up to March 2005	11	8	19	0	0	0	21	14	35	14	6	20	46	28	74
Plan	27	21	48	20	13	33	25	18	43	30	22	52	102	74	176
Implementation	8	7	15	2	0	2	5	5	10	13	6	19	28	18	46
Total up to March 2006	19	15	34	2	0	2	26	19	45	27	12	39	74	46	120

	Par	ticipation	C	Contributi	on	Voluntary Labour	Ben	eficiary fa	milies
Description	No of Group	Support Provided To	Within Group (Taka)	Outside Group (Taka)	Total (Taka)	By Group Member	Among Group	Outside of Group	Total
Village Convention	4,026	232	142,305	0	142,305	661			
Union Convention	1,731	16	26,415	0	26,415	159			
Thana Convention	1,359	3	76,000	0	76,000	382			
Regional Convention	3,665	29	83,423	0	83,423	809			
Social Movement/Struggle	761	35	9,932	0	9,932	620	Gra	ssroots peo	ple
Cultural Programme	562	2	19,050	0	19,050	45	Gra	ssroots peo	ple
Observance of National/International Day	5,288	164	65,672	0	65,672	1,189	Gra	ssroots peo	ple
Conducting Case	572	231	92,290	0	92,290	143	139	10	149
Assistance to Family of arrested Member	302	51	11,495	0	11,495	7	59	3	62
Medical Support	3,757	286	122,195	15,135	137,330	449	208	198	406
School Repairing	9	1	0	0	0	98	35	85	120
Educational Support	2,015	152	51,978	14,680	66,658	18	123	29	152
Marriage without Dowry	3,396	159	144,445	10,085	154,530	418	20	131	151
Bridge Repairing/Construction	109	81	6,865	0	6,865	253	195	134	329
Road Repairing/Reconstruction	64	12	2,000	0	2,000	306	292	162	454
Dredging of Canal	11	3	2,500	0	2,500	160	45	30	75
Repairing of house	449	73	15,138	12,510	27,648	155	21	52	73
Tree Plantation	383	16	9,150	0	9,150	84	673	543	1216
Burial	259	20	6,595	1,275	7,870	104	13	20	33
Total	28,718	1,566	887,448	53,685	941,133	6,060	1,823	1,397	3,220

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

Decovintion	F	Rajs	hah	i		Dha	aka			Khı	ılna		(	Chitta	agon	g		То	tal	
Description	No	Μ	F	Т	No	М	F	Т	No	М	F	Т	No	М	F	Т	No	М	F	Т
Union Parishad Up To March 2006	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 2005	56	79	4	83	9	16	2	18	51	66	26	92	73	271	41	312	189	432	73	505
Left out after Expiry of Term	8	8	2	10	1	1	0	1	3	3	1	4	6	6	2	8	18	18	5	23
Contested in School Committee during 2005-2006	9	9	2	11	1	1	0	1	4	4	1	5	7	8	3	11	21	22	6	28
Elected in School Committee during 2005-2006	9	9	5	14	1	1	1	2	3	3	3	6	7	7	4	11	20	20	13	33
School Management Committee till March 2006	57	80	7	87	9	16	3	19	51	66	28	94	74	272	43	315	191	434	81	515
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
Left out after Expiry of Term	3	4	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	6	2	8	7	10	3	13
Contested in Market Committee in 2005-2006	4	6	1	7	1	1	0	1	17	20	2	22	4	8	2	10	26	35	5	40
Elected in Market Committee during 2005-2006	4	5	1	6	1	1	0	1	17	18	2	20	4	8	2	10	26	32	5	37
Market Committee till March 2006	45	66	1	67	4	8	0	8	32	38	4	42	41	124	5	129	122	236	10	246
Sugarcane Purchase Committee till March 2005	2	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2
Left out after Expiry of Term	2	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2
Nominated till March 2006	3	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	3
Project Management Committee (U.P) till March 2005	8	11	2	13	8	7	2	9	9	8	6	14	32	90	32	122	57	116	42	158
Left out after Expiry of Project	8	11	2	13	8	7	2	9	9	8	6	14	32	90	32	122	57	116	42	158
Nominated till March 2006	9	12	4	16	8	9	2	11	11	13	8	21	34	97	34	131	62	131	48	179
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
Social Movement Committee till March 2006	18	27	30	57	8	62	3	65	3	30	21	51	24	154	51	205	53	273	105	378
Health Watch Committee till March 2006		l																		
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 – 18 (Participation of Group Member in different Committee)

M= Male, F= Female, T= Total

#### TABLE – 19 (Participation in Local Shalish)

	Total Shalish	Total Shalish	Member the Sh		Na	ture of Particip	ation in Shalish		ndless Le dge/Medi			Result	No of Court
Description	of Last Year.	of Current Year.	Male	Female		at Self- of Land Less lijera Kori Jointly by Female & Male Leader	Shalish under Joint Leadership of Landless and Village Authority	Male	Male Female Total		No of settled Shalish	No of unsettled Shalish	Cases on Unsettled Shalish
Women Against: (dowry, divorce, polygamy, rape, kidnapping, physical assault, fundamentalism & religious indictment	243	231	4,677	1,471	39	143	49	464	215	679	217	14	11
Illegal Possession of Property from the Landless	106	91	2,099	1,227	0	40	51	261	78	339	80	11	3
Fundamentalism	23	31	578	374	0	14	17	63	16	79	31	0	0
Family Feud	400	638	8,574	3,960	183	368	87	1,194	804	1,998	628	10	9
Issue of Injustice & Oppression	136	104	1,844	1,198	1	60	43	267	104	371	99	5	5
Theft, Burglary and Hijacking	99	89	1,914	496	20	40	29	130	76	206	87	2	2
Local Corruption	41	60	1,002	556	2	28	30	174	54	228	57	3	3
Social Conflict	116	159	1,574	1,329	38	78	43	519	253	772	153	6	6
Total	1,164	1,403	22,262	10,611	283	771	349	3,072	1,600	4,672	1,352	51	39

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

			Khas Lar	nd (Acre)			Water Body (Acre)						
Subject	No of Group	Land	No of Group	Land	No of Group	Land	No of Group	Water Body	No of Group	Water Body			
	Member	Registered	Member	Leased	Member	Owned	Member	Leased	Members	Owned			
Up to March 2005	8,563	10,140.36	345	108.30	6,414	2,808.99	519	106.20	1,429	337.73			
Increase in April 2005 - March 2006	8,989	8,685.20			*36,183	21,108.57	123	5.60	1,286	377.26			
Total March 2006	17,552	18,825.56	345	108.30	42,597	23,917.56	642	111.80	2,715	714.99			

Note: \* Group members are 22,063 and non group landless peoples 14,120.

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

Description	No of Movement for Reclaiming Illegally Occupied	-	n the Movement for Own and Quantity of Regained Land	No of Movement against Commercial	Commercia	he Movement against I Shrimp and Quantity of Regained Land	Beneficiar v Familv	No of Present Movemen
	Land	No.	Amount of Land (Acre)	Shrimp	No.	Amount of Land (Acre)	y r arriny	t
Last Year	130	108	26.70	58	58	420.00	1,013	22
<b>Current Year</b>	142	131	316.59	66	57	230.25	2,051	20

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

Issue of Social Movement	No of Movement	Issue raised by organisation of		wise Mov	ement/Str	uggle in 2005	Total No of Movement	No of Movement	On going Movement	Group's Participation		
/Struggle	Last Year	Women / Men	Rajshahi	Dhaka	Khulna	Chittagong	Total	in Current Year	Won	till date	in Movement of others	
Violence against women: dowry, divorce, polygamy, rape, physical	175	Women	34	11	19	97	161	263	138	23	15	
assault, kidnapping, fundamentalism and religious indictment		Men	25	14	12	51	102		90	12	-	
Fundamentalism	29	Women	6	1 5	25	9	18 22	40	15 17	35	05	
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.	118	Men Women	10	5	9	16	39		32	7		
		Men	33	4	4	33	74	113	69	5	11	
Establishment of rights on local resources: establishment of rights on	130	Women	10	6	12	33	61	142	55	6	. 3	
khas land, water bodies, regaining possession of disposed land		Men	14	8	16	43	81		76	5		
Environmental Issues: resisting commercial shrimp aquaculture, creating public support against	58	Women	0	0	7	8	15	50	12	3	40	
excessive use of chemical fertiliser and pesticides.		Men	0	0	25	10	35		29	6		
Resistance to action and oppression of reactionary groups: resisting eviction of lands less from land, looting of ripe	30	Women Men	0	2	4	12	18	46	15	3	18	
paddy, burning the houses, physical assault.			6	2	2	18	28		21	7	10	
Resisting illegalities and irregularities of	49	Women	8	7	7	6	28	45	24	4	- 7	
micro credit Movement for due wage	10	Men Women	3	7	4 8	3	17 11	30	<u>17</u> 9	0		
		Men	2	2	15	0	19		15	4	4	
Movement against others	93	Women Men	4	1	36 39	0	41 51	92	37 45	4	30	
Grand Total		Women Men	74	32	104	182	392	821	337	55	+	
	692		101	43	104	163	429		379	50	133	
		Total	175	75	226	345	821		716	105		

Description	Initiative by Government /Landless Group	Govt Resource	Commercial Shrimp Aqua- culture	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 & Haras- sment	Fundam- entalism	Natural Calamity & Relief	National/ Interna- tional Day	Law & Order situa- tion
Deputy	By govt:	6	3	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	3	1	3	1	2
Commissioner	By group	27	15	8	0	4	1	3	2	11	1	18	3	4	8
Land Administration	By govt:	75	15	3	10	2	6	0	0	2	7	0	0	2	4
	By group	203	4	0	0	15	0	0	0	23	11	0	0	8	19
Upazilla Administration	By govt:	62	12	29	24	21	21	7	38	14	14	13	21	46	12
	By group	92	15	55	33	45	28	15	63	46	33	22	30	83	13
Police Administration	By govt:	23	11	1	2	36	0	0	54	27	44	4	1	17	35
	By group	44	5	11	3	19	0	0	35	17	38	19	1	6	16
Parliament Member	By member	21	9	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	10	16
	By group	2	1	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
Political Party	By Party	0	16	18	5	10	5	0	0	6	3	0	4	12	14
	By group	12	0	0	3	0	0	0	5	2	0	0	2	10	4
Union (parishad)	By council	94	18	77	76	63	3	16	40	18	36	2	37	28	16
Council	By group	156	10	53	90	77	33	55	103	56	48	29	33	95	85
Health Administration	By govt:	0	0	0	0	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	13	0	0
	By group	22	0	3	0	2	42	1	2	0	0	2	15	0	0
Press Club	By club:	30	19	7	1	21	0	0	4	14	12	16	2	20	14
	By group	58	1	15	23	45	16	10	59	16	23	24	9	58	28
Bar Council	By council	2	5	0	0	7	0	0	3	2	2	4	0	2	12
	By group	48	0	0	0	15	0	0	30	5	10	10	0	15	11
Women Organisation	By org:	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	5	0	3	0	0	8	10
	By group	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	3	3	0	22	4
Education Administration	By govt:	2	0	17	0	2	0	5	1	0	0	2	0	3	2
	By group	2	0	34	0	3	4	0	11	0	0	6	0	46	3
Grand Total	By govt:/	o 1 -	100				15			0.5	105				105
	others	315	108	152	119	176	47	29	145	83	127	42	81	149	137
	By group	666	51	179	152	227	124	85	312	176	170	133	93	347	191
	Total	981	159	331	271	403	171	114	457	259	297	175	174	496	328

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