

# Annual Progress Report 2006 - 2007

Nijera Kori, 7/8, Block C, Lalmatia, Dhaka - 1207  
Phone: 880-2-8111 372, 8122 199, Fax: 880-2-8122 250

Email: [nijerakori@nijerakori.org](mailto:nijerakori@nijerakori.org)

URL: [www.nijerakori.org](http://www.nijerakori.org)

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## List of abbreviations:

1. ASIA- Asia Solidarity against Industrial Aquaculture
2. ALRD- Association of Land Reform and development
3. ADB- Asian Development Bank
4. ADSC- Alliance for Development Support and Cooperation
5. BELA- Bangladesh Environmental Lawyer's Association
6. BLAST- Bangladesh Legal Aids Services Trust
7. CHT- Chittagong Hill Tracks
8. DCR-Duplicate Carbon Receipt
9. DFID- Department for International Development
10. EJF- Environmental Justice Foundation
11. FAO- Food and Agriculture Organisation
12. FPP- Forest Peoples Programme
13. FNB- Federation of NGOs in Bangladesh
14. HDRC- Human Development and Research Center
15. IDS- Institute of Development Studies
16. IFI- International Financial Institution
17. INCIDIN- Incidin Bangladesh
18. IUCN- The World Conservation Union
19. MAP- Mangrove Action Project
20. MIS- Management Information System
21. NK-Nijera Kori
22. PRSP- Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
23. PCFS- People's Coalition on Food Sovereignty
24. PME- Planning Monitoring Evaluation
25. RAS- Research and Advisory Services
26. UN- United Nations



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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Since 1980, Nijera Kori (NK), an activist NGO in Bangladesh, is working towards the empowerment of the disadvantaged exploited poor communities through social mobilisation and self help approach for establishing their social justice, equality and fundamental rights. Towards this end, NK has undertaken a variety of consciousness raising, people's organisation building and leadership development, gender equality and right based activities. The organisation has formed a total of 12,534 landless groups comprising of 260,034 group members representing families and covering over 800,000 children, women and men family members. Of the total coverage more than half are women. Currently 118 female and 244 male staff members are working in the organisation.

The year has been eventful for Bangladesh as the country was in political turmoil, arising out of the impending parliamentary elections leading to the declaration of emergency in January'07. Despite the prevailing political crisis, the year saw notable achievements for NK in its activities in a number of areas. This is most prominent in its advocacy related initiatives, but also equally with legal aid support that resulted with the historic verdict of the killing of Korunamoyee Sardar, 17 years after her murder.

The performance of NK in other areas has been remarkable. In most of the cases, NK achieved 100 percent targets as set out in the annual activity plan. Some targets in the areas of group formation, organisation of group meetings, committee formation and conventions, days observations and cultural activities could not be fully achieved as set out in the plan due to political impasse of the country in the preceding months.

NK has successfully started to work with the *adivasis (indigenous people)* in its working areas and 9 groups have been formed. This is a new dimension for NK as an organisation.

There has been a noteworthy achievement in the area active involvement of the women in NK's mobilisation activities, in terms of increasing awareness of the women about their rights. This has resulted in their increasing pro-active role to ensure their rights.

NK's activities also saw quite significant expansion and consolidation in terms of geographical coverage. NK is now working in 17 districts, covering 37 upazilla and 1,353 villages.

The prevailing political situation of the country stood as an impediment to achieve the capacity building activities as per plan and some targets could not be realised within the agreed time schedule.

During the year, 159 landless groups have been graduated to Stage third and they are capable to plan and manage their activities independently.

During the year, the NK PME and reporting system has been reviewed with active involvement of staff and group members which has resulted in an upgradation of their computerised monitoring and reporting skills. It is, however, felt that both NK staff and its group members are in need of further capacity building support, in the areas of



right's awareness creation methodologies, linkage-building, networking and participatory monitoring and evaluation.

In the area of economic activities by the groups, there has been a significant increase of joint economic/income generating activities planned and managed by the groups by utilising their own savings. By the end of the year, a total of Tk 32,124,638 have been invested out of the group savings fund and the groups have made a total of TK 8,014,050 profit from their joint economic activities. These economic activities, not only yielding economic and social profits, but also creating jobs for the group members. What is more remarkable is that the women group members are mostly benefited from these activities. An estimated 1,547,010 person days of employment opportunities were created in the activity year.

By the end of the year, the total savings of NK landless group members amount to TK 35,944,642 and they are operating through 3,885 bank accounts.

The increased awareness resulted in group members voice to defend their own rights. In cases where their basic rights are challenged by powerful vested interest groups, they are taking initiatives by themselves in their defence and seeking legal recourse. What is even more encouraging is that in most of these legal cases, the group members are obtaining court verdicts in their favour. The activity year saw, in total 90 cases settled in the court out of which 81 case verdicts were in their favour and the remaining cases are on appeal in higher court.

Towards the awareness building, and organisational and leadership skills for the group members, NK has planned and implemented a total of 149 need based training courses participated by 3,560 group members totalling 393,335 person days of training inputs. Through proper need analysis, NK has also organised 14 training courses for the staff members totalling 6,842 person days of training efforts.

Due to empowerment and enhanced capacity, a total of 2,638 NK landless group members are now serving as arbitrator in various village *salishes*. (*Alternative Disput Arbitration*) Besides, a total of 895 NK's members have been elected in various government bodies (*e.g. school committee, market committee, etc.*) and are actively involved in promoting the cause and interests of the poor on the basis of fairness.

NK's social mobilisation processes also include the preservation and promotion of the culture of the common people, based on the mottoes of the traditional Bangladeshi society on secularism, tolerance, non-violence to resist all forms of religious bigotry and violence. To preserve these values among the people NK's cultural groups, which are formed with members from the landless groups, have demonstrated their active involvement in cultural activities. On the above themes, they have performed 412 dramas, 297 people song (gono sangeet), along with hosting/participating in various cultural functions in their vicinity/adjacent areas. In the year, they had the distinct honour of being invited in 8 cultural events, organised by the government at upazilla level which has created positive impact.

The most encouraging results of NK's activities came probably from its advocacy related activities. Throughout the year, NK was particularly active on causes that it stands for; rights to khas land of the poor and landless peoples, promotion and protection of human rights of the disadvantaged and the marginalised including the



*adivasi* people, bringing a halt to commercial shrimp culture related activities detrimental to the interest of the landless and environment.

NK in such fights, has provided legal support to the poor and the disadvantaged, etc. Many of the advocacy activities were carried out in collaboration with other like-minded organisations. While as a functional strategy, such an advocacy approach made NK activities greater acceptance and recognition as an organisation with its various stakeholders, including the government of Bangladesh. NK's advocacy activities with regard to khas land were particularly successful. Through its activities, a total 2,218 acres of khas land are recovered from the vested interest groups and were given to its group members. NK's advocacy activities have created impact and as result NK was invited in the relevant policy formulation processes by the government and recognition of the poor in pertinent policies of the government, including the Poverty Reduction Strategy.

Over the past decades, NK has relentlessly been working to raise awareness on the negative aspects of commercial shrimp cultivation, particularly its impact on the poor and so that the poor raise voice against industrial shrimp cultivation. NK has been taking a lead role in this regard within Bangladesh and actively advocating internationally with the relevant stakeholders who are in a position to influence Bangladesh policies. NK's efforts resulted in the formation of an international networking alliance with NK as secretariat and most importantly, the joint declaration under the lead of NK was accepted as a key policy reference by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) of the UN.

NK has also been very much proactive in the areas of promotion of human rights of the poor and the disadvantaged. It participated in a number of initiatives in this regard, often in the lead role. This is particularly notable with regard to the rights of the *adivasis* of the country.

While NK should justifiably celebrate its achievements, it also remains vigilant on its mission for the future. The political anarchic situation that prevailed for most part of the activity year was an impediment to realise a number of its planned initiatives; the next year might throw an even more challenging situation for NK in its struggle to establish the rights of the poor. NK remains aware of these challenges and will make every effort to confront new challenges together with its allies, friends, stakeholders and the landless partners.



## 1. A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF NIJERA KORI

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### 1.1 Background

Nijera Kori, a well-known activist NGO in Bangladesh, was created following the artificial 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 subsequently 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 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 260,034 group members. Of them, more than half are women. Total number of programme staff in NK is 472 out of which 118 are female and 244 are male. The programme staff directly functions in field. Besides, 110 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 organised but throughout the organisation 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 marginalisation, 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 Programme participants 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 process of Nijera Kori (*Organogram in annex - B*)

The 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, which is held every alternate year and attended by all staff of NK. Here they constitute a three-tier council for two years for overall management and coordination by electing their representatives (*except coordinator*) from among the staff. These councils are 1) Anchal Parishad (*Area Council*), 2) Bibhagiya Parishad (*Divisional Council*) and 3) Nirbahi Parishad (*Central Executive Council*). The overall activities of NK are planned and monitored through weekly sub-centre meeting, monthly anchal parishad meeting, bi-monthly divisional parishad meeting, quarterly nirbahi parishad meeting, annual divisional staff convention and finally at central staff convention/council. On behalf of the above councils the Coordinator regularly consults the Governing Body.

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

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, Upazilla 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.

### 1.5.1 Planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting system of Nijera Kori

Nijera Kori has been practicing a comprehensive PME and reporting system ensuring equal participation of staff and landless groups in the whole process (*See Annex B*). The landless groups through regular meetings evaluate their activities and formulate plans. In these meetings leaders, representatives of landless groups/committees from other working areas too 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 Upazilla 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 staffs formulate 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.

### 1.6 Working areas and Nijera Kori (*details in annex map - F (A) and table -1*)

From 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.

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 54 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.

Table 1: NK working area

Year	2006	2007
Village	1,335	1,353
Union	170	172
Upazilla	37	37
District	17	17
Division	4	4



## 1.7 Why is NK different?

### ***Because of our focus on social mobilisation***

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

### ***Because of our democratic management structure***

- Participatory democracy is the core value that shapes NK's management structure and decision-making process.
- NK believes that democratic management is necessary to successfully establish the rights of the poor.
- NK imbues democratic practices through participation and accountability in planning, implementation, and evaluation and overall management not only with the landless groups that NK organises, but replicates and practises within the organisation itself.
- Our own structure and culture seeks, as far as possible, to replicate the principles of democracy, accountability, transparency and gender equity that are fostered through our attempts to organise the landless.

### ***Because we don't think of development through micro credit***

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

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

- NK expects a level of dedication, commitment and 'people' skills from its staff that extends beyond what is required by the more professionalised NGOs in Bangladesh.
- In general, staff in large organisations expect and receive a higher remuneration, more comfortable working conditions and more benefits than NK staff. However, NK believes that this widens the social and economic distance between its staff and its constituency, thereby jeopardising the relationship on which their interactions are based.
- NK staffs are 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 affects the *samity* by giving the groups within it a stronger sense of unity and a greater set of common goals and values.
- NK is characterised by a high frequency of meetings, for both staff and landless groups. It is this frequency of face-to-face meetings, which the organisation regards as the most important way of promoting closer relationships, establishing trust and ensuring participatory decision-making and democratic accountability.
- NK is not money collecting organisation. Rather remaining above its activities is being done based in a brotherly-sisterly relationship.

***Because we work with the most neglected groups***

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

***Because we develop autonomous landless organisation***

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

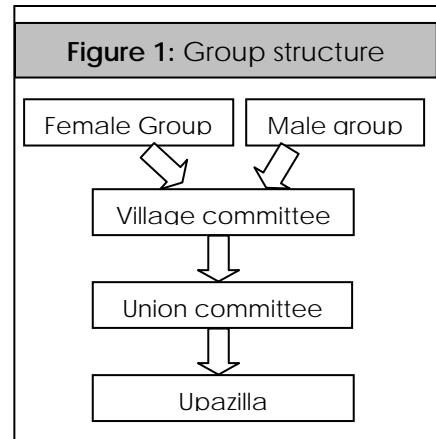
***Because of our approach to gender equity***

- Gender inequality remains central to NK's understanding of poverty and social injustice. We recognise that patriarchy perpetuates the disadvantages of inequality, injustice and exclusion, which are intensified in relation to women and girls. In addition, they also suffer from gender-specific forms of discrimination and domestic violence within their household, restrictions on their physical movements and discrimination within labour markets, beyond the household in the larger society.
- However, NK believes that female/male 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.

## 2. LANDLESS ORGANISATIONS AND THEIR ACTIVITIES

### 2.1 Landless groups building process and achievement

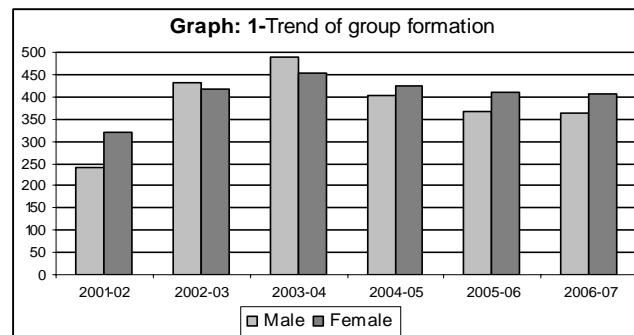
The landless groups are formed on a preliminary basis with a minimum of 16 to maximum 30 members. For reasons pragmatic and practical, groups are separately formed with female and male members. Rooted in the patriarchal values and the consequent social and religious beliefs, women in traditional Bangladeshi society are kept separate from men. This is for this reasons that at the preliminary stage, women groups are formed exclusively. At a further level when two third of the targeted population at the village, union and upazilla level become group members, committees are formed (see figure - 1 and annex - D). But the landless members, sometimes, form their own committee at regional level when situation demands and when such steps are felt necessary for the movement of the landless people even if this means less than two third of the targeted population are still not group members. At every level, the committees are formed and their terms renewed through annual group meetings. It may be mentioned that, the landless committee comprising of men and women, with the minimum of 25% mandatory elected women. This is through such trial and above all of learning environment that the landless groups develop their organisational capacity, become aware of their rights and as well as responsibilities and gradually gain the capacity to claim their rights as citizen of the country.



#### 2.1.1 Group formation and group members (details in annex table 2 & 3)

##### Analysis of achievements

In the activity year, 91% of the targeted new groups were formed as envisaged in the activity plan. The increase in membership was 85%. It is worth mentioning also that that in 5 working areas 9 new groups of *adivasis* (indigenous people) have been formed as a result of which there are now 53 *adivasi* groups (female 20, male 33).



This positive trend of group formation is clear from the graph -1. NK's groups now encompass a total of 143,528 families, effectively amounting to more than 800,000 individual members (1 family comprising of about 5.4 members: ref. Statistical Yearbook of Bangladesh: 2004). More importantly, NK's activities have been expanded to 18 new villages in 2 Unions and 34 new villages have been under the coverage (an area is considered as covered when 75% of the targeted population are organised under groups)



## 2.2 Groups meetings and workshops

### 2.2.1 Groups meetings (details in annex table 4)

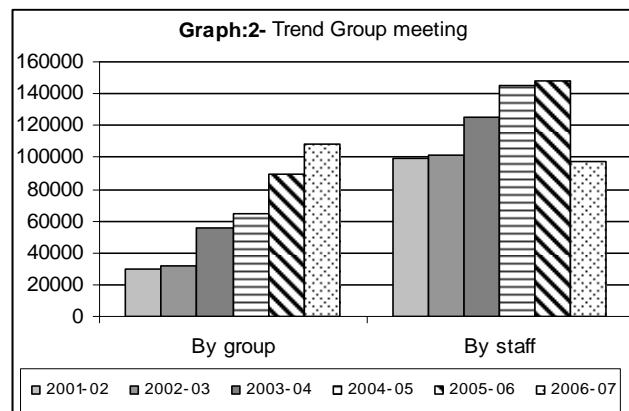
#### Analysis of achievement

75% of the group meetings were held in the activity year. 53% of these meetings were held without active support from NK. This is an indication of the increasing self-dependence of the landless members. The graph-2, is indicative of this trend from the year 2003-4 onward. However, because of the prevailing situation in the country, following the declaration of state-wide 'emergency' and the consequent ban on all gatherings, some of the planned meetings could not be organised, either by NK or by landless members. For organising the meetings, the members are usually taking the initiatives. Their discussion includes a wide range of topics.

This is nevertheless a significant achievement that the group members are continuing their activities, including their sharing sessions and meetings, despite the prevailing situation of the country.

Apart from the group meetings, the achievement of the representatives' meetings is 112% in the activity year and while this is 91% for the collective meetings. Above all, 68% of the groups held their annual meetings and elected

1,966 new members in their respective committees. This is also another indication of the dynamism of the groups and most importantly, their practice of democracy.



### 2.2.2 Group workshops (details in annex table 5)

#### Analysis of achievement

A total of 125 such group workshops were held during the activity year. This is 99% as per the work plan. The participation in these workshops was 103%. The workshops serve for the members to discuss on issues relevant to the activities of the groups, besides giving them a platform to discuss on the broader issues of their community and villages. It is worth mentioning that of the total workshops, 61 of these were organised to hold discussion of village-based planning and implementation. This has enabled the members to participate in such planning and to become aware of the advantages of village based planning. Above all, these have proved to be an effective tool of empowerment for the landless members.

### 2.3 Networking and solidarity building process (details in annex table 6 & 7)

Once a village, union or upazilla is brought under NK's coverage (i.e. one third of the targeted population becomes group members), the process of landless committee formation starts. At first, this starts with establishment of a "convening committee" in presence of representatives of the landless groups. Afterwards, full committees are formally formed through conference. The committees are formed with a one year's renewable term. Usually, the committees at various levels (e.g. village, Union, Upazilla, etc.) are formed by the end of the years through a conference of the group members. Furthermore, area committees are also formed when group need cordination of all activities.

**Analysis of achievements**

The achievement of formation of committees against the activity plan is; for village committee 78% and for regional committees; 100%. It should be mentioned that there was no plan to form Union and Upazilla level committee in the activity year. But despite this, the overall achievement rate in holding the meetings is; village level 93%, union level 90%, Upazilla level 100% and regional level 90%. The rate of achievement against the plan in holding the conferences; village level 83%, union level 50% and regional level 59%. It should be also mentioned that the landless committees could not hold their upazilla level meetings/conferences. The position of the women members is given in table-2. This number is provided on the basis of results of the groups that could hold elections in 2006-07, together with those that did not held elections.

Committee	2005-06	2006-07
Village	188	226
Union	38	36
Upazilla	6	6
Area	53	56
Total	285	327

**2.4 Group savings and collective economic activities (details in annex table 8, 9, 13 & 17)**

Group savings are collected for running the business of the groups and also for undertaking various joint economic activities. The rate of savings is determined by mutual discussion based on the condition of the least capable members of the groups. The groups themselves are responsible for the management of the savings. Depending on the capacity of the groups, NK's staffs some times help them in maintaining the group savings and accounts, but in no case they play any role in decision-making regarding the management of the group savings.

**Analysis of achievement (details in annex table-8)**

Group members on their own have collected a total of TK 16,276,231 and opened 193 accounts. One of the key aspects of the group savings is that this allows the landless members to undertake various joint economic activities. Such activities positively impact the groups' members in three major ways;

First; it builds mutual solidarity among them and imparts skills in joint decision making and management.

Second, this is making positive impacts in their economic development. In total 927 (*female 392, Male 535*) groups were able to undertake various new joint/collective economic activities in the activity year, an increase of 17% from the previous year. Also, 3,675 groups (*female 1,645, male 2,030*) earned a profit of TK 8,014,050 from such joint activities. Besides, 17,198 persons (*female 6,514, male 10,684*) found employment for most part of the year from such activities, again an increase of 30% from the previous year. Most importantly, the group members took loans of TK 5,333,169 in the year during the agricultural season from their savings. This is all the more remarkable that this loan is interest free, from their own savings and allowed them to stay away from their grip of the local money-lenders, who usually provide loan at an exorbitant rate. The joint economic activities allowed the group members in pursuing various income generating activities and made a tremendous positive impacts in their lives (*details in annex table -13*)



Third, the group members spent an amount of TK 705,436 from their savings for running their groups, including for organising protests, sit-ins in support of their rights. Furthermore, they spent an additional TK 438,321 for various community works, such as education, medical helps, bridge repairing, etc. Such activities tremendously impact in building ownership of the members in group activities, besides imparting them a sense of self-dependence.

**Our experience:** A lot of landless people were evicted or lost their habitat due to river erosion or actions taken by the joint forces. Also, a number of lease terms for water bodies or lands came to an end this year and as new lease terms of these lands/water bodies could not be renewed, as a result of which 595 groups (*female 178, male 408*) could not initiate/undertake joint economic activities.

## 2.5 Classification of groups as per level of consciousness

Based on their awareness and capability, the groups stratified in different levels (*details in Box - 1*). Where a group is accepted to in the next level when at least 50% of its members are deemed to have acquired the relevant capabilities.

### Analysis of achievement (*details in annex table - 16*)

During the activity year, in total 246 groups (*female 125, male 121*) promoted to the second level from first level. A further 39 groups (*female 19, male 20*) also promoted into third level. This is 84% for second level and 55% for third level, as per the work plan (*table-3*).

Details	Male	Female	Total
2nd level	121	125	246
3rd level	20	19	39

#### Box 1: Level of group consciousness

##### Primary level

Groups at this level concentrate on developing basic awareness, organising 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 well-wishers, raise the cultural awareness amongst people.

*The group should specifically develop a clear conception about exploitation, organise 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.*



## **Our experience**

At the beginning of the activity year, the groups undertook village based planning following their activity plans. The particular initiative was very much appreciated by all concerned and as a result of this timely initiative; the entire planning process was carried out very smoothly. As a result, the planning was realistic, as conveyed by the group members and the other relevant stakeholders during regular monitoring and other field visits. This effective planning process also reflected in the formation of new groups and holding of workshops, as achievements in both areas were very much as expected in the activity plan. It should, nevertheless, be mentioned that the group formations' process is usually completed by December of the activity year. As a result, the declaration of emergency and the subsequent political environment of the country did not have much negative impact in this regard. But during the same period of emergency, many group formation and other sundry group related activities have had to be put on hold, as a consequence, this may have negative impacts in the next year's performance of NK. Equally, because of the unstable political situation from September'06 onward, the activities of the groups were significantly decreased. This situation also severely impacted on the group conferences, as the groups usually hold their annual meetings/conferences - where they form their new committees - by the end of the year. The declaration of emergency in January affected the union and upazilla level activities the most, following the ban of any group gatherings all over the country. Further more, because of the eviction drive of the joint forces, many group members have been dislocated from their habitat and this also quite significantly affected the activities of the groups.

## **Lessons learnt**

There have been feedback from the members and other stakeholders about the inadequacy of 'village based' planning in ensuring qualitative changes, although it has been found largely effective with regard to joint actions of the groups. Furthermore, a lack of relevant information and analysis of this information has been identified in formulating such planning.





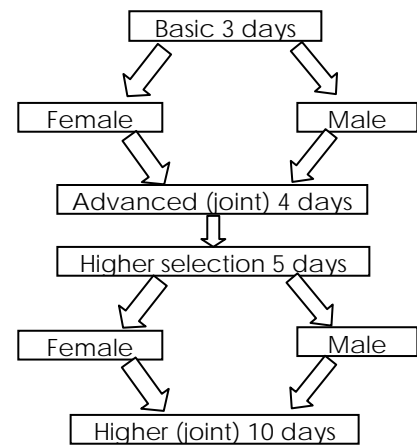
### 3. TRAINING AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES OF NIJERA KORI

#### 3.1 Consciousness raising and leadership development training for group members

Group trainings are organised with 20-25 members and are divided in four categories: basic, advanced, higher selection and higher. At basic level, female and male members are provided trainings separately. Fro advanced level, trainings are organised with both female and male members, but at higher advanced level female and male members are separated. At higher level, they both are again grouped together (see Figure - 2).

NK follows this particular approach to impart relevant skills to both the female and male members. The objective is to create an environment where both female and male members get an open environment of sharing and mutual learning. This is particularly important for the female members who need such an environment and who, otherwise, feel shy to express their feelings in presence of male members. At later stage, they are mixed together so that they can build mutual trust and understanding, key elements for their successful empowerment. Along side, the main trainings, separate trainings at basic and advanced level are organised for members who are involved in cultural activities, each session having 20 members. Furthermore, based on specific needs of certain working areas, other trainings on relevant subjects are also provided. Some of such training courses are; 'leadership development', 'collective production and management', 'right to information', 'globalisation and sustainable development', 'Citizen rights and constitutional guarantees,' etc. Members who have already received basic level training are eligible for these trainings.

Figure 2: Training structure



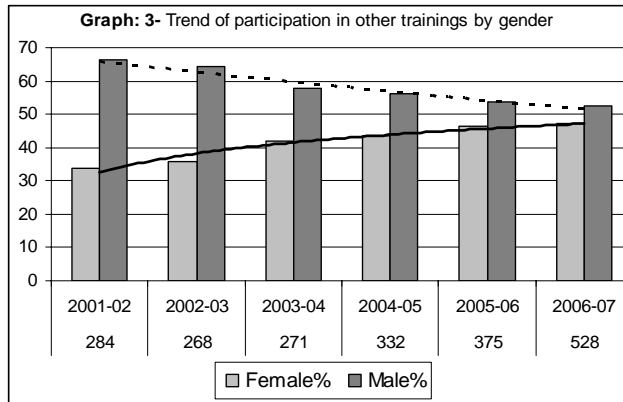
#### 3.1.1 Group training (details in annex table - 10)

##### Analysis of achievements

All group members who have received trainings are capable of independently conducting and play a lead role in group meetings. They are also playing a very important lead role in the formation of new groups. All the trainings as per activity plan have been implemented (table-4). The participation level in all trainings was 97%, whereas for the cultural trainings, it is 101% and for the other trainings, 97%.

Table 4 (Training Activities)				
Description of Training	P		A	
	N	P	N	P
<b>HUMAN DEVELOPMENT TRAINING</b>				
Basic	65	1,625	65	1,565
Advanced	18	450	18	434
Higher Selection	8	200	8	192
Higher	1	25	1	25
<b>CULTURAL TRAINING</b>				
Basic	8	160	8	163
Advanced	2	40	2	39
Higher	1	20	1	20
<b>OTHER TRAININGS</b>				
Leadership Development	8	200	8	191
Collective Production & Management	7	175	7	168
Right to Information	7	175	7	169
Land Laws & Management Systems	8	200	8	192
Citizen Right and Constitutional Guarantees	8	200	8	205
Globalisation & Sustainable Development	8	200	8	197

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



But, a certain trend is apparent in graph -3 with regard to female-male participation in the other trainings; such as “collective production and management”, “rights to information”, etc. From 2001, there is a decreasing trend of male participation in these trainings, whereas participation of female is increasing. This trend is expected to contribute in establishing the gender equality and the empowerment of women.

### 3.2 Staff development training and processes

From its beginning, NK has been making particular efforts on the capacity development of its staff. Self-development is the motto, followed in this regard. Various efforts are made; first, arrange special “schooling” sessions in the weekly sub-centre, monthly regional, bi-monthly divisional council and quarterly executive council meetings, second, continuous collection and collation of new information and tools and sharing of these with the staff at sub-centre level, and third, organise various subject-wise cultural training and workshops, fourth, to allow the staff to participate as observer in all training sessions in order to gain further experience. Besides, more initiatives are discussed and adopted for the staff development as per decisions of the annual staff convention of NK.

#### Analysis of achievements

The staff have been able to collect information following a participatory method, fulfilling the qualitative criteria, instead of the usual quantitative benchmarks. The Table above shows that 4 training workshops were organised with the newly recruited staffs. Furthermore, as the needs of the staff two workshops of intermediate and higher level were organised. Alongside, its training activities, NK staff also participated in other trainings organised by like-minded organisations. Accordingly, two NK staff participated in a Bangladesh Environmental Lawyer’s Association (BELA) workshop, with two more staff in training on gender, organised by the Swallows.

**Table – 6: Staff Development Activities**

Details	No.	Male	Female	Total
<b>Training</b>				
Basic level	4	70	23	93
Intermediate level	1	15	9	24
Higher level	1	13	16	29
Follow up workshop to higher level training	1	23	6	29
Constitutional rights and citizen’s security	4	58	42	100
Land laws and land management	4	50	39	89
Cultural workshop	1	12	8	20
<b>Workshops</b>				
Liberal political economy and globalisation	11	181	85	266
PME workshop	4	28	8	36

*\*The participants are same for the training ‘Globalisation and Sustainable Development’*

**Our experience:** Although, participatory based information collection and analysis are successfully practiced by the staff, there are still further works in ensuring the necessary quality.

**Lessons learnt:** More staff development initiatives are still felt based on the strategic needs of NK. Most particularly needed is training of MIS methods, information collection and analysis.



### 3.3 Training management and follow up

Training follow-ups are essential parts of any training. These are ensured in three different ways; first, to provide opportunities to the training recipients whereby they are in group, discuss and organise their learning's and experiences; second, to arrange discussion at field level with the training recipients; and third, for the recipients of higher level training, to organise a two day follow-up workshop. It should be mentioned that the latter has been introduced from the current activity year.

#### Analysis of achievements (Details in annex table - 11)

All the training follow-up discussions were possible to organise as per plan during the activity year. The percentage of participation was 97%. One follow up workshop was organised with the higher level training recipients. There were in total 25 participants, with 13 female and 12 male. And 96% of the planned forum meetings were organised (*table-5*).

Details	Plan	Achievements
Training follow ups	106	106
Participants	2,650	2,583
Follow up workshops	1	1
Forum meeting	504	484

**Our experience:** Special emphasis was given to the training activities, which is reflected with 97% of participants. To ensure participatory nature of learning various new tools and methods have been introduced in the trainings. One of the key outcomes of the trainings is the practice of democracy, participatory learning and mutual tolerance of the members.

**Lessons learnt:** The trainings are providing a unique opportunity to the members to raise their awareness level on various relevant matters and as well as building their capacity. However, newer methods and tools are deemed necessary to optimize the outcomes.

### 3.4 Building strategic skill through experience sharing visit in India

In the activity year, 10 staff (*female-3, male-7*) participated in Majdur Krishan Shakti Sangothon (MKSS) activities in Rajsthan, India. The main purpose of this visit was to gain practical knowledge in order to ensure and to determine the role of grass root people in "The Right to Information Act, 2005" and "The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005" of the Government of India. Practical lessons were gained by participating in strategic workshop on people management, long march in 42 unorganised villages, methodology of information collection and disseminating, social audit, public hearing etc.

#### Our learning

- How to ensure the participation of unorganised people in long march and the strategy to unite various activities together.
- How to apply these strategies to mobilise people instantly in unorganised areas.
- Practical skill in demanding and finally deriving accountability through social audit, public hearing and questioning.
- Demanding right to information, new strategy in collection and disseminating information.
- How to develop volunteer and the commitment to render volunteer service.
- Strategy for people's management in activities.

In the activity year, all these lessons were shared with staff and group members. It is hoped that in the next activity year's plan some new initiative will be incorporated.



### 3.5 Cultural activities planned and implemented by groups

Nijera Kori considers cultural activities an integral part of social mobilisation. The objectives of all cultural activities of NK are to attack on the injustice, exploitation and repressions of the society in order to allow the poor and the disadvantaged people self-dependent, aware of their human dignity. With these aims, cultural groups are formed with 13-20 members, who are interested in cultural activities. The members, at initial stage, sits 2-3 hours every day together among themselves, and play a very important role in the mobilisation of public opinion by performing issue-based drama, music and other cultural performances.

#### Analysis of achievements (Details in annex table - 12)

The cultural groups of the landless people performed in various issue based events, and in the important national and international days. They have written and performed 54 new pieces of drama, portraying the struggle for rights of the poor and the landless people. Furthermore, they have performed 412 popular dramas in various events, depicting themes like, violence against women, rights to *khas* land, commercial shrimp cultivation, corruption in government, globalisation, etc.

Several encouraging trend is observed with regard to cultural activities of the landless groups. They have been invited in 8 upazillas by the government to perform on specific events. In all these performances, they presented the evils of the current Bangladeshi society, such as child marriage, birth registration, the need for proper sanitation, health, education, etc. Furthermore, in Bagatipara and Dumuria, they were invited by the local press club and the lawyer's association.

In the activity year, 3 new cultural groups have been formed. And 20 more new female members were included in the cultural groups. Against the activity plan, the achievement of the cultural groups is as follows; cultural group meetings, 90%; presentation of mass/popular drama 75%; and cultural march and drama festival 50%. There has been also notable participation of the *adivasi* members in all cultural activities. But most importantly, the cultural groups organised and performed in the various national and other important days.

Some of which are; International Mother Language Day on 21 February, International Women Day on 8 March, Independence Day on 26 March, Kachmati Assassination Day on 14 April, International Labour Day on 1 May, Zainal Assassination Day on 3rd November, Shahid Karunamoyee Day 7 November, etc. All of the above days were observed with due honour, followed with discussion and cultural functions. However, following the declaration of emergency on 11 January, observance of some of the days were less formal and number of landless members attending was less.

Details	Plan	Achievement
Cultural group meetings	664	598
Cultural discussions	90	80
Popular drama	551	412
Long march	4	2
Popular music performance	460	297

#### 3.4.1 Cultural long march/drama festival

With support from the landless organisations, the cultural groups organise a 3-7 day cultural festival each year. On this occasion, the troupes go from door to door of the village and also perform in the hat/bazaar of their localities.

#### Analysis of achievement (Details in annex table - 12)

The cultural groups have organised one long march in Chittagong division and a drama festival in Dhaka. In addition, they have also performed on various occasions in their



vicinity. They have performed 10 different popular dramas on such occasions. In the activity year, the groups organised the cultural festival in the Gala sub-centre in Dhaka division. The festival started on 14 December, on the occasion of the National Intellectual Martyr's Day. It continued for 3 days and about 2,500 - 3,000 people participated in it and 6 popular dramas were performed.

**Our experience:** The achievement with regard to cultural activities was higher than the activity plan. It has been largely possible because of the spontaneous participation of the landless group members. Nevertheless, due to the continuing emergency 2 cultural long marches could not be held and observance of the International Mother Language Day on 21 February and the Independence Day on 26 March were forced to be observed indoors in small manner.

**Lessons learnt:** The cultural activities should be more issue based and focus on the relevant matters to the poor. One key encouragement has been the spontaneous participation of the mass people and local civil society in various cultural activities, besides the landless members, as mentioned above. Nevertheless, cultural activities should still seek more broad-based partnership with the other relevant stakeholders.



## 4. MAJOR EMPOWERMENT SUPPORT ACTIVITIES

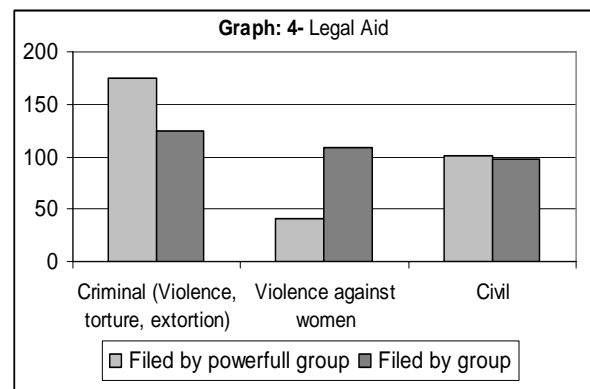
### 4.1 Legal aid

As much as the rights of the poor, landless and the disadvantaged are increasingly recognized and established, the tricks, exploitation and the repression of the powerful vested interest groups are expanding to thwart the recognition of their rights. As a result, the poor and the landless are more and more being harassed with false litigations. In such a situation, the poor have to take legal recourse to seek justice. The expenses for this litigation are usually paid by the groups themselves from their own savings. But when these expenses become exorbitant, the groups seek support from NK.

#### Analyses of achievement (details in annex table - 15)

In total 111 new cases were filed during the activity year. 90 cases were settled, 81 of which received verdict in favour of the landless members. It is worth mentioning the above 81 cases, 55 were filed by the landless members themselves. The graph shows that the

land-grabbers, in most cases, file civil and criminal cases against the landless. On the other hand, in the case of the landless members cases include in equal numbers civil, criminal and violence against women. But, there were maximum number of cases in the category of violence against women, which is a positive indicator for ensuring the rights and safety of the women. But NK provided the least amount of legal support for this purpose, as most of such cases receive government support, often the government taking the role of the complainant. The landless groups play the role of facilitator in this regard.



#### Box - 2: Verdict delivered after 17 years in the case of Korunamoyee Sardar, murdered for her protest against commercial shrimp farming: 12 given life sentence

This is a case that has been much discussed both at national and international level. In 1990, Korunamoyee Sardar was leading a protest march against commercial shrimp farming in the polder No. 22 in Harinkhola village of Paikgacha upazilla. During the march, the hired goons of an illegal shrimp farmer, Wazed Ali Biswas, attacked on the protesters with bombs and guns in connivance with the local police. Korunamoyee Sardar died on the spot from the attack and many more were injured. The goons left the place with the dead body of Korunamoyee Sardar. On the following day of the incident on 8 November, Ajit Sardar, the son of Korunamoyee, filed a case in the Paikgacha Upazilla. The police after investigation filed a case of murder and possession of explosives against Wazed Ali Biswas, together with 35 other individuals. From the very beginning of the case, the accused adopted a delaying tactics by exercising the influence and muscle and money power. At one stage of the case, the accused filed a bail petition in the High Court and sought discharge from the case. Their petition effectively remained hung for 7 years at the High Court, after which the High Court instructed the lower court for a trial of the case. During the long trial period, the main accused Wazed Ali Biswas and 3 other accused died. Nevertheless, after 17 long years, the court delivered the verdict. The court sentenced 12 persons to life imprisonment and imposed a fine of TK 10,000 each, failing of which each one of them will be subject to 1 further year of prison. The convicted persons are: Surmal Ali, Abul Kashem, Abdul Hai Gazi, Abdul Hakim Sheikh, Pabitra Mallick, Nollakya Boidya, BM Farukh, Zihad Sarkar, Pradip Kumar, Abdul Berek Member, Liakat Sardar and Bhava Ranjan Roy. The court also sentenced 8 of the above accused with further prison terms of various duration upon proof of use of explosives illegally. After this historic verdict, the general public in the area is: "Despite taking long time, the verdict is a victory of the poor and landless disadvantaged people of the South-Western region who have been fighting against the anti-environment commercial shrimp farming".



## 4.2 Educational Activities

In absence of public schools and due to lack of awareness, children in the remote and poor areas start working from a very early age. The landless groups have long been fighting against this injustice and demanding the right to education of the children from poor and disadvantaged background. Along side, they have also been working relentlessly in ensuring education for such children.

### Analysis of achievement

The landless groups are running their educational programme with 30 primary schools,

Details	Number of school and students			
	Number	Boys	Girls	Total
Primary school	30	7,715	9,468	17,183
Junior High School	4	1,009	1,184	2,193
Night School	1	38	29	67
Stipend recipients	34	4,226	7,059	11,285

4 junior high schools and 1 night school. In total 19,376 students (8,724 boys, 10,652 girls; without the students in the night school) are attending these schools. In the activity year, there was an increase of 1,995 students (boys, 926, girls 1,069. It is to be noted that, 220 students (boys 194, girls 26) came out from madrasas and

joined regular schools. Another remarkable fact is the number of girl students' attendance, an encouraging indicator for the education of girls in the future. Apart from this, 2,514 students (868 boys and 1,646 girls)

have received government stipends from these schools. It should be also mentioned that the group members, with support from the students of these schools are running a literacy programme, effectively helping 10,700 persons to gain literacy during the activity year. The groups spent an amount of TK 32,355 for this purpose (from group savings TK 28,080, TK 4,275 from other sources)

#### Box – 3 : Situation of the schools

Out of the 30 primary schools, 18 have received registration with the government, 6 have received temporary approval from Deputy Director of Education Department, 3 schools are receiving some support from other donors, and 3 schools have received government approval. Of the 4 Junior High School, 2 have completed registration but still to be included for MPO and the application for registration for 1 school is pending.

## 4.3 Livestock vaccination

### Analysis of achievement

Because of negligence of the government officials of the livestock department, people

Description	Achievement
Vaccination	23,018
Treatment	1,371

living in the remote and char areas are deprived of these services. In such a context, livestock vaccination activities under the management of the landless groups have been initiated for two remote Upazillas – Char Jabbar and Paikgacha. Besides, to encourage the people in livestock rearing following indigenous methods, a livestock programme

has been undertaken at the Nungola Training Centre on an experimental basis. NK is playing the role of facilitator, besides supporting in collecting the vaccines and other medicines from the Upazilla centre. 9,206 families have been benefited from this programme.

## 4.4 Establishment of people's community watch committees

### Achievement of analysis

In the activity year, in collaboration with the landless organisations, separate 'Watch Committees' have been formed on an experimental basis, in Madhupur, Saghata, Paikgacha and Char Jabbar on Education, Health, Access to Water, Agriculture and Land and Infrastructure Development. The committees are closely observing the affairs in this regard and are collecting the relevant information.



## 5. NETWORKING AND ACTION FOR ADVOCACY AT DIFFERENT LEVELS

### 5.1 Networking and action for advocacy

NK is a grassroots activist organisation. It works for the establishment of the rights of the poor by organising them in groups. Advocacy and active networking forms a key part of its work and, based on the needs of the landless organisations, it undertakes and conducts various advocacy campaigns and activities at various levels: local, national and international.

#### 5.1.1 Local level

- A total of 974 protests/demonstrations were organised highlighting the various relevant issues on the landless and poor people. The protests included the following; 291 on violence against women, 397 on corruption at local level, 52 against fundamentalism and 234 demanding the protection of the local resources. All of these protests/demonstrations received widespread support from the local communities and professional groups and have been able to draw the attention of the relevant authorities (*see detail on annex table - 22*)
- A total of 6,493 meetings were held/organised with the objectives of resolving various local problems, and also for sharing opinions and for drawing attention of the authority between the landless groups, administration and local professional groups. 2,183 of these meetings were held at the initiative of the government, with the remaining being arranged at the behest of the landless organisations. (*details in annex table 23*)
- In the activity year, 926 landless members participated in 1,040 *salishes* as judge (*arbitrator*), together with the local representatives and influential persons. 161 of these *salishes* were in presence of the Union chairman, 153 with the union members, 28 with the school teachers, etc. Besides, the landless arbitrators, as part of local accountability, 15,996 landless members participated in these *salishes*. They have been also able to stop 86 *salishes* which were significantly proved as civil/criminal offenses. In the activity year, they have been able to file 44 such cases in the court (*details in annex table 19*).

#### 5.1.2 District and national level activities

- Three issue-based workshops were held in the activity year in the three working areas. The issues were; "commercial shrimp cultivation: Negative impacts on the poor", "Commercial Tobacco cultivation: Effects and impacts on the women and children" and "Open Water bodies: The Rights of the Poor". In each of these workshops, a key discussant presented the salient points on the issues. Based on this presentation, 2 female and 2 landless male members then further presented their own experiences.
- Based on the experiences of the district level workshops, NK, together with other like-minded organisations, organised two seminars at national level. The topics of the seminars were, "Political Economy of Land and Agricultural Reforms: New Horizons for Development" and "Right of the Poor on Water bodies: Government Rules and Policies and their Effectiveness". The seminars were organised jointly by Nijera Kori, Bangladesh Economic Association, ALRD, Samata, BELA and Nagorik Uddyog.





- Nijera Kori, in collaboration with Manusher Jonno, Transparency International and BLAST organised a workshop on 22 August 2006. Rosalind Eyben, a researcher from IDS-Sussex presented a key note paper, titled "*Taking citizens Derspective to Development : Is Results Based Management a Help or a Hindrance?*" The workshop was attended by representatives from research community, donors, and development activists.

### 5.1.3 National – International level

- NK staff and group members participated in 286 national and international level meetings-workshops-seminars in the activity year. The occasions provided NK with unique advocacy opportunities on issues it works, besides giving the concerned staff/representatives an invaluable exposure to gain new experiences.
- NK participated in programmes of the 'National Committee for the Protection of Oil-Gas-Mineral Resources, Electricity and Ports'. It played a role in the movement for the suspension as part of fact finding team of the unfair contract with Asia Energy on the Phulbari coal mine.
- NK took a lead role to mobilise other like-minded organisations on the statement made in the PRSP "*Land is no longer the principal basis of power and status; neither does it serve to limit the livelihood opportunities of the poor*". Together, they formulated a position paper on this and used it as an advocacy tool in its work.
- A fact finding mission was formed comprising of representatives from 7 organisations to investigate land rights violation, violence against women and violation of human rights in the Chittagong Hill Tracts. The mission visited the regional and held a press conference in Dhaka on return. NK took a key role in the initiative.
- NK, in the activity year, took part in an initiative with D-Net on the right to information. The collaboration resulted with preparation of several case studies which were circulated to the relevant stakeholders in effort on information dissemination.
- In total 211 reports in 16 different newspapers were published in the activity year, highlighting issues like, rights to khas land of the landless people, eviction of illegal occupants from khas water bodies, resistance to commercial shrimp farming, etc. from Nijera Kori working areas and the struggles the group took up. Most importantly, 62 more reports were published focusing various issues and problems of NK's working areas which were through direct contacts between landless groups and journalist on their own without NK's intervention. All these reports played a vital role in mobilising public opinions on issues that NK is working.
- The "Asia Solidarity against Industrial Aquaculture" (ASIA) was established in 2005 at the initiative of NK and with collaboration of various national and international organisations. NK is a member of the network and is serving as its secretariat. A three-day General meeting of the network and a meeting of Coordination Committee were held in the activity year.



- A seminar on the topic "Tropical Shrimp Certification : Implications, risks and opportunities" was organised in last September 2006 by IUCN Netherlands, Novib, Oxfam, Mangrove Action Project (MAP) and Ges Environmental Justice Foundation (EJF). The key issue of the seminar was environment friendly shrimp farming and certification. Several members of the ASIA network participated in the seminar. A Declaration titled "*DECLARATION OF CONCERN ON SHRIMP AQUACULTURE CERTIFICATION- BANGKOK 25-27 September 2006*" was made from the seminar, with signatures of 19 of the 21 participants. The Declaration was subsequently used by FAO as key reference in its planning.
- NK accepted membership of the international advocacy network "People's Coalition on Food Sovereignty" in the activity year. It also participated in a fact finding mission as member of the network.
- To strengthen the advocacy works, information collection and dissemination activities are now being ensured by two more information centres in Khulna and Noakhali. This is proving conducive to information dissemination on issues, such as violation of human rights, commercial shrimp farming, illegal occupation of khas land and water bodies, etc.

#### 5.1.4 Key achievements

- The issue of land reform has been included in the PRSP in detail.
- The "Water Rights Forum" was formed at the national level to establish the rights of the poor and the marginalised on water resources.
- The agreement with Asia Energy on the Phulbari coal mine has been suspended by the government.
- A declaration against the controversial idea of shrimp certification was issued with signatures of 19 participants, out of the total 21 participants. The declaration is used by key donors as reference for their policy formulation.
- 8 more members from 3 countries have taken membership in the ASIA Network
- NK has been accepted as member in the international network "People's Coalition on Food Sovereignty".



## 6. RESEARCH AND PUBLICATION

### 6.1 Research activities

- NK participated in the research initiative “Survey of Agricultural Khas Land” undertaken by the Federation of NGOs in Bangladesh (FNB), as per the decision of the National Agricultural Khas Land Management Committee under the Ministry of Land. The research has been completed and recommendations, together with the other research findings have been submitted to the Ministry of Land. FNB is following up the issue with the concerned authority for necessary policy reforms based on the findings of the research.
- NK and Forest Peoples Programme have jointly completed an action research case study on the recognition of indigenous knowledge of the peoples who live on the Sundarban. The study was done with reference to the Clause 10 C of the Convention on Biological Diversity.
- Although on paper, the infamous “Vested Properties Act” has been revoked, this has not been followed by necessary order on how to make this order on its implementation process. As a result, the law is still de facto, existent. NK has always taken a firm position for the annulment of this black law. Given the impasse over this law, NK, together with ALRD and the research organisation HDRC, has undertaken a research to look into issues resulting out of this impasse.
- Besides the above, NK, ALRD and ADSC have undertaken a research on the topic of “Contract Farming in Bangladesh: Political Economy of Commercial Tobacco Farming”. In addition, NK and ADSC, in collaboration with HDRC, have undertaken another study, titled “Madrasa Education in Bangladesh: Impacts on the Peoples”. Both researches will be completed in 2007-2008.
- NK, based on the long-felt need of an objective research on the overall context of commercial shrimp farming in Bangladesh, has undertaken another research on the subject in collaboration with RAS. It will be completed in 2007-08, with the title “A Research Based Study of Brackish-Water: Shrimp Cultivation in Coastal Bangladesh and Its Consequences”.
- One of the longstanding bitter experiences of the landless people was that there is a relationship between the power structure of the traditional village society and the transfer of ownership of land. In the rapidly changing social and economic context of Bangladesh, the issue is proving particularly vital. To look into the issue more deeply, NK has initiated another research, with the title “Transfer of Land Ownership and Change of Power in Village Society” in collaboration with Unnayan Onneshan. Field data collection for the study is currently ongoing and the full research report will be completed in 2007-08.

### 6.2 Publications

NK undertook and produced a number of publications in the activity year. These were:

- It undertook translation and subsequently published two books, titled “Political Economy of Land Litigations” and “Political Economy of Khas Land” in Bangla. Both publications received widespread appreciation and helped in highlighting the issues of the landless peoples struggle for their legitimate rights.
- NK, together with Unnayan Onneshan, published four issues of IFI bulletin, both in English and Bangla. The subjects treated in the issues were “Asia Energy and Asian Development Bank”, “Agriculture Liberalisation”, “Desserting Sundarban” and “Waterlogged Habitats of the South-Western Bangladesh”. The bulletin was also made available on the web.



## 7. PLANNING, MONITORING, AND EVALUATION

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### **Processes of planning, monitoring and evaluation**

The planning, monitoring and evaluation of NK are ensured in the following three different ways. First; planning is done through detailed discussion and review in the annual group meetings, committee meetings and representatives meetings. The landless groups are closely involved in the monitoring and evaluation of the activities. Second; the staff play a very active role through their respective responsibilities and very importantly, by their participation in the weekly sub-centre meetings, monthly regional meetings, bi-monthly divisional and quarterly executive council and staff representatives meetings. Third; General and Executive Council meetings and field visits of the partners and well-wishers provide important feed back on the activities of the organisation.

### **7.1 Participation of the groups in the planning, monitoring, evaluation**

- In total 7,945 (*female 4,393, male 3,552*) groups contributed in the review and evaluation of the group activities by holding annual group meetings. At next stage, the same was ensured for the village based planning's through the village committee meetings, or in cases where there are no such committees; this was done at village group representative meetings.
- The group members also actively contributed in the review, planning, monitoring and evaluation of NK's activities through 267 village, union, and regional meetings held in the activity year.
- In addition, the 1,056 representatives' meetings in different working areas, 781 joint group meetings and 125 group workshops immensely contributed in identifying the strength, weakness and risks and the consequently, the necessary steps to be taken.
- Above all, exposure and exchange visits for the group members were organised in the activity year in efforts of reviewing and evaluating the performances/activities of their peers. Members of all the regions participated in their review and which allowed them to become aware of the strength, weakness and risks of their activities. The experiences gained from these visits were very helpful for their future planning.

### **7.2 Participation of the staff in the planning, monitoring, evaluation**

- The draft planning of each sub-centre is prepared after thorough review of the group annual planning and the village based planning. Based on the reviews of the strength-weakness and risks at the annual regional meetings, the regional planning was prepared. At later stage, weekly sub-centre meetings, monthly regional meetings, bi-monthly divisional council meetings and quarterly executive council meetings provide further occasion on the review and reformulation of the planning, monitoring and evaluation process.
- In order to closely review and evaluate the activities, staff exposure visits were organised in each working regions during the activity year. In each of these visits, staff stayed for one week with other fellow staff and they closely shared their experiences for mutual learning and sharing.



- Annual staff meetings were organised in all the four working divisions during the activity year. This gave the staff to assess and review the overall activities of the organisation. Based on feedback from these meetings, the regional planning's were adjusted and reformulated, when found necessary. Following the same way, NK's organisational plan was prepared by collating the plans of the 4 regions which were produced from the deliberations of the bi-annually regional meetings.
- The representatives' meetings were organised twice in the activity year to review the activities and to decide on future planning/activities. Very important feedback on the monitoring and evaluation process of NK's activities was received from these meetings.

### **Analysis of achievement**

In the above-mentioned review and evaluation process, the staff gave opinion on the internal management system of NK, as well as on its activities. The key points on both are presented below:

#### **On management**

- All rules and policies about NK, landless organisation, training, cultural groups, administration and financial management have been collated and shared at all levels of the organisation.
- Code of Conduct was approved ensuring participation of field level staff in its formulation.
- A cultural policy has been formulated in order to ensure closer involvement of the cultural group members in all cultural activities, as well as for ensuring their accountability.
- For working with the indigenous people, a separate policy paper has been formulated.

#### **On activities**

- Initiatives have been taken to conduct the meetings in a more participatory manner that allows free and frank exchange of opinions of all the participants.
- Training and capacity building process have been reinforced. With this objective, an external capacity building expert has been hired.
- Efforts are intensified to build stronger and better women leadership. For this, a decision on hiring an external gender expert will be reviewed.

### **7.3 Participation of professional experts in the review of activities**

- The meetings of the General Body and the Managing Committee of NK were held regularly. The activity progress reports were presented and reviewed in these meetings. The Managing Committee also approved the quarterly budget, based on the annual budget approved by the General Body.
- A partners' meeting was held on 6 March 2006, with the participation of Christian Aid, DFID, EED, ICCO and the Swallows. The participants reviewed the performances of NK and came with suggestions for necessary steps which have been incorporated in the following year's plan.



- Three separate studies on impact assessment on the qualitative aspects of NK's work and its possible implication of the development practises and for Bangladeshi society has been completed in the activity year. The research was separately done by HDRC, INCIDIN and the IDS-Sussex and the findings will be presented in a seminar.
- NK, in the activity year, completed the review of the PME process on a preliminary basis, with the support of an external expert. But despite this, there is still a need for capacity building of the staff in information collection, analysis and presentation.

#### **Analysis of achievement**

- The PME review helped in creating a computerised MIS system for preserving the necessary information.
- The above also helped in formatting a new reporting structure.

#### **7.4 Special support activities in response to disasters**

NK distributed 3,000 blankets during the cold waves of last winter upon appeals from its group members in the northern regions of Bangladesh.

### **8. INFRASTRUCTURE /CONSTRUCTION**

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For its own organisational needs, NK constructs relevant infrastructure in its working areas. The details for the activity year is presented below:

- The Saghata sub-centre construction was completed in the activity year.
- There was a proposal for the repairing and expansion of the Khulna divisional centre. But the scrutinising of the land documents for the expansion of the centre took more time than initially thought, as a result the work could not be started.
- There was also proposal for the purchase of land for the Char Majid sub-centre, as well as construction of necessary infrastructure on that land. But no suitable land was found for purchase, so no work could start. It is noteworthy to mention that for purchasing of such fixed assets, repairing and infrastructure construction, there is a committee. The committee is actively looking after the above-mentioned matters.

### **9. ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

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**9.1.1** In total 132 (*female 35, male 97*) new staff were selected during the activity year. But only 92 (*female 32, male 70*) joined in their jobs. Besides, 37 old staff (*female 19, male 18,*) left NK. As of now, there are 468 (*female 130, male 338*) staff working with NK, out of which 110 are support staff.

**9.1.2** Finally, NK received an amount of TK 120,364,326 from various partners as grant support for its activities, out of which a total of TK 98,064,578 has been spent. (*details in the audit report*).



## 10. KEY RESULTS AND IMPACTS

The activities of Nijera Kori are making concrete and tangible impacts in the life of the landless group members, encompassing their individual, familial, social and political spheres. The achievements/results of NK's activities are herewith presented under 4 (*four*) Outputs based on precise indicators.

<p><b>Outcome 1</b> Rights of the organised landless is established in the working areas through strengthened organisational and mobilisation capacities of NK at social and economic spheres.</p>
<p><b>Indicator</b></p> <p>1.1 Economic base of Bhumiheen Samity members strengthened through greater accumulation of collective capital and increased revenue from collective investments.</p> <p>1.2 Increased success of the landless in collective bargaining for living wages.</p> <p>1.3 Increased success of members to collective resources to meet economic and family crisis.</p> <p>1.4 Cumulative increase in the amount of land recovered for landless and marginal farmers.</p> <p>1.5 Increased leadership of Bhumiheen samity members in conflict mediation.</p> <p>1.6 Increased number of children of Bhumiheen samity members attends Schools.</p> <p>1.7 Increased voice of the organised landless against religious fundamentalism, corruption, violation of rights (<i>including that of women and indigenous people</i>) and injustice.</p>

### Achievements:

- 1.1.1 Accrual of collective wealth/assets through group savings:** The group members withdrew a total of TK16,276,231 during the year. The cumulative savings of the group members, at present, now stands at TK 35,276,231. Group members invested the amount they withdrew in various income generating activities, considerably raising their level of economic empowerment.
- 1.1.2 Increased participation of the members in group/collective activities:** In total 927 groups (*female 392, male 535*) have undertaken group based economic activities and have invested a total of TK 12,031609 from group savings. At present, in total 3,675 groups (*female 1645, male 2030*) are managing group economic activities with investments from their group savings. These activities, are empowering the landless members economically and helping them to stand on their own, most importantly without contracting any loan - either from banks or the traditional money lenders. The other big beneficial effect is that these activities are serving as catalyst in cementing their community spirit and belief in the cause of joint actions.
- 1.1.3 Increased livelihood security of the group members:** The group members have realised a profit of TK 80,14,050 from their joint economic activities. These profit amount particularly useful for the poor and landless members and have significantly contributed in increasing their livelihood security.



- 1.1.4 More employment opportunity for the group members:** The joint economic activities of the group members have created employment for 17,189 persons for most part of the year. Out of this total number, 6,514 were female and 10,684 were male.
- 1.2.1 Increased success for the group members in ensuring higher wage rates:** In total 34 wages related claims were settled during the year which contributed to a daily wage increase of TK10 for 8,420 daily labourers.
- 1.2.2 More secured employment and increased wages:** Thanks to the movements of the small farmers and the share croppers, the farmers in Bagatipara upazilla succeeded in not selling their crops to the local sugar mill, following which they decided to prepare molasses from their sugarcane crop. As a result, approximately 14,000 daily labourers found jobs in their vicinity for 6 months and earned on average TK 10 more per day than their normal rate.
- 1.3.1 More self-initiative by the group members in solving their financial problems:** The group members, by their own decisions, withdrew a total of TK 53,33,169 from their savings, principally for investing in their agricultural activities. Other than enabling them to withstand adverse economic situations, this is also a good indication of their increased awareness and empowered status.
- 1.3.2 Increased group solidarity and joint initiatives in solving their familial crises:** The group members spent a total of TK 438,321 (*group & non group*) to pay for health care and as well as for other family needs from their collective savings. They also spent a further TK 705,436 (*group & non group*) for other activities. In the case of a member facing any eventual problems, the other members are actively extending their hands in support of that member which indicate their collective capability of confronting adverse situations. (*details in annex table-17*)
- 1.3.3 Success of the landless in establishing their rights over their production:** only in the Bagatipara upazilla, 6895 families have been able to sell on average 40-80 maunds of sugar cane molasses. As a result, each family earned a further TK 4,500 in profit. This has also contributed in raising the standard of livelihood of these families.
- 1.3.4 Increased access to common properties for the group members:** Approximately 15,700 families have had access to fishing in the local water bodies. Only in the Bhadra riverain areas, 2500 families could earn on average TK 60-70 more per day from fishing in the river. Such rights have been acknowledged due to the collective struggle and movements of the poor and the landless, giving them increased access to various common properties which had previously been illegally occupied by vested groups.
- 1.4.1 Success in evicting illegal occupants:** The group members have been able to recover an area of 32.42 acres of land of the poor and marginalised farmers from illegal occupants. Such success of the landless is testament of their increased empowered status in defiance of the vested local elites and big land holding owners.





- 1.5.1 Increased participation of the landless in the village *salishes* (arbitration) as judge:** In total 2,638 (*female 891, male 1,747,*) group members took part as judge in 1040 village's *salishes*. It is also noteworthy that in roughly half of these *salishes*, group members took their seats as judge alongside representatives of local governments, professionals and local elites. This is a very positive outcome, testifying the growing empowerment of the landless people.
- 1.5.2 Increased role played by the landless group members in village *salishes*:** Thanks to the firm position of the landless group members, the affected members of 44 cases in *salishes* who received unfair verdicts, could appeal to the formal court. In many cases, owing to the active role played by the group members in villages *salishes* and which are usually controlled and commandeered by the local influential people, these *salishes* are growingly forced to take into account the opinions of the poor and the marginalised.
- 1.6.1 Increase in the number of students in school:** There are in total 19,376 students (*8,724 boys and 10,652 girls*) in the schools run by the group members, an increase of 1,995 students (*boys 868, girls 1,646*) from the previous year. This is mostly as a result of increased awareness of the group members. What is even more remarkable is the bigger number of attendance of girls in schools.
- 1.7.1 More issue-based protests/meetings:** The group members organised 974 such protests, sit-ins to claim/establish their rights and in 858 of the cases, they have been able to achieve their demands. These protests are not only limited within the group members, common peoples are also participating in most of these protests and remarkably, they are also reaping the benefits.



**Outcome 2**

Greater equity between women and men at family and community level for Bhumiheen Samity members.

**Indicator**

- 2.1 Increased access of Nijera Kori female members to organisational leadership.
- 2.2 Increased access to justice for women survivors of violence.
- 2.3 Increased access of women to savings, khas land and economic resources (*cattle, poultry etc.*).
- 2.4 The stereotype image of women at community space is challenged by increased participation of women in shalish, bazaar committees, school committees etc. local bodies.
- 2.5 Increased men's' participation on women issues.
- 2.6 Number of times the Bhumiheen samity members approached by other social actors regarding violence against women.

**Achievements:**

- 2.1.1 More women in organisational leadership positions:** In the various committees at village, union, Upazilla and regional levels, 327 women representatives have been elected and providing competent leadership. This is a clear reflection of increased women leadership and their empowerment and sets a positive trend of acceptance by men of women leadership.
- 2.2.1 Increased success of the landless on violence against women:** The group members organised 291 protests/meetings on violence against women. Such protests were even organised outside the working areas of NK and many of these protests were organised at the initiatives of the landless people themselves.
- 2.2.2 More active role of the landless people in demanding fair justice and treatment:** The landless group members played an active role in 499 *salishes* organised on cases of violence against women. The members also stopped 43 *salishes* when it was found that cases tried in these *salishes* actually could not be tried in *salish* at all. Such pro-active and joint actions of the members, comprising both female and male, are proving to be very conducive in ensuring fair justice on violence against women.
- 2.2.3 Legal recourse for fair justice for the women:** 43 *salishes* have been stopped thanks to the active role of the group members because these *salishes* were not qualified to try such cases. Of these, 26 cases have been filed in formal court. The remaining cases are under process to be filed in court. This was, at the first instance, possible because of the proactive stance of the landless group members.
- 2.3.1 Women members are enjoying stronger position in group economic activities:** During the activity year, the women members withdrew a total of TK 2,287,133 from their savings. The collection and management of savings by the women members themselves will further strengthen their economic and social empowerment in the community.



- 2.3.2 Increased participation of the women groups in economic activities:** In the activity year, 392 women groups undertook economic activities from their group savings. Of these 392 groups, 48 groups undertook cattle rearing and 255 groups opted for chicken and duck rearing.
- 2.3.3 Increased economic empowerment and job opportunities:** At present, 1645 women groups are running joint economic activities from their group savings and have reaped a profit of TK 2,727,165 in total. Above all, these activities have created year round job opportunities for 1927 women members.
- 2.3.4 Increased access of women members to ownership of khas land:** In the activity year, 298 families received ownership of 432 acres of khas land in the name of their female head. This success further contributed to the livelihood opportunities of the women headed households.
- 2.3.5 Establishment of women member's ownership over khas land:** 24 women members received ownership of 13 acres of khas land during the activity year. Furthermore, 4 women members obtained lease for 1 year tenure through DCR (*Duplicate carbon receipt*) for agricultural cultivation over 2 acres of land owned by the Water Development Board.
- 2.4.1 Increased role of the women members in *Salish*:** In total 301 women members played the role of judge in various village *salishes* (*the total number was 926, out of which 301 are female and 625 are male*). The most remarkable fact was the women members playing their role very actively along side the male members who are often the most influential persons in the community.
- 2.4.2 More active role as observes of *Salish*:** 5,265 women members played the role of observers in various *salishes* and contributed in ensuring fair justice for the victims (*in total 15,966 members participated as observers, out of which 10,731 were men, with remaining women*). Their vocal role is increasingly forcing the judges to be accountable to the communities.
- 2.4.3 Increased participation of women in various informal and formal committees:** In total 232 women members have been elected and are representing in various formal and informal committees relevant to their rights. They are distributed as the following; School Managing Committees - 69 (*all elected*), Bazaar Committee - 5 (*all elected*), Union Parishad Project Management Committee - 29 (*nominated*), Sluice Gate Management Committee - 1 (*elected*), All-party Movement Committee formed with participation of cross sections of representatives from various professional backgrounds to claim the rights of the poor - 96 (*all elected*), Upazilla level Health Watch Committee - 11 (*elected*) and Union level Health Watch Committee - 21 (*elected*). Furthermore, there are 33 women representatives in various thematic 'observation committees'. What is very much remarkable is that out of the 20 convenors for these committees, 7 are held by women.



- 2.5.1 More active role of the male members to stop abuse and violence against women:** Of the total 291 issues raised on the question of stopping violence against women, 107 of these were raised by the male members. Of the associations participating in events on the theme 'violence against women', 37% of these were male-led. Besides, there was active participation of the men in all events on the issue of violence against women.
- 2.6.1 Increased collaboration and solidarity with peer professional and local associations on violence against women:** The activity year saw an important increase in collaborative initiatives with the local professional organisations on the issue of violence against women. These associations included local Press Clubs, Teachers' Associations, Rickshaw Pullers, Bus Drivers Associations, Women's Associations, Combined Cultural Activists' Alliance, Freedom Fighters Council, etc. For effectively creating a movement for the rights of the women, such collaboration is deemed extremely valuable.
- 2.6.2 Increased collaboration and solidarity with the public representatives and human rights organisations on violence against women:** For ensuring proper investigation and fair trial of cases related to violence against women, there has been an increase of collaboration with the public representatives and the human rights organisations. These collaboration is particularly strong with the local UP Chairmen, Ward Members, etc. With regard to the human rights organisations, the collaboration included joint initiatives with Ain-O-Salish Kendra, BLAST, ALRD, Kormajibi Nari, etc.



**Outcome 3**

Locally elected representatives and government officials are more accountable and pro-poor in their actions, as a result of pressure by Bhumihien samity members

**Indicator**

- 3.1 Increased actions against irregularities and corruption in government schemes at local level
- 3.2 Increased allotment and possession of landless on khas land and water bodies
- 3.3 Increased eviction of land grabbers
- 3.4 Increased access of genuinely vulnerable and deprived women and men in various social and economic safety net measures of the local government (*e.g. VGD, VGF, Elders Allowance, Widow Allowance, Female student-stipends etc.*)
- 3.5 Majority of the court verdicts ensured in favour of organised landless regarding land and other human rights related cases
- 3.6 Number of meeting between representatives of Bhumihin Samity and local government to discuss issues and concerns of the poor.

**Achievements:**

- 3.1.1 Observation of corruption and irregularities:** During the activity year, separate Watch committees on education, health, safe water, agriculture and land, and local development were formed in Madhupur, Saghata, Paikgacha and Char Jabbar union by the joint initiatives of the landless organisations and NK. The committees are formed with female and male members and collect relevant information for dissemination and use these in pertinent advocacy work.
- 3.1.2 Increased role played by the landless people in stopping corruption and irregularities at local level:** In the activity year, the landless peoples' organisations held a total of 397 protest meetings against corruption. Peoples from all walks of life participated in these protests of the landless people.
- 3.1.3 Investigation against irregularities/corruption and administrative actions taken against the corrupt government officials:** As a result of the protests of the landless people, the government, after carrying out investigations, have taken administrative action against two land survey officials and a doctor. This has been taken as a good example in all comers of the government and as a result, people are getting regular government services without any hassles.
- 3.1.4 Stopping of paying bribes during land survey:** Thanks to their collective movements, 2,985 families received their land survey records (*porcha*) without paying any bribe. This was very much appreciated by all in the respective community.
- 3.2.1 More access of the landless people in the allotment of khas lands:** 4,118 families received allotment of 2,218 acres of khas land and the process has been completed. This is very positive initiative for the livelihood security of the poor and the disadvantaged.



- 3.2.2 Success of the landless people in obtaining DCRs on government acquired lands:** 8 landless families have been able to obtain DCRs (*temporary tenurial rights*) over 5.18 acres of unused land, earlier acquired by the Water Development Board. In the face of the strong demands of the landless people, DCRs of such unused lands are no more given to the vested and the influential.
- 3.2.3 Inclusion of the landless in the allotment process of khas lands:** As a result of relentless protests and movements of the landless people, the name of 850 families have been included in the allotment register of khas lands and for which a considerable number of families were taken out of the register as all of such families had lands and were 'affluent'. This has reduced the tricks played by the local influential (*jotdars*) to usurp more khas lands and established greater accountability and transparency in the distribution of khas lands.
- 3.2.4 Greater access of the group members in various government development projects:** Following the longstanding demands of the landless people, the government approved a project, titled "Fishery Development and Management Project in the Rivers and Water bodies in the Western Region". The project included 239 families who are all landless and in the current activity year, these families have earned a profit of TK 453,000 .
- 3.3.1 Decrease in the illegal occupation of khas land:** With the help of the landless organisations, 156 families have been able to occupy 32.42 acres of khas land. Such cases, while helping to establish the rights of the landless people over khas lands, have also been contributing in reducing illegal occupation of the influential (*jotdars*) over such lands.
- 3.4.1 Recovery of misappropriated funds from educational institutions:** In the activity year, a total amount of TK 117,160 have been recovered, which were taken at the time of school admissions, distribution of text books – all illegal – by school authorities from 1,187 students. The amount also includes embezzled funds of government stipends. The education department was forced to carry out investigations at the forceful demands of the landless people and had to take action for recovery of the money.
- 3.4.2 Increased inclusion of the landless people in government safety net programmes:** An additional 8,688 persons (*female 6,963, male 3,520*) have been included in the activity year for VGD, VGF, old age pension, Widow pension and Freedom Fighter's pension. Out of this, 6,993 members of landless organisations (*female 4,567, male 2,426*) received their cards at the initiative of Union Councils, whereas 1,695 persons (*female 1,148, male 547,*) received only after protests. It is worth mentioning that at the protests of the landless organisations, the Union Councils were forced to include the above persons. Most remarkably, because of the protests of the landless people, in total the number of 2,619 ineligible persons were deleted from the list of above programmes. This is a clear indication of growing empowerment of the landless and the marginalised.



**3.4.3 Formation of committees for investigation of corruption and irregularities:**

Because of the protests and movements of the landless people, the government administration was compelled to form investigation teams on accusations related to land survey, education, health, Water Development Board, sugarcane processing in mills and selection of landless. The investigations found the authenticity and rightfulness of the accusations of the landless and out of the 6 investigations, in 5 cases, the investigation officials had to publicly divulge their findings.

**3.5.1 Strengthened position of the landless in getting fair justice in the court of law:**

Of the total 90 cases discharged, verdicts came in favour of the landless organisations in 81 case, out of which 55 were filed by the landless people themselves. The most remarkable achievement may be the delivery of verdict of the killing of Korunamoyee Sarder and indictment of the accused persons, after 17 long years of the incident. Most importantly, of the 648 cases of legal fights, the landless organisations are running 451 cases by themselves. For this, they have spent an amount TK 352,090 from their group savings.

**3.6.1 Dialogue and advocacy for ensuring transparency and accountability:**

In order for solving various local problems, in total 6,439 meetings were organised between the representatives of the landless organisations and the government officials and local peers groups. 2,183 such meetings were held at the initiative of the government, where the remaining 4,310 meetings were convened at the initiative of the landless organisations. The meetings were immensely beneficial in ensuring the rights of the poor and the landless.



**Outcome 4**

A demonstrably high profile agenda of pro-poor policy reform leading to a policy debate for reform through the work of Bhumiheen Samity members and NK

**Indicator**

- 4.1 Public opinion developed on land reform issues at local and national level
- 4.2 Networks established at national and international level against industrial shrimp aqua- culture
- 4.3 Strengthening a policy forum on access to water resource and its sustainable use.
- 4.4 Increased knowledge base for pro-poor policy review and reform<sup>1</sup>
- 4.5 Number of Issue based media interactions held at local and national levels

**Achievements:**

- 4.1.1 Dialogues/meetings at all level on the issue of land reforms:** In the backdrop of the statements made in the PRSP that read *“land is no longer the principal basis of power and status; neither does it serve to limit the livelihood opportunities of the poor”*, the need for land reforms was once again felt, this was presented to the government with participation of personalities from all of walks of life. Towards this end, pertinent position papers/statements were prepared and these were extensively shared with the relevant government officials and donors’ representatives.
- 4.1.2 Increased involvement of various and new organisations on the issue of land reforms:** To present the case of land reforms in Bangladesh, several organisations actively cooperated and took a common platform. The organisations are; Bangladesh Economics Association, Unnayan Onneshan, D. Net; and these organisations together made a convincing case on the urgency of land reforms for the overall sustainable development of the country.
- 4.1.3 Increased participation in various international advocacy networks/forum:** In the activity year, NK renewed its membership in the network “Peoples Coalition on Food Sovereignty”. This has provided NK the opportunity of raising the relevant issues and concerns in a larger international platform.
- 4.2.1 Expansion of the network against commercial shrimp farming:** In the activity year, 8 organisations from 3 different countries took the membership of the Solidarity against Industrial Aquaculture Network. This will raise the profile of the network and give more credibility to its advocacy campaigns.
- 4.2.2 Strong position taken against commercial shrimp farming and certification:** A declaration was issued with the signatures of 19 of the total 21 participants from a meeting held in Bangkok and organised by 5 international organisations. This is expected to raise awareness on the negative effects of commercial shrimp farming, while exerting pressure on the concerned governments.
- 4.31. Mobilisation of public opinion for establishing rights of the poor on water resources:** To establish the rights of the poor on the water resources, a “Water resources Rights Forum” has been established at national level. The forum will work on promoting the rights of the poor in this regard by mobilising the opinions of the public and by carrying out advocacy work to influence the government decisions.

<sup>1</sup> Impact of changing pattern of cropping on poor, Madrasa education and effect on poor, increase in tobacco cultivation and impact on poor, land reform etc.





- 4.4.1 Government initiatives for pro-poor policy formulation and reforms:** The PRSP made detailed narration on the issues of land reforms and its needs. This has created opportunities and scope of raising the demands on the need of land reforms.
- 4.4.2 Review and reforms in the government policy of khas land distribution:** The Ministry of Land took an initiative of reviewing the effectiveness of government's policy on khas land distribution and preservation of relevant information/documents. In the backdrop of this initiative, a report, titled 'Survey of Agricultural khas land' was prepared and sent to the Ministry of Land. The report was particularly appreciated as timely and insightful on the issue.
- 4.4.3 Participation in issues of public interest:** NK has been active in the support of National Committee for the Protection of Oil, Gas and Mineral Resources and as part of this movement, has participated in field visits to Phulbari coal mine areas, and as well as publishing relevant publicity brochures. With pressure from all corners of the society, the government was forced to suspend the unequal contract with the Asian Energy.
- 4.4.4 Stand of the international organisations on the poor and policy reviews on their behalf:** The Declaration on the commercial shrimp certification has been increasing being used as policy advocacy tool by various relevant international organisations, including by UN Food and Agricultural Organisation. This is a direct impact of NK policy advocacy work.
- 4.5.1 Increased participation in policy formulation meetings/dialogues:** NK has participated in 286 meetings/workshops/dialogues within Bangladesh and was a key advocate in support of the rights of the poor and landless in all these meetings.
- 4.5.2 Recognition of the movements and rights of the landless peoples:** In total 211 news reports in 16 different newspapers were published on the protests and rights of the landless. This has contributed in raising awareness on the conditions and rights of the poor.
- 4.5.3 Solidarity and support expressed by the media on the issues raised by the landless:** The problems identified and raised by the landless people in NK's working areas were covered by 15 newspapers in 62 news stories. This has further made the policy makers aware of the conditions of the countries poor and marginalised.
- 4.5.4 Increased access to information of the public:** NK prepared and disseminated through D.Net various case studies on the situation of the poor and the landless. This has provided the people in NK's working areas with relevant information on the rights situation of the poor, while raising awareness among the general public.
- 4.5.5 Publication of research in Bangla in the interest of the public:** NK published two book in Bangla; titled Political Economy of Land Litigations and Political Economy of Khas Land. Both publications received widespread public appreciation and are used as key advocacy tools by interested stakeholders.
- 4.5.6 Publication of IFI watch bulletin:** In joint collaboration between NK and Unnayan Anneshan 4 issues of IFI Watch Bulletin both in Bangla and English have been published. The issues had articles, titled "Asia Energy and ADB", "Agricultural Liberalisation", "Desserting Sundarban" and "Waterlogged Habitations in the South-Western Bangladesh".
- 4.5.7 Participation in fact finding mission:** With the initiative of NK, a fact finding mission was formed on the issues of erosion of traditional land rights for the indigenous people, violence against women and human rights violation in the CHT. The mission included representatives from 7 organisations and held a press conference after visits in the CHT, where it presented its findings.



## 11. ANNEX

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### A-People's action case study

The landless organisations undertook various protests and movements in the activity areas to proclaim their rights and most importantly to resist the illegal settlement of lands. NK is supporting the landless organisations in this struggle focused on establishing the rights of the landless people over khas lands,. Furthermore, a number of protests/movements were also held to protest against the illegal tricks during the measurement of lands by the corrupt officials.



## CASE STUDY 1

**Day labourer demanding for raise in wages**

“We are labourers. We are aware of government regulations. Our wage is equivalent to the price of 3.5 kg rice, now calculate with TK 50 how many kgs of rice can you buy? Government exists, regulations are there, so we must have TK 50 wage”.

Jamila Khatun  
Landless leader, Bater village, Roumari

**Introduction:**

In the year, on various occasions, the landless groups in different activity areas organised protests of farm labourers to demand a raise in wage. They have been successful on most occasions in having a raise through bargaining.

**Area:** Kurigram zila, Roumari Upazilla.

**Background for demanding the raise:**

Boro rice is the main crop in Kurigram district. During monsoon the wage for agricultural labourers is usually less, about only TK 35-40 daily. But with the rising inflation the price of essential commodities saw an exponential hike and as a result, the labourers could hardly manage two meals a day with this meagre wage. In such a situation, the better-off farmers formed a cartel and agreed to reduce the wage even less - to TK 30 per day.

**Demand for raise in wage by landless group:**

To assess the reason for reducing the wage by the land owners and to determine the course of action the landless zonal (anchalic) committee gathered in a meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2006. As per decision in the meeting, the members of the landless group discussed with labourers from 13

**Box: 4- Women agitating for a minimal raise in wage.**

*Zila Khulna, Upazilla Paikgacha. In this region the women and children are mainly engaged in catching shrimp lings in salt water rivers, in shrimp processing business and making mats with “male” and “hogla” leaves. Catching shrimp lings and working in processing plants is a laborious and harmful inhuman task. Despite this they do it for livelihood. A group of woman labourers have been sifting moss for a long time in the water at 23 no polder of this Upazilla. Even in last five years their wage has not increased from TK 30 per day. In the activity year, at the beginning of the seasonal work, as per decision of the landless organisation, TK 50 was demanded as wage. The male members also supported the demand of the women labourers for raise in their wage. But the owners refused to meet their demand and after a few days of bargaining the women labourers stopped their work. An attempt was made to bring in labourers from the adjoining polder. But the demand of the labourers in 23 polder also influenced the labourers in the other polders. As a result, the female labourers from other polders demanded TK 60 for working in other polders than their own. Hence this demand was quickly prevailed upon on other polders. The female labourers got united under the leadership of landless organisation. After the discussion with the labourers the wage was raised by TK 10 by the owners.*

adjoining villages the need for determining the regulation for fixing wage and the necessity for raising wage. After a week-long discussion, both female/male labourers



became united on the issue of rise in wage under the leadership of landless group. On 12 September, in a representative meeting more than hundred landless members—female and male, agreed upon fixing a minimal wage of TK 60 per day. Initially they decided to achieve this demand through bargaining. But when the bargaining failed, from 16 September the labourers stopped their work by demanding minimal TK 50 per day. This demand was raised by the labourers from all the villages. In this situation there was an attempt to bring in labourers from outside. But this attempt was foiled. This compelled the owners to meet with leaders of the landless groups for discussions.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> October, the leaders of the landless group selected two representatives from each village to participate in the discussion. In that meeting after a lot bargaining the wage was fixed at TK 50 per day. But while the owners agreed to pay TK 50 they also demanded 10 hours of work instead of 8 hours.

The landless leader rejected this illegal demand and threatened to stop work unless their demand was fulfilled. Again a meeting was called by the local chairman on 10<sup>th</sup> October to determine the wage. In front of about 600 day labourers the owners invited them to join work with 8 hours of work at the rate of TK 50 per day.

### Result:

Inside Roumari Upazilla in 13 villages, it has been possible to raise wage by TK 10. In the past due to coercion by the owners the labourers were forced to work for 10-11 hours. At present, both parties – land owners and day labourers have agreed 8 hours of work. Due to this wage raise, the families of the labourers are enjoying a better standard of life.

	Labourer No.	Previous wage	Present wage
Anchal			
Roumari	3100	40	50
Paikgacha	1320 (female)	30	40
Comilla	800	70	40
Bagtipara	1600	45	55
Total	8420	46%	56%



## CASE STUDY 2

***Protest by landless organisation against rape, murder and fatwa:***

In the activity year in all the activity areas the landless organisations have been able to organise movements, protests and resistance against rape, murder and *fatwa*. Few examples are cited below.

**Area:** Tangail Zila, Mirzapur Upazilla, Jamuri union, Charpakulla village.

**Incident:**

April 2<sup>nd</sup> 2006, at about 8 in the morning. Sonia, age 7, was going towards Borobari's pond with a number of ducks, Bakkar Mia obstructed her passage and by snuffing her mouth with a gamchha (thin towel) carried her to an isolated place. Then, 25 year old Bakkar Mia raped her. Sonia lost consciousness due to physical abuse. When she did not return home, her parents started searching for her. The members of the landless organisation also searched for her. After a few hours of search Sonia was found unconscious in a jungle in the neighbouring village. Instantly, the members of landless organisations admitted Sonia in Tangail sadar hospital and took the responsibility of bearing all the expenses for treatment for this child from a poor family.

**Demand by landless organisation for legitimate justice:**

Immediately, the landless organisation organised protest and gathering in the

village demanding justice. After the meeting, the landless organisation filed a case in the Upazilla with the case number 128/2/2006. In the evening the landless village committee

***Box: 5- Resisting fatwa, taking legal action:***

**Area:** Sirajgang Zila, Raiganj Upazilla, Chargobindapur.

*Description: By mutual agreement between husband-wife Mohammed Ali and Aviron Nissa adopted birth control procedure by availing litigation. In the year, 2000 husband Mohammad Ali died of heart disease, Aviran started earning livelihood with her four children by doing domestic work in various houses. Due to malnutrition and hunger she became ill with kidney disease. On 26<sup>th</sup> April, 2006, she died. To perform her funeral rites (Janaza) first Abdush Munshi and later Madrassa teacher Anisur Rahman was called. But both of them refused charging that she was litigated. Instead they decreed a fatwa in a gathering of maulanas, munshi and huzur that as she had adopted family planning method by availing litigation, her ``Janaza`` should not be performed.*

*Landless organisation in resisting fatwa: By challenging the illegal fatwa the landless organisation arranged a ``janaza`` in Chargobindapur school ground. Thousands of female/male landless members were present in the ``janaza`` and Aviron was duly buried.*

*In the evening to resist the fatwa issuing group, an initiative was chalked out in the anchalic committee meeting. Protest meetings, people's drama were held in the hat/bazaar against the fatwa issuing people. Besides, to create pressure on the ``fatwa group`` and generate people's support, on 2<sup>nd</sup> May landless group arranged a press conference with the local reporters and demanded justice by citing government regulations against issuance of fatwa. When this news on issuance of fatwa by a group was published in the local and national newspapers the administration was pressurized.*

*In this situation, the landless group adopted legal procedure for resisting fatwa. Demanding action against the ``fatwabaz`` the landless group handed memorandum with people's signatures to police super and the administration. Besides, landless members, Aviron's brother filed a case on 6<sup>th</sup> May in Salonga Upazilla - the number of which is 19/2006. On demand of the landless group the police super and U.N.O. visited the locality. In front of about 5 hundred female/male members the police super directed the administration to arrest the culprits immediately and prepare charge sheets.*

**Results:** *Listed three culprits were arrested within 22 days. Charge sheet was prepared after investigation. The case is ongoing.*



met to decide the next course of action. Bakkar Mia was nowhere to be found during the whole day. The members justifiably started to suspect him and decided to keep an eye on him. They organised a gathering in the Pakulla bazaar demanding his arrest as a suspect and went to the Upazilla office. As Bakkar Mia did not return home even the next day suspicion grew stronger. To create awareness among all the villagers the landless organisation chalked out programmes to organise procession, holding conferences, making announcements with microphone and holding songs and dramas in the villages and the bazaars. On 3<sup>rd</sup> April, landless cultural group started rendering people's song and staged people's dramas from the morning in Pakulla bazaar.

**Box: 6- Aklima- Pathetic victim of dowry.**

*Noiyar village in Comilla zila's Daudkandi Upazilla. On February, 2006, Aklima (20) daughter of Abdul Malek and Lutfu was married to Shapan, son of Dulal from the same village. During the marriage, according to condition, the groom's side decided to pay TK 22 thousand as dowry. Poor day labourer Abdul Malek with lots of difficulty paid TK 17 thousands during the wedding. He asked for 6 months time to pay rest of the remaining TK 5 thousand. But within two weeks after the marriage Shapan started pressurizing for the remaining TK 5 thousand. On 27th March, he forcibly sent Aklima to her parent's house to bring back the remaining money within 5 days. But her poor father was unable to arrange the money. As a result, Aklima had to return to her husband's house without bringing the money. After this, Shapan started torturing Aklima physically. Docile Aklima endured beating and searing with heated rod. On 25 April, while beaten by an iron rod Aklima became unconscious. When she regained her consciousness Shapan forcibly sent her to her parent's house to bring back the money within 5 days. On 15<sup>th</sup> May Aklima came back with TK 1000. At night, when she handed the money to Shapan, he demanded why she did not bring rest of the money. Then he started torturing her and at one point, killed her by strangulation.*

**Role of landless organisation:** *The landless group organised protest/movement demanding legitimate justice for murdering Aklima. The landless group organised protest, procession, gathering, presenting memorandum to the zila administration, and a press conference. The murder case was reported in local and national newspapers. As a result, police administration changed the nature of the case, which they initially attempted to make a suicide case, and started looking for the murderer Shapan to arrest him.*

**Result:** *Police administration accepted the case as murder and not a suicide case-the number of which is 63/2006. Arrested Shapan is in jail. The case is ongoing.*

This created immense public opinion. In this spontaneous gathering of hundreds of landless female/male members, students from 11 schools, teachers and members of school management committees expressed solidarity with the case of the landless groups. Besides, in this protest movement, the local U.P chairman, members, Tangail Mohila Somity, Sammilito Sanskritic Jote, Press Club, Teacher's Samity, Upazilla Muktijodha Sangsad declared their support on the cause. After the meeting, about 3 thousand people marched in protest to the Upazilla demanding arrest of the culprit. Hearing the news of protest by the landless organisation the Superintendent of Police and the Additional Superintendent came to the local Upazilla. The representatives of landless group told them about their suspicion regarding Bakkar Mia and demanded his instant arrest. The police officers, after inspecting the spot in person, gave word that the accused would be arrested immediately and gave instruction to the

Upazilla to take action.

**Result:** On 4<sup>th</sup> April the police administration Bakkar's father Sadek Ali and his brother Zumur Ali. On the basis of the information given by them, the police arrested the absconding rapist Bakkar Mia. At present Bakkar Mia is in jail. The case is ongoing.



### CASE STUDY 3

## ***Protest by marginal and landless share-cropper to gain control over harvested crops.***

**Area:** Bagatipara Upazilla in Natore zila.

**Background:** Though sugarcane is one of the main commercial crops in Natore district and almost all small and big share-croppers are associated with its production, they hardly play any role in deciding the price of their product. The price is solely decided by the authority of the sugarcane factories as unfortunately the farmers are totally dependent on these factories for selling the product.

### **Regulation, wilful attitude and selfishness:**

According to regulation the sugarcane ought to be sold in the sugarcane factory after field level survey by the factory authority. There are area-wise sale centres.

For selling the product the farmers are required to collect permission letter from the factory. But acquiring the letter depends on the whim of the authority or on paying bribe to the factory authority and to the influential persons at the sale centres. The big farmers get the permission letter at the beginning of the season by paying bribe to the authority in the factory and to the influential persons at the sale centres. By selling fresh sugarcanes they get good price. But the share-croppers receive the permission at the end of the season. By that time the sugarcane become dry and

#### ***Box: 7- Weighing loss and gain***

*Meher Ali (46), village Rampara, Bagatipara Upazilla, Profession-share-cropper, said, 'this year I am excluded from the list'. In Bagatipara there are 15 thousands like me who have been excluded from the list as sugarcane farmers by the surveyor as our land area is small. By selling one maund sugarcane in the sugar mill I get TK 49. Besides it takes months to receive the money. Half the money is lost in conveyance. But if I produce 4 kg of molasses from one maund sugar cane it fetches TK 120/130 by selling per kilogram at 30/32 market price. Hence, we incur a loss of TK 70/80 per maund. If we cultivate paddy instead of sugar cane it feeds the family. This year I produced 70 mounds of sugarcane, if I had sold them in the mill I would have got TK 3,430 (70 x 49). By selling molasses I received TK 8,680 (70x4x31).*

*Joyonti Mandal, owner of the power crusher from the same village informed, in Bagatipara Upazilla more than 1,400 crushing machines are available. For operating one crushing machine at least 10/12 labourers are required per day. In one season (September to March) I make a profit of at least TK 14,000/15,000.*

they do not get good price as the weight is less. As a result, every year they are deprived from getting a fair price. Besides, the big farmers by selling their product at the beginning of the season i.e. in September can cultivate the next crop - paddy - from which the share croppers are deprived of, because of abuse of rule and whimsical behaviour of the authority. However, if these small share cropper farmers produce molasses commercially than it is more profitable, and it also creates job opportunity for others in the locality.

As the small and share-cropper farmers have no other option for selling their product, for the past years molasses production has become a commercial venture. The farmers derive the juice by crushing in the crusher machine and the molasses are made at home. But every year the crusher machines are dislodged from the factory zone by the authority. Last year it was stopped by using police force as a result of which the farmers incurred great financial loss. This year, like in the past years when the authority started dislodging the crusher, the small and share -cropper farmers got organised under the leadership of landless organisation and took initiative to organise protest.



### **Protest and movement to realise rights:**

Like every year on 27 September, 2006, police force led by magistrate began dislodging crusher machine in Rampara and Charpara village but instead of seizing the machines they started baton charge on the people. This caused injury on 50/60 villagers and news spread swiftly in the villages. Under the leadership of the landless organisations the villagers instantly organised protest and went to the magistrate and demanded release of the arrested people, treatment for the injured and return of two seized machines. From various village hundreds of people comprising men, women and children came marching to join them. In this situation the magistrate was compelled to return the crusher machine and release the arrested people and made commitment not to cause any legal harassment for the day's incidence. In the evening about two hundred female, male members met in representative meeting and decided to hold meeting in the Rampara school field to demand cessation of police harassment and the right of the unlisted small and share cropper farmers to crush sugar cane and make molasses. On the other hand, by violating the magistrate's commitment police filed cases against about two hundred people and named ten landless members. The number of case is 12, dated 28.09.06. Police harassment started in the name of arresting the accused. On 29 September, 2006 in the Rampara school field the landless organisation in the presence of thousands of female and male made various demands. The demands of landless were supported by local press club, lawyers' samity, Mukti Jodha Sangsad etc. The villagers led by landless organisation, subsequently, formed resistance committee in every village to realise the right of the unlisted farmers to make molasses, enhancement of wage of the crusher labourers and to cease unwarranted dislodgement. It may be mentioned that the local crusher owners and member, chairman of union parisad not only supported the protest movement of the landless but also accepted the demand for wage enhancement of the crusher labourers. Led by landless organisation's thousands of organised and unorganised villagers

went to the office of the T.N.O on 1st October 2006 and presented a memorandum. The T.N.O promised to take prompt action against police harassment and other issues. Various national newspapers published the news on police harassment, persecution and demands of the landless. As a result, at national level various professional groups, political parties supported the cause of the small and share-cropper farmers. This compelled the administration to stop dislodgement. But the T.N.O though promised to withdraw the cases, later retracted from his commitment. The accused are on bail at present.

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**Box: 8- Abbas Ali, we worked for 6 months.**

*Abbas Ali a crusher from the village Bhagatipara informed "if we get the opportunity to make molasses then there will be plenty of work available. Last year, all the crusher machines did not work, and the wage was low at TK 60. This year due to our protest the share-croppers were able to make molasses. The owner of the crushers was forced to increase the wages. In this season we worked for 6 months. The daily wage was TK 70."*

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### **Result:**

Due to this protest the small and share cropper farmers can make molasses and sell their product. In Bagatipara Upazilla 6,895 unlisted family made 40/80 maunds of molasses and sold the product. As a result, they had a surplus income of TK 4,500. On the other hand, 18,000 crusher labourers, with an enhanced wage of TK 10 per day got the opportunity to work for 6 months. As a result, all these poor families experienced a positive financial situation.





## CASE STUDY 4

### *Resisting corruption and irregularities in land survey*

For the past years, every year in some zila-Upazillas, land survey records are being sorted out after or during the survey. At the time of survey, officials in the administration extract lakhs of taka from the land owners with the assistance of local brokers. The marginal and share cropping farmers are the worst victims of this situation.

**Area:** The landless organisations have been able to organise agitation and movement against irregularities in land survey. The areas are Khansam upazilla in Dinajpur, Shubarna upazilla in Charjabbar and Roumari upazilla in Roumary area.

#### **Irregularity and corruption:**

Khansama Upazilla, Dinajpur zila. On March 11, land survey at field level started in no. 6 Gualdihi union's Nasimpur village. After the survey, at field level, work on adaptation started on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2006. During

adaptation the corrupt officials in the settlement office created unnecessary obstacles. They tampered with land measurement at field level; though the land was in possession of the owner yet they failed to give 'parcha', in case of absentee land owner they incorporated others' name in the 'porcha' and again these officials attempted to create problem by irreverently demanding land

#### **Box: 9- Exposing the type of corruption :**

*Information published in Dainik Noya Diganto and many other news paper. These officials with the assistance of local touts are taking TK 500 to TK 1000 for per khatian. If bribe is not given they make excuses and give threat to stop the survey work.' On the other hand, the local people stated, " work was done for those who could pay bribe, those who could not pay bribe their work remained undone". For example, Motilal gave TK 2000 for 1 acre, Rajmohal gave TK 300 of .25 percent, Hakim gave TK 200 for .33 percent, Khagendra gave TK 500 for 1 acre, Ashutosh gave TK 150 for 28 percent and Reshmi gave TK 2,500 for 4 acres.*

records done in 1962, which in no way was required for the current survey. These problems were deliberately created by the officials to harass the land owners.

#### **Landless organisation in resisting corruption and irregularities:**

From the beginning the landless organisation kept an eye on the activities of the land survey. They called a representative meeting on July 21<sup>st</sup> to determine the strategy for resisting such activities. As per decision, the landless members discussed the matter with settlement officers on 27<sup>th</sup> January. In the discussion, they demanded solution to this problem by providing information and evidence. At one stage, during the discussion the settlement officers together with the local goons gave threat to the landless members. In this situation the landless members protested and boycotted the meeting. In order to organise resistance, the landless organisations started disseminating information on corruption and irregularity and organised activities to create public opinion. The landless cultural groups staged drama based on actual corruption and irregularities in different villages, organised gatherings, meetings and processions, depicted posters and created huge public opinion. The landless group organised an opinion sharing meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> August with professional groups, teacher's samity, journalists, lawyers, bazaar committee, muktijuddha sangsad, political and cultural workers, rickshaw /van puller etc. In the meeting, the representations of professional groups supported the cause of the landless groups and gave commitment to participate in the resistance movement. In this situation on August 21<sup>st</sup> the landless organisation through a press conference exposed the corruption and irregularities in land survey.



Later on, when news on these activities was published in local and national news paper the administration felt the impact. On 27<sup>th</sup> August, the landless organisation organised protest

**Box: 10- Incorporating outsider`s name in land survey:  
Protest by landless organisation –**

*In September 2006, government started land survey in Noakhali zila`s Shubarnachar Upazilla. The survey officers started the survey from Upazilla`s south-east border of Charclark union. But from the beginning the officials, instead of going in person for survey, camped in Bangla Bazaar hut (local market controlled by the local jotdar land owners) and conducted the survey. The survey officers in connivance and support of the powerful jotdar and by taking bribe recorded absence of landless members, who had been residing in the area from a long time. Also secretly they declared the land owned by landless groups as open khas land and recorded the same land in the local jotders` names. When the landless group received this news, they called the representative on 25<sup>th</sup> September to determine the strategy for organising protest and movement. As per decision, in the meeting they submitted a memorandum to the district administration to withhold irregularities in land survey. On the other hand, a group of landless organisation leaders met with the survey officers. The leaders apprised them about the irregularities in survey and demanded that survey ought to be conducted at field level. The survey officials answered, "whatever we are doing has the consent of higher authority". The survey officials intimidated them with threats of false cases and eviction. At one point, during this argument jotder Kamal member, Basir, Ahsanullah member, Bhulu members, Mintu members instigated their terrorist group to attack the landless members. In this situation, the landless group called a protest meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2006, in Bangla Bazaar hut. In this meeting, hundreds of landless female/male demanded legitimate justice against this attack and declared that if survey is not conducted at field-level they will stop the survey work. After the meeting they marched towards the survey camp and demanded to stop regulates. The survey officials confessed in front of hundreds of landless people about the irregularities in land survey. Besides, they went from door to door and made commitment that legitimate owners will be given attestation.*

**Result:** *Activities are being conducted at field -level. The outsiders whose names were incorporated through bribe have been excluded. 850 landless families, whose names were excluded, have now been attested in the record as legitimate owners. It may be mentioned that from November 2006, survey activity is withheld without prior notice.*

place in land survey.

**Result:**

The Land officer was temporarily released by U.N.O. In three activity areas about 2,985 families had their land surveyed without giving bribe.

**Box: 11- Correct survey of land: Ancestral land recovered:**

*Roumari Upazilla, Rajibpur union. Through false documents Moksed Ali`s (from Baulpara village) ancestral land has been illegally occupied for the last 35 years by powerful jotdar Folumia. Due to the movement against irregularity in land survey some transparency and accountability has been achieved in land survey. As a result the landless organisation has been able to get recorded 7 acres land and recovered them for total 8 families-they are Moksed Ali, Robiul Islam and their relatives.*

As per schedule, hundreds of female /male members participated in the protest and after sit-in at Nasimpur settlement office for two hours the landless organisation staged a further protest and went to the office of the U.N.O, and demanded investigation in the corruption and irregularities and handed over a memorandum to the U.N.O seeking administrative action. Later on, copy of the memorandum was sent to land record and survey office, zonal office and zila administration. check

**Administrative action as a result of landless organisation`s demand:**

On 9<sup>th</sup> September, 2006 U.N.O delegated union Parisad chairman to investigate the corruption and irregularities raised by landless group. The U.P chairman investigated the matter in person. The investigation report proved that corruption did take

**CASE STUDY 5*****The indiscipline and corruption in government service: demands by the landless organisation***

Due to corruption in the sectors of education and health, the poor people are deprived from the benefits they are supposed to get. In the past working year, the landless organisations organised protests corruption in a number of working areas.

**Area:** District Tangail, Dhanbari and sub-district Modhupur.

**Methods corruption:**

In the government run primary schools, according to the law, education is free. But in the sub-district of Dhanbari, Dorichandrabari “Belatola” and sub-district of Modhupur “Palbari” in the government primary schools, from every student the authorities used to take TK 10 in the name of development and TK 20 for books which they are supposed to provide free.

**Reasons for the local rumour:**

The poor population of the local areas complain that most of the school teachers and the organising committee members are incorporated with the local influential and political party leaders. As a result, indiscipline-corruption-waywardness continued and no one could question about it.

**The landless organisation’s data collection, broadcasting and mobilisation of public opinion:**

Based on the complaints from the students, the landless organisation collected data from the school and the local administration. They started to hold organised meetings at various places in the vicinity exposing the corruption of the school management in order for creating public opinion. 13 schools of 2 sub-districts and the students and the teachers of these schools supported the landless organisations cause against indiscipline and corruption. Apart from this, some teachers, the freedom fighters organisation, women’s organisation, press club and other people from different professions also supported the landless organisations’ cause.

**Box: 12- Demand for banning Private treatment in Public health sector**

*Chittagong zilla, Shondeep Upozilla, Shiberhaat Health centre. For a long time, Dr. Shihabuddin with the help of some corrupt persons was providing private treatment. When the patients collected the ticket to take treatment in the public health centre the staff kept them waiting for hours. As a result, the patients were forced to seek treatment paying the hospital. In this situation, the landless organisation decided to raise protest for the irregularity in the public health centre. They decided to meet with the appointed doctors and demanded to stop private treatment. They assured that they would stop it but in reality they continued to do what they were doing. To meet their demands the landless organisation collected signatures of hundreds of people (female/male) and submitted a memorandum to the authorised officer of the sub-district and the civil surgeon. After a few days, the administration did not take any step. As a result, on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2006, the landless organisation along with five hundred people held a protest meeting in front of the sub-district’s authorised officer’s office. After the meeting they had a sit-in in front of that office. After 3 hours of sit-in the sub-district authorised officer assured them that he will take necessary steps. According to his assurance, on 4<sup>th</sup> April he himself came to investigate the matter. In the investigation he found the truth, that the doctors had their own prescriptions with their name in it.*

*Result: On 5<sup>th</sup> April 2006, the administration immediately transferred the doctors. At present the poor people are getting their proper treatment by collecting their tickets in the public health centre.*



## Establishment of rights of the landless organisation:

Last 18<sup>th</sup> January ,2007, the landless organisation held a discussion meeting with the people from different professions. It was decided in the meeting, that on 20<sup>th</sup> January, they would take out a protest procession and organise a conference in the “Belatola” government primary school field. After the conference the landless organisation wanted to know the reason from the teachers why they were taking money from the students for admission and books. The teachers instead of answering the question threatened the landless members.

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### **Box: 13- Misappropriation of scholarship funds: joined protest to rescue it**

*Noakhali zilla, Shubornachor Upozilla, Charjabber Union. Charjabber primary school. Last January 2006, a landless member was elected in the school management committee. The elected landless member came up with different irregularities and solutions to solve them in the committee meeting. There were continuous meetings with landless organisation regarding all these problems. In the mean time, on 1<sup>st</sup> may 2006, the management committee violating the state laws decide to give scholarship to students worth TK 200 instead of TK 300. In this situation, the elected landless member along with the landless organisation and the school children jointly demanded the school scholarship of TK 300. The teachers threatened to cancel the name of the students from the scholarship list. At that moment, the landless organisation boycotted the scholarship money and went for a protest meeting in the school field for the misappropriation of the scholarship fund. After the meeting, the landless organisation collected 450 signatures of students and their guardians. On 2<sup>nd</sup> May they submitted this memorandum to the authorised officer of the sub- district and the education officer of the sub-district as well. On 6<sup>th</sup> May, the sub-district's administration decided to take necessary steps regarding the memorandum. In this situation, the teachers wanted to compromise with the landless organisation but they did not agree to it. The sub-district authorised officer along with the education officer came to the school to investigate the matter. They wanted an explanation from the teachers on this matter. Due to the protest by the masses of people the teachers kept silent as they knew truth can not be hidden. As a result, it was proved that there was misappropriation of scholarship funds.*

***Result:** The sub-district education officer submitted a notice to the management committee for their reason. Apart from this, in February 2006 when giving out scholarship to 185 students they had taken TK 100 from each student resulting in a total of TK 18500 which they had to return to the students. At present they are providing regular scholarships to the students.*

For this situation the landless organisation held another conference to protest this on 22<sup>nd</sup> January in front of the authorised officer's office in the sub-district of Modhupur. After the conference a selected group of the landless organisation submitted a memorandum against the corruption of the authorised officer and the panel of school teachers. In the evening, they held a press conference in the Modhupur press club. The conference raised issues about the indiscipline in the schools, collecting money for development and other wayward activities. The local and national dailies published information about the indiscipline and corruption. As a result, the local administration was being

questioned. On the other side, on 24<sup>th</sup> January the teachers panel came to inquire about the issue that was raised by the landless organisation. The guardians of the student of both schools placed complain to the panel of teachers. When the panel asked the opinion of the teachers they completely denied it, they could not show any development work of the school nor could they show any decisions for taking money. As a result, corruption-indiscipline was truly proved.



**Results:**

The school teachers had to return the money that they have taken for admission and books in front of the panel of teachers. At present, the school teachers have stopped providing private tuitions and are regularly and punctually teaching the students.

	No. of schools	Teachers	Admission & books	Scholarship
Anchal				
Gaibandha	5	386	14300	42400
Charjabber	2	390	11200	18500
Modhupur	2	30	900	-
Shondeep	1	42	-	1260
Ramgati	1	280	6100	14000
Gangni	2	64	8500	-
<b>Total</b>	13	1187	41000	76160



## CASE STUDY 6

### ***Irregularity-corruption- favouritism in government safety-net programme: establishing rights and demanding accountability through protest and struggle by the landless***

*“Before the election, they talk about huge promises. After that, they do not remember us. Until and unless we make the landless brothers/sisters into members and chairman our problem will not be solved.”*

*Landless leader  
Salma Begum, Village- Dhanershish*

#### **Past background:**

Due to the irregularities, corruptions and nepotism of the local vested coterie the poor masses are being deprived from the services and safety net measures provided by the governments. There are examples of local vestedcoterie and affluent people associated with politics of reaping off the benefits of these facilities at grass root level. Almost in all Nijera Kori’s activity areas the landless organisations have been able to organise protests and agitations against these irregularities, corruptions and nepotism. To cite example few such movements and protests are given below:

#### **Focusing the nature of irregularity:**

For distributing VGF card the chairman of Charwapda made a list for 2006 by forming a committee with four Union Parishad members. When the list was being formulated the landless organisations made a list of 50 destitute families and submitted it to the concerned committee. They made a request to enquire about the actual position of these families. But the concerned committee excluded all the names given by the landless organisation and made a list with 100 names comprising the relatives of the committee members, members of own political party and traders in the bazaar and submitted it to the chairman. The local people stated that the committee took TK 250 to include the names of 22 persons. Not a single member from the landless organisation was included.

#### **Protests by landless organisation against corruption and irregularity:**

To evaluate the situation and to determine the strategy for organising their protests the landless organisation gathered in an emergency meeting on 2 August, 2006. As per decision, the leaders of landless organisation, complaining about irregularity, nepotism and corruption, made a demand to the chairman to cancel the list. On the basis of this demand the chairman pledged to re-evaluate the list. However, the chairman reneged on his promise shortly thereafter. In this situation on 14 August about 2 hundred female/male members marched to Union Parishad and demanded that the list be disclosed in front of the public. After this, the landless organisation submitted a memorandum to the U.N.O regarding these irregularities. In the mean time, preparations were made to organise union meeting to finalise the list. When the landless organisation received this information they demanded the presence of a government representative in the proposed Upazilla parishad’s meeting. Assurance was given to them in this regard and the landless organisations were making preparations to organise their protests demanding cancellation



of the list. Accordingly on 27 August, about 600 female/male members assembled in the Upazilla's bazaar to protest. After the protest meeting they went to the office of the Charwapda union parishad when a meeting by the UP Chairman was being held there. At about half past 11 in the morning the Upazilla Education Officer arrived at the venue. After discussing with the Union Parishad he read out 100 persons names from the list in front of the crowd and asked for their opinion. The landless members informed that the names of 56 destitute families were not included in the list. The chairman and the members were unable to provide valid reasons in support their list. In this situation, the Education Officer started making a fresh list in the presence of the crowd and with their opinions included the names proposed by the landless members.

**Results:**

It was possible to exclude the names of 58 undeserving persons. The list was made again by including the names of 34 landless members and 24 destitute persons although none were landless organisation's members.

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**Box: 14- The surveyor's job is terminated on charge of extortion.**

Ramgati Upazilla in Lakhippur Zila. The unused land adjacent to Beribandh belonging to water development board was used as temporary settlement by about five thousands homeless people by river erosion made. Surveyor Haradhan Babu, at the beginning of each monsoon season extorted TK 500 from each family by giving threats of dislodgement. In the activity year, the landless organisation resisted extortion by organising protests/movements. On 7 July 2006 when the surveyor attempted to collect extortion nearly a thousand men/women under the leadership of landless organisation demanded official receipt (with official seal on it). The surveyor realised the mood of the people and admitted that this money is not deposited in the government treasury. In this situation the landless leaders confined the surveyor and verbally complaint about extortion in the office of the U.N.O which was just nearby. Promptly other officials from the U.N.O office came to the spot and released the surveyor after promising to investigate on charge of extortion. In this situation, in order to create pressure on the authority, about four thousands signatures were collected and submitted to the engineer as well as to other officials at various levels in the water development board and demand was forwarded that by 10<sup>th</sup> July the matter should be investigated and extortion should be stopped. On the demand of the landless organisation the chief engineer of the water development board visited the place in person on 18 July. The investigation exposed that the surveyor was collecting extortion for a long time.

**Result:** In the activity year, the homeless people did not have to pay any money. Surveyor Haradhan was temporarily released from job.

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**CASE STUDY 7*****Shrimp cultivation:  
landless organisation is resisting and dislodging shrimp cultivation***

**Area:** Noakhali Zilla, Sunderban Upazilla, Char Majid and CharZia mouja.

**Background:**

These chars surfaced from Meghna River in the early part of eighties. In late eighties families that were dislodged due to river erosion started settlement in these Chars. In the nineties these landless people were evicted forcibly from their land for cultivating shrimp with the consent of the political leaders and subsequently industrialists and others started occupying thousands of acres of khas land. Glove Agrovat was one of them. About 850 acres of khas land was occupied forcibly by Glove Agrovat.

**Present situation:**

In the activity year for expanding shrimp cultivation Glove Agrovat started again to occupy land forcibly. In connivance with corrupt the officials in the administration Glove

Grovat prepared false documents of land belonging to nine families and threatened these families to evacuate from their land. Last year, on 24 July Glove Agrovat's manager Taher Mollah visited the place with hired goons. He declared that he would dislodge the landless people forcibly if they refused to surrender their land willingly.

**Landless group in resisting forcible occupation of land:**

Under the leadership of the village committee, the landless organisation instantly assembled in a joint meeting. After evaluating the entire situation the

***Box: 15- Ejection of illegal shrimp cultivation from open water body:***

*Zila Khulna, Upazilla dumuria, Union Shohas, Boro beel is situated around villages. About 13 thousands families are residing on 900 acres of land on the bank of the water body. Until mid nineties all these families derived their livelihood through fishing in the water body. But in 1997 politically powerful group in co-operation with the police and with the assistance of the terrorists opened the embankment and let in salt water. The illegal occupiers started cultivation of shrimp forcibly. Due to the instruction of salt water cultivable farm land in the villages became unfit for cultivation and covered water logging. Act of agricultural activities and fishing posed a great threat to the people as their livelihood was jeopardized. As a result, from 1998 onward the landless organisation started extensive activities and organised protest and movements to mobilise people's support against illegal shrimp cultivation. They mobilised a formidable movement by organising protests, movements, gatherings, sheared, people's dream and collecting situations and presenting memorandum. The local union parishad chairman, members, local teachers, reporters, village doctors and school students expressed solidarity with the cause of the landless organisation. Leaders of landless organisation and members from professional groups formed a committee, titled "committee for resisting shrimp cultivation", to conduct these protests/movements. This committee organised a meeting in Nokatibazar on 28 June to protest against shrimp cultivation. Ultimately after conducting continuous movements and protests on January 17, 2007 about 3 thousands female/male people made a break in the illegal embankment and drained out the salt water and retrieved their land.*

**Result:** *The landless organisation has been to routine 200 bighas of forcibly occupied land from the shrimp cultivations. Out of 11 villages about 3,500 detitute families from 5 villages are now earning daily an average income of TK 35-40 by fishing. The endeavour for making 'Boro beel' open is still contemning by staging protest and movements.*





landless organisation decided to resist expansion of shrimp cultivation by Glove Agrovat which would dislodge these families. Led by Upazilla committee the landless members of adjoining sub-centre Charbagha also participated in this resistance movement. In this situation, on 25 July the landless organisation conducted day long protest, gathering and cultural programme in south char Mojid. As per decision landless female/male member from other char areas also participated in this meeting. Then in the presence of thousands of landless members, the protest meeting was started. While the meeting was going on, led by Taher Mollah, the hired goons arrived in two trucks and 8/10 motorcycles. Behind the hired goons a police van arrived.

With the covert assistance of police force Taher Mollah led the hired goons to break the dwellings of the landless families. At this point, hundreds of landless female/male members resisted, by forming a human chain. When the goons attacked, the landless members retaliated. During this time the police force also charged the landless members from the east and south Char Mojid. Realizing the gravity of the situation, Taher Mollah escaped under police protection. The members of the landless group breached the embankment of the Glove Agrovat's shrimp gher. On the other hand, thousands of landless members demand the release of arrested members by marching 12 kilometres and barricading the Shubarna Char, they went to the local Upazilla. Officer in charge of the Upazilla sat for discussion with the members of the landless group. After the discussion, the arrested members were released without any conditions. Besides, police filed a case against the activities of Glove Agrovat.

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**Box: 16- Overall result:**

*In Nijera Kori's activity areas, commercial cultivation of shrimp is in both Paikgacha and Char jabber areas. In the activity year due to movement and agitation by landless organisation, 236 acres of illegally occupied land have been retrieved. Besides, in Paikgacha, it was possible to make parts of "Boro beel" water body around 11 villages open for all. As a result, 3,500 destitute families from 5 villages are now able to earn daily TK 35/40 by catching fish.*

---

**Result:** The landless group has been successful in resisting illegal occupation of land by shrimp cultivation. As a result, about 144 families have been provided securely with farm land and dwellings. Besides, the landless members have been successful in retrieving 236 acres of illegally occupied land and establish their rights.

**CASE STUDY 8****Government water bodies:  
Establishing rights of the poor on the water bodies, resisting corruption****Background:**

For the poor masses fishing in government water bodies is a source of livelihood and at the same time it supplements diet requirement to the farmer's families, besides playing a very vital role in fulfilling the demand for domestic use of water.

But the vested coteries either occupy the government water bodies illegally or by forming alliance through irregular means. In few activity areas, the landless

organisations have been successful in establishing their rights on this water-bodies by organising protest and movement against the irregularities, illegal possession and ejection.

**Activity area:**

Gaibanda zila, Pirgonj Upazilla, Midipur union, Ekbarpur mouja.

**Water body and local people:**

Measuring 2.37 acre, this water body is known as Durgadaha beel. It is actually a part of Noyea River. Life and activities of the Hindu community was very much centred on this water body. Their religious rites such as barni snan (bath) ganga snan (bath) immersing the deity, burning the dead bodies, all these activities were performed in this open water body. Besides, the local people used it for agricultural activities such as irrigation, washing cattle, rearing duck and fishing.

**Box: 17- Establishing the rights of the fishing community in the Water-Bodies**

*Ghuridaha union in Gaibandha zila's Shaghata Upazilla. There are total 8 water bodies (beel) in this union. According to official measurement the area is 132.45 acres. There is a prevalent law that the fishing community can take lease of this water-bodies. From 2001 the landless organisation has been organising movement and protest demanding the right of legitimate fishing community, residing on the banks of the water-bodies, to get lease for fishing. To realize the demand, the landless organisation has been organising protest- rally, people's signature -memorandum, press conference, etc. Though, several times, the administration promised to nullify the lease but no positive measures were taken. In the meantime in 2006 the administration again invited tender for giving lease. In this situation the landless organisation submitted people's signature in March 2006 to the ministry as well as to other levels in the administration demanding lease allotment to legitimate fisherman. At local level, the landless organisation organised strong resistance and protest. Also the professional groups supported the demand of the landless organisation. In this situation about 2 thousands female/male organised a protest march and took position near the U.N.O's office. From their -sit- in position they declared that if their demands were not fulfilled, they would not go. About 4 hours of sit-in strike the U.N.O. declared in front of the crowd that lease would not be issued to outsiders. Besides, he promised to form a project with local fisherman community.*

**Result:** *Due to the prolonged movement by the landless organisation on last 18 October 2006 the Zila administration started work on fishery project comprising 8 water bodies under the 'canal and water bodies' fishing development and agreement project in western zone of the country. In this project 239 families have been included, they are mostly landless members. The Upazilla fishery office has granted interest -free loan amounting TK 2 lakh for cultivating fish. Besides, as one time grant 1 maund fishing net, 1 shallow machine and 2 boats were given. Through election 11 members were elected from the beneficiaries to perform the duties. From this project, so far TK 4, 53,000 profit has been made. It may be mentioned that the number of indirect beneficiaries are 5,500 families.*



### Various strategies for occupying the water body illegally:

From 1995 the local vested group have been attempting to grab the properties of the Hindu community and to illegally occupy Durgadaha water body. The powerful coterie's terrorist group has been giving threats to the Hindu community residing on the banks of the beel from time to time. In 1996, by accusing in two false cases they started harassing the poor landless members residing around the beel. Besides, by forming alliance with

the administration a locally vested person named Bazlur Rahman took lease of the Durgadaha water-body from 1997-1999 by paying a nominal amount of TK 3,000. For strategic reasons, the vested group formed a 'jubo unnayan samity' with their own children. Later on, the administration and the vested group, for concealing their involvement, made a lease document for three years 2002-2005 in jubo unnayan samity's name. The lease holders, with the assistance of police administration and hired terrorists started forcible fish cultivation in the beel. Due to threat and intimidation of the hired goons the people in the area stopped using the water-body. In July 27, 2006

when 13 year old Al Amin, son of landless member Abdul Halim went to the beel to catch fish, the guards after beating, abducted him. When his mother went to rescue her son she was also beaten. Besides on 2<sup>nd</sup> June, 2006 when Ekbarpur Mohila samity was holding weekly meeting on the side of the 'beel' the hired goons attacked them. In this attack 5 female members were wounded. On top of it, in October 2006, the lease holders, in order to catch fish, dried the beel by irrigating the water with shallow machine. As a result, all the agriculture activities in the area like irrigation for agricultural activity, daily use of water by the families, washing cattle and rearing duck ceased in the area.

In this situation, the landless organisation in order to release the 'beel' and for ensuring justice collected thousands of signatures and handed a memorandum. The U.N.O did not take any step in favour of the landless group. By defying people's demand the U.N.O invited tender for giving lease in 2006. Again the lease was given to the adjoining Panchgachi Union's 'Daridra Bimochan Mohila Samity' formed by the vested coterie. 'The Daridra Bimochan Mohila Samity' took initiative to cultivate fish. For inaugurating the fishery project they invited the U.N.O and he consented to inaugurate.

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**Box: 18- Incident: unleashing Bhadra river, Dumuria, Paikgacha.**

*Bhadra River flows through Dumuria Shahash, Bhanpara and Sharafpur union. Extending over a width of 12 kilometre on the banks about 9000 landless families reside on both sides of the river in 21 villages and their main source of livelihood depend on this river. In 1992, Abdul Jalil, by prevailing influence, took lease of the river from The Fisheries ministry for ten years. As the lease was illegal, the landless organisation protested against it. But in the face of increasing pressure by the landless group the occupiers left the place and the landless group unleashed the river by digging the embankment. As a result, the opponents filed case and the landless people were continually harassed. But the opponents failed to occupy river Bhadra. On the other hand, in 1994 the Government fishery project declared Bhadra river fish sanctuary and was handed over to the same NGO. This NGO after doing research for 2-3 years handed the responsibility of the sanctuary to another local NGO. This NGO named it 4<sup>th</sup> Fishery project and released fish in the river and by forming VDC (Village Development Committee) signed agreement with VDC whereby the VDC could have sole right to cultivate fish at various points in the river and take the benefit. But the people residing on the bank of Bhadra River and various people from other occupations freed the river on 22 May 2006 by staging protest and procession.*

**RESULT:** 1, 235.48 acre land spreading around Bhadra river is now free for use by all. As a result, almost 9,000 families are being able to ensure and improve their livelihood through open fishing.

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### **Resistance and protest by landless organisation:**

From 1995 the landless organisation has been organising agitation, protest and movement for safeguarding the illegal occupation of minority community's property by the local vested coterie. In 1997, by violating open water body law Durgadaha 'beel' was leased out, the same water body was again included in the open water bodies' law at the demand of the landless groups. Initially, the landless organisation decided to resist Bazlur Rahman, who had received lease illegally. When Bazlur Rahman attempted to occupy the beel with hired goons, he was forced to retreat in the face of resistance by the landless group. Due to immense public support and the presence of resistance group the police administration was forced to support the landless group provisionally. The landless organisation, in order to organise strong and solid protest and movement, in 2005, formed Durgadaha releasing committee.

The committee not only declared protest and resistance programmes but also started the process of creating public opinion at all strata of society. As landless members were persecuted they organised a meeting in union parishad ground to protest. About two hundred people (female/male) demanded justice to the union Parishad Chairman. Besides this, for taking legal action they lodged case in the court as plaintiff. To create public awareness the landless organisation organised people's drama and people's songs highlighting the need to keep the water bodies open in every village. The landless group's representatives also, discussed the matter several times with people's representatives, professional groups, rickshaw-van puller, cooli/labourer samity etc. Gradually public awareness started growing in favour of landless organisation. At this point the landless group started collecting people's signatures for keeping the water bodies open. Almost twenty five thousand people's signatures were submitted by the landless organisation to the land fishery and live stock ministry at various levels. On the other hand, due to continuous protest and agitation in the activity area the issue of keeping water bodies open turned into a people's demand.

In this situation on, 4 June 2006 the landless organisation organised a protest meeting in the local Borobazar Madarganj port. In this meeting support for keeping the water-bodies open were given by chairman and members of Midipur union parishad, local teachers, lawyers, journalists, political workers, rickshaw/van coolie-labourers samity and school students. In front of about 3 thousands female/male members' gathering the leaders of landless group declared to cancel the Durgadaha beel lease given on 5 June 2005 by U.N.O and to stop the inaugural ceremony of fishery project. As per declaration the members gathered on the road leading to the beel and sat at the adjoining ground of Madarganj health complex. At 11a.m in the morning when U.N.O was arriving thousands of people demanded to keep the beel open. Compelled by the immensity of resistance, officers from upazilla administration sat for discussion with the representatives of the landless group. After the discussion the lease on Durgadaha beel was nullified and it was declared open water body.

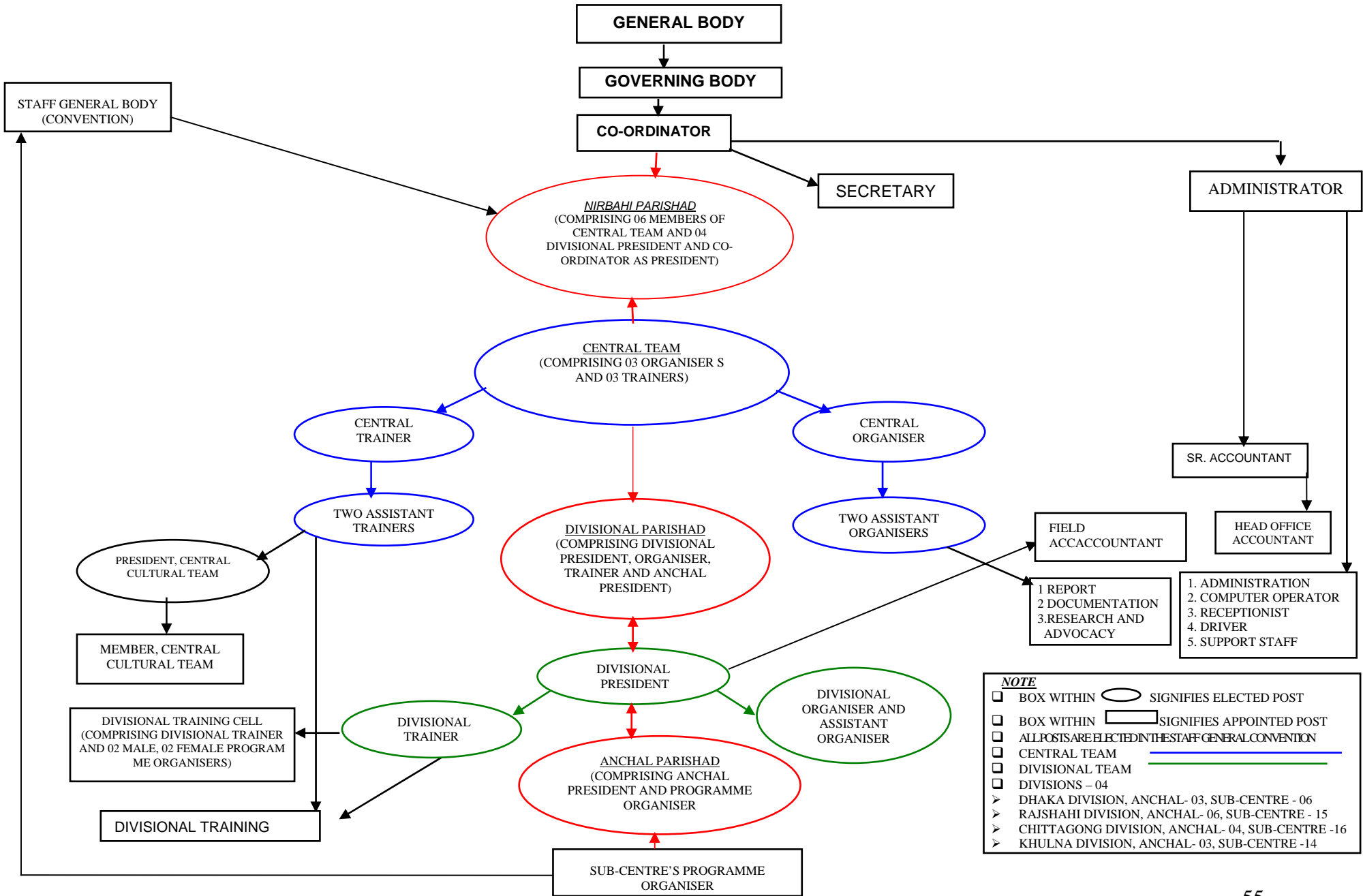
### **Result:**

As assured by U.N.O on 11 June 2006 the lease on Durgadaha beel was nullified in writing. Due to this declaration about 12 hundred families are benefiting by fishing, irrigating and using the water for daily use.

### **Box:19- Overall result**

*On the whole due to movement and agitation to comprehend the rights of the poor masses, in three areas total 1237.85 acres of water bodies have been made free and 132.45 acres of khas ponds have been issued in the name of the members. The profit from joint fish cultivation is TK 453,000. The water bodies are being used for agricultural work such as irrigation, for cultivating fish and rearing cattle and duck, and also for daily use for the families. About 15,700 families are deriving the benefit. It may be mentioned that in Bhadra River about 2500 families are getting opportunity to catch fish and their daily earning about TK 60 to 70 per family.*

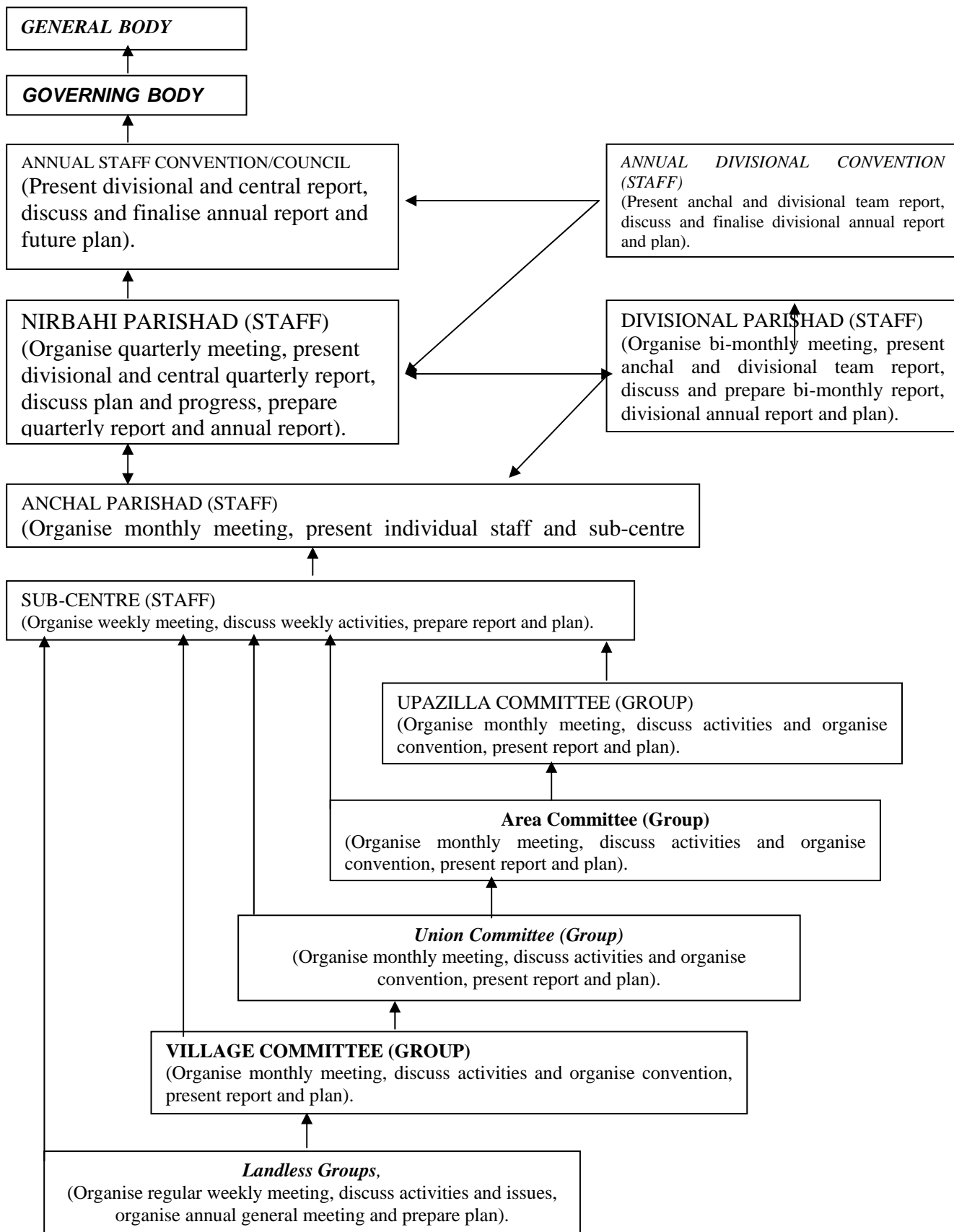
# ORGANOGRAM OF NIJERA KORI



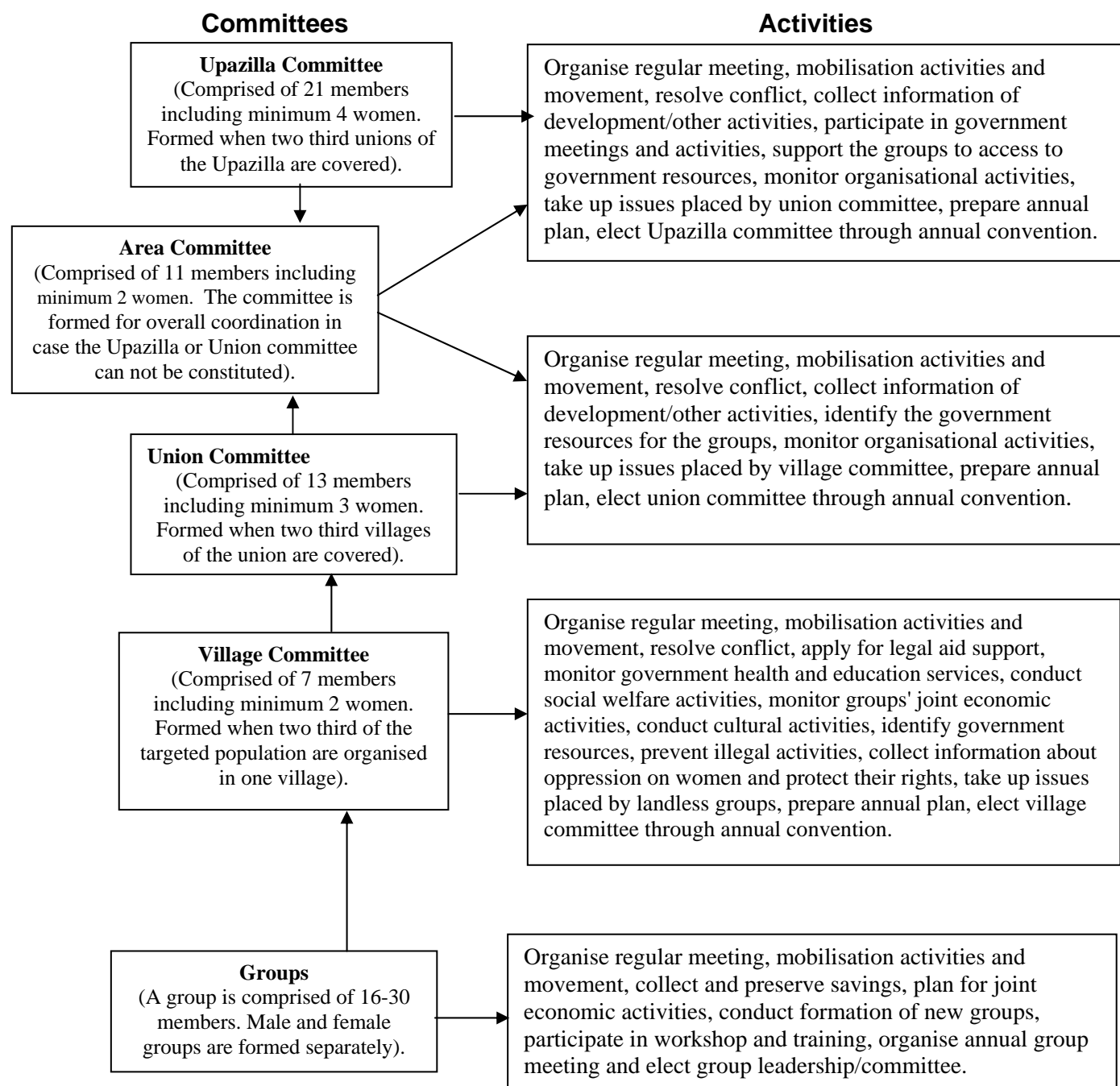
**NOTE**

- BOX WITHIN SIGNIFIES ELECTED POST
- BOX WITHIN SIGNIFIES APPOINTED POST
- ALL POSTS ARE ELECTED IN THE STAFF GENERAL CONVENTION
- CENTRAL TEAM
- DIVISIONAL TEAM
- DIVISIONS - 04
- DHAKA DIVISION, ANCHAL- 03, SUB-CENTRE - 06
- RAJSHAHI DIVISION, ANCHAL- 06, SUB-CENTRE - 15
- CHITTAGONG DIVISION, ANCHAL- 04, SUB-CENTRE -16
- KHULNA DIVISION, ANCHAL- 03, SUB-CENTRE -14

## Planning and Monitoring Structure



## Groups and Group Coordination Committee Structure



## Receipts and Payments Statement (Extracted from Audit Report)

**NIJERA KORI :RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME  
SOCIAL MOBILISATION, VOICE AND DEMOCRACY  
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2007**

<b><u>RECEIPTS:</u></b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
Opening Balance		10,228,326.48
Project Grants:		
Christian Aid	6,720,000.00	
D.F.I.D	92,717,721.00	
E.E.D	12,787,976.28	
I.C.C.O.	5,320,000.00	
Interpares	250,000.00	
The Swallows	<u>868,474.05</u>	118,664,171.33
Exchange Gain		1,700,155.50
Other Receipts		778,573.89
Loan and Advance		16,046.00
Development Fund		5,049,475.94
	<b>TK</b>	<b>136,436,749.14</b>
<b><u>PAYMENTS:</u></b>		
Civil Construction		799,893.41
Other Material Inputs		1,180,205.00
Personnel		49,493,306.00
Training Expenses		9,970,639.00
Seminar, Meeting, and Conference		8,940,618.00
Training & Sub Ctr.Accommodation		2,930,150.00
Office Equipment		1,106,679.00
Tube Well		86,438.00
Vehicles		407,550.00
Travelling and Daily Allowances		3,352,931.00
Contingency		6,044,695.28
Others		13,751,473.70
Shrimp Campaigning		1,365,597.00
Minority Rights Group International		96,783.98
Closing Balance		36,909,789.77
	<b>TK</b>	<b>136,436,749.14</b>



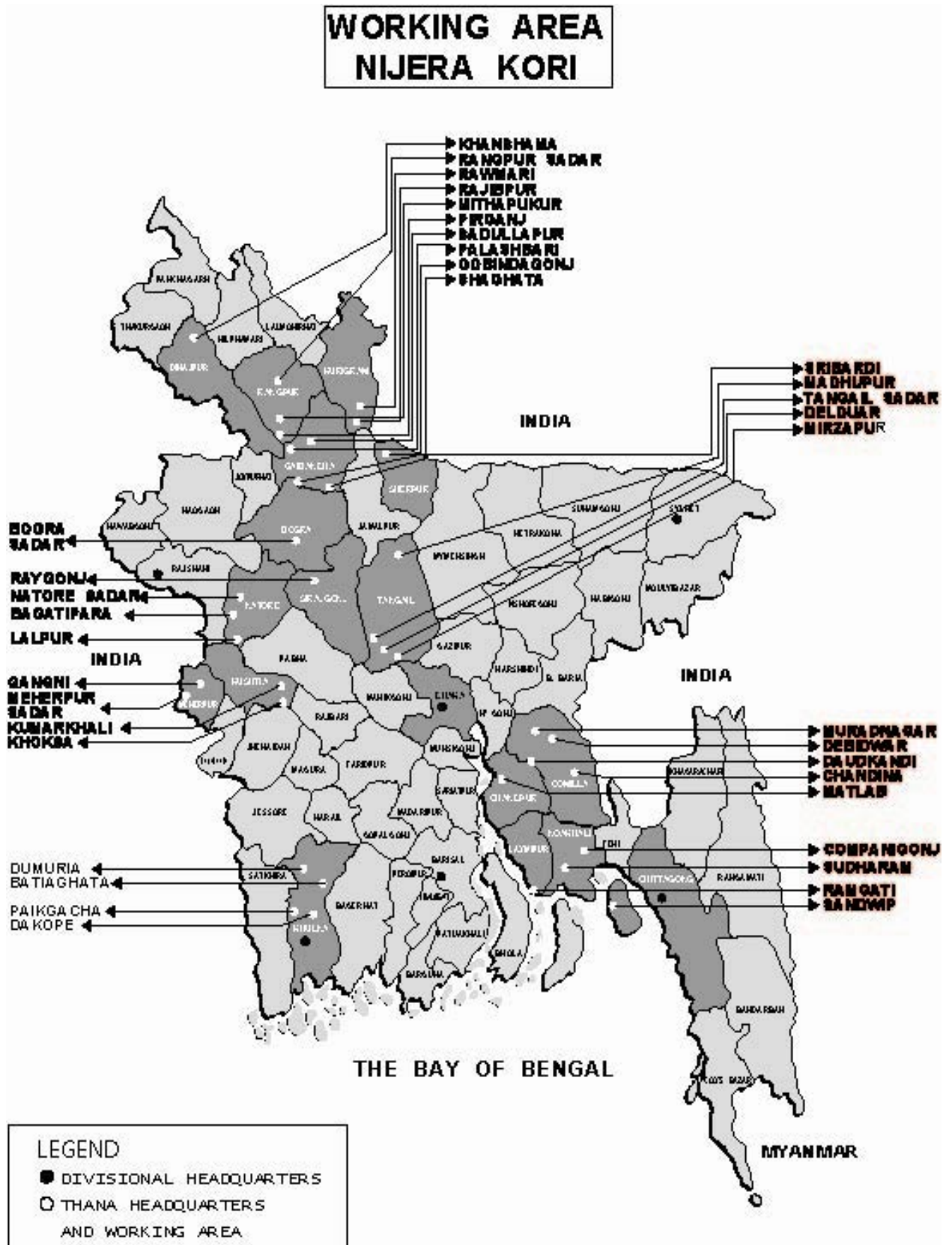


TABLE – 01: Geographical Location of Programmes of Nijera Kori

Sl. No	Division	District	Upazilla	Area	Sub-centre	Expansion in 2006-07		Total up to March 2007		Village Coverage			
						Union	Village	Union	Village	March 2006	New Coverage	March 2007	
01.	Chittagong	Comilla	Chandina Daudkandi	Comilla	05	--	--	29	136	23	--	23	
			Debidwar Muradnagar Matlab										
		Chandpur											
		Noakhali	Sudharam Companigonj	Charjabbar	05	--	01	08	44	02	--	02	
		Lakshmipur	Ramgoti	Ramgoti	03	--	--	06	28	02	01	03	
	Chittagong	Sandwip	Sandwip	04	--	--	14	34	--	--	--		
	<b>01</b>	<b>05</b>	<b>09</b>	<b>04</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>01</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>01</b>	<b>28</b>	
02.	Dhaka	Tangail	Mirzapur Delduar	Tangail	04	--	01	11	78	20	03	23	
			Tangail Sadar										
		Madhupur	Madhupur	02	01	06	12	122	16	--	16		
	Sherpur	Sribardi	Sribardi	01	--	--	02	21	--	--	--		
	<b>01</b>	<b>02</b>	<b>05</b>	<b>03</b>	<b>07</b>	<b>01</b>	<b>07</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>03</b>	<b>39</b>	
03.	Khulna	Kushtia	Kumarkhali khoksa	Kumarkhali	02	--	--	07	51	09	01	10	
			Meherpur										
		Meherpur	Meherpur Sadar Gangni	Gangni	04	--	01	07	47	15	01	16	
	Khulna	Paikgacha Dumuria Batiaghata Dakope	Paikgacha	09	--	--	17	166	30	03	33		
	<b>01</b>	<b>03</b>	<b>08</b>	<b>03</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>01</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>05</b>	<b>59</b>	
04.	Rajshahi	Sirajgonj	Raygonj	Noongola	03	--	01	05	82	09	--	09	
		Bogra	Bogra Sadar										
		Rangpur	Rangpur Sadar Mithapukur	Rangpur	02	--	02	09	76	14	03	14	
		Dinajpur	Khanshama	Dinajpur	01	--	--	04	22	03	--	03	
		Kurigram	Rowmari Rajibpur	Rowmari	02	01	02	08	93	14	03	14	
		Gaibandha	Palashbari Saghata Sadullapur Gobindagonj	Gaibandha	04	--	01	23	190	41	12	41	
		Rangpur	Pirgonj										
	Natore	Bagatipara Lalpur Natore Sadar	Bagatipara	03	--	03	10	163	22	07	22		
	<b>01</b>	<b>07</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>06</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>01</b>	<b>09</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>626</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>128</b>	
<b>T</b>	<b>04</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>02</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>1,353</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>254</b>	

T=Total

## ANNEX - G

### LIST OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2005-2007

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

**TABLE – 02 (Group Formation)**

Division	Up to March 2006			Plan			Implementation			Total up to March 2007		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Rajshahi	2,003	2,307	4,310	147	177	324	145	182	327	2,148	2,489	4,637
Dhaka	651	774	1,425	32	27	59	32	24	56	683	798	1,481
Khulna	813	1,218	2,031	73	95	168	44	51	95	857	1,269	2,126
Chittagong	1,875	2,124	3,999	158	140	298	142	149	291	2,017	2,273	4,290
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,342</b>	<b>6,423</b>	<b>11,765</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>439</b>	<b>849</b>	<b>363</b>	<b>406</b>	<b>769</b>	<b>5,705</b>	<b>6,829</b>	<b>12,534</b>

**TABLE – 03 (Group Member)**

Division	Up to March 2006			Plan			Implementation			Total up to March 2007		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Rajshahi	43,386	45,447	88,833	2,940	3,540	6,480	2,750	3,418	6,168	46,136	48,865	95,001
Dhaka	14,252	15,336	29,588	640	540	1,180	607	447	1,054	14,859	15,783	30,642
Khulna	18,963	25,757	44,720	1,460	1,900	3,360	812	929	1,741	19,775	26,686	46,461
Chittagong	40,833	41,415	82,248	3,160	2,800	5,960	2,808	2,874	5,682	43,641	44,289	87,930
<b>Total</b>	<b>117,434</b>	<b>127,955</b>	<b>245,389</b>	<b>8,200</b>	<b>8,780</b>	<b>16,980</b>	<b>6,977</b>	<b>7,668</b>	<b>14,645</b>	<b>124,411</b>	<b>135,623</b>	<b>260,034</b>

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

Division	Plan for Group Meeting Attended by Staff			Implementation of Group Meeting Attended By Staff			Implementation of Group Meeting Attended By Only Group			Total implementation of Group Meeting By (Group and Staff)			Implementation of Annual Group Meeting		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Rajshahi	49,998	58,118	108,116	9,743	20,654	30,397	26,744	20,659	47,403	36,487	41,313	77,800	1,660	1,987	3,647
Dhaka	20,222	22,259	42,481	4,191	7,418	11,609	11,989	8,340	20,329	16,180	15,758	31,938	356	408	764
Khulna	20,013	32,271	52,284	7,229	14,309	21,538	6,834	6,612	13,446	14,063	20,921	34,984	576	902	1,478
Chittagong	34,428	36,472	70,900	13,669	19,833	33,502	14,116	12,657	26,773	27,785	32,490	60,275	960	1,096	2,056
<b>Total</b>	<b>124,661</b>	<b>149,120</b>	<b>273,781</b>	<b>34,832</b>	<b>62,214</b>	<b>97,046</b>	<b>59,683</b>	<b>48,268</b>	<b>107,951</b>	<b>94,515</b>	<b>110,482</b>	<b>204,997</b>	<b>3,552</b>	<b>4,393</b>	<b>7,945</b>

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

Division	Workshop				Representative Meeting		Joint Group Meeting	
	Plan		Implementation		Plan	Implementation	Plan	Implementation
	Number	Participant	Number	Participant				
Rajshahi	34	850	32	871	258	279	529	444
Dhaka	20	500	24	628	136	104	63	67
Khulna	20	500	19	473	198	203	204	196
Chittagong	52	1,300	50	1,269	348	470	82	74
<b>Total</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>3,150</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>3,241</b>	<b>940</b>	<b>1,056</b>	<b>878</b>	<b>781</b>

**TABLE – 06 (Formation of Structural Committee)**

Division	Total up to March 2006				Plan				Implementation				Total up to March 2007			
	Name of the Committee				Name of the Committee				Name of the Committee				Name of the Committee			
	Village	Union	Upazilla	Area	Village	Union	Upazilla	Area	Village	Union	Upazilla	Area	Village	Union	Upazilla	Area
Rajshahi	106	11	1	5	23	0	0	0	21	0	0	0	127	11	1	5
Dhaka	36	6	1	3	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	37	6	1	3
Khulna	43	3	0	11	14	0	0	2	9	0	0	2	52	3	0	13
Chittagong	58	2	1	13	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	59	2	1	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>34</b>

**TABLE – 07 (Committee Meeting and Group Convention)**

Division	Committee Meetings								Group Convention							
	Plan				Implementation				Plan				Implementation			
	Name of the Committee				Name of the Committee				Name of the Committee				Name of the Committee			
	Village	Union	Upazilla	Area	Village	Union	Upazilla	Area	Village	Union	Upazilla	Area	Village	Union	Upazilla	Area
Rajshahi	1,303	132	8	60	1,253	129	8	35	129	11	1	5	107	5	0	1
Dhaka	433	72	10	36	391	55	10	33	39	6	1	3	27	2	0	2
Khulna	527	36	0	134	455	30	0	127	57	3	0	13	52	3	0	12
Chittagong	697	24	6	156	640	23	6	152	59	2	1	13	50	1	0	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,960</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>2,739</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20</b>

**TABLE – 08 (Group Saving)**

Division	Total up to March 2006			Plan			Implementation			Distribution			Total up to March 2007		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Rajshahi	2,714,211	3,623,943	6,338,154	2,381,524	2,986,878	5,368,402	2,103,623	3,087,125	5,190,748	1,235,665	842,302	2,077,967	3,582,169	5,868,766	9,450,935
Dhaka	1,867,176	1,263,965	3,131,141	997,934	956,181	1,954,115	842,744	715,871	1,558,615	723,301	164,624	887,925	1,986,619	1,815,212	3,801,831
Khulna	1,609,845	4,228,272	5,838,117	1,660,010	3,114,918	4,774,928	1,154,321	1,962,652	3,116,973	227,479	459,947	687,426	2,536,687	5,730,977	8,267,664
Chittagong	3,562,039	6,132,129	9,694,168	3,222,123	3,278,605	6,500,728	3,131,638	3,278,257	6,409,895	859,591	820,260	1,679,851	5,834,086	8,590,126	14,424,212
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,753,271</b>	<b>15,248,309</b>	<b>25,001,580</b>	<b>8,261,591</b>	<b>10,336,582</b>	<b>18,598,173</b>	<b>7,232,326</b>	<b>9,043,905</b>	<b>16,276,231</b>	<b>3,046,036</b>	<b>2,287,133</b>	<b>5,333,169</b>	<b>13,939,561</b>	<b>22,005,081</b>	<b>35,944,642</b>

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

Division	Bank Account									Position of Group Saving			
	Total up to March 2006			New Increases in 2006-07			Total up to March 07			Total up to March 2007			
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Bank	Cash	Investment	Total
Rajshahi	365	646	1,011	14	45	59	379	691	1,070	817,044	189,094	8,444,797	9,450,935
Dhaka	244	370	614	35	36	71	279	406	685	479,875	177,460	3,144,496	3,801,831
Khulna	193	579	772	7	27	34	200	606	806	333,174	417,313	7,517,177	8,267,664
Chittagong	495	800	1,295	7	22	29	502	822	1,324	710,158	695,886	13,018,168	14,424,212
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,297</b>	<b>2,395</b>	<b>3,692</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>1,360</b>	<b>2,525</b>	<b>3,885</b>	<b>2,340,251</b>	<b>1,479,753</b>	<b>32,124,638</b>	<b>35,944,642</b>

**TABLE – 10 (Training)**

Subject	Rajshahi			Dhaka			Khulna			Chittagong			Total							
	N	Participant			N	Participant			N	Participant			N	Participant						
		M	F	T		M	F	T		M	F	T		M	F	T				
<b>HUMAN DEVELOPMENT TRAINING</b>																				
<b>Basic</b>																				
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
Plan	22	275	275	550	10	125	125	250	13	175	150	325	20	225	275	500	65	800	825	1,625
Implementation	22	265	264	529	10	120	121	241	13	163	146	309	20	215	271	486	65	763	802	1,565
Total up to March 2007		3,056	3,019	6,075		1,450	1,689	3,139		1,743	1,721	3,464		2,775	3,035	5,810		9,024	9,464	18,488
<b>Advance</b>																				
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
Plan	6	75	75	150	3	38	37	75	4	50	50	100	5	62	63	125	18	225	225	450
Implementation	6	78	68	146	3	37	36	73	4	45	47	92	5	61	62	123	18	221	213	434
Total up to March 2007		994	1,021	2,015		473	515	988		666	650	1,316		695	875	1,570		2,828	3,061	5,889
Higher Selection		994	1,021	2,015		473	515	988		666	650	1,316		695	875	1,570		2,828	3,061	5,889
Up to March 2006		321	288	609		156	159	315		233	206	439		273	294	567		983	947	1,930
Plan	2	25	25	50	2	25	25	50	2	25	25	50	2	25	25	50	8	100	100	200
Implementation	2	27	21	48	2	21	26	47	2	22	24	46	2	24	27	51	8	94	98	192
Total up to March 2007		348	309	657		177	185	362		255	230	485		297	321	618		1,077	1,045	2,122
<b>Hight</b>																				
Up to March 2006		38	22	60		18	21	39		35	20	55		33	24	57		124	87	211
Plan		5	3	8		2	2	4		4	2	6		4	3	7	1	15	10	25
Implementation		5	3	8		2	2	4		4	2	6		3	4	7	1	14	11	25
Total up to March 2007		43	25	68		20	23	43		39	22	61		36	28	64		138	98	236
<b>OTHER TRAINING</b>																				
<b>Production &amp; Management</b>																				
Up to March 2006		90	48	138		56	41	97		87	55	142		83	67	150		316	211	527
Plan	2	25	25	50	1	13	12	25	2	25	25	50	2	26	24	50	7	89	86	175
Implementation	2	27	21	48	1	13	12	25	2	24	23	47	2	26	22	48	7	90	78	168
Total up to March 2007		117	69	186		69	53	122		111	78	189		109	89	198		406	289	695
<b>Leadership Development</b>																				
Up to March 2006		91	51	142		63	47	110		88	55	143		80	68	148		322	221	543
Plan	2	25	25	50	2	25	25	50	2	25	25	50	2	26	24	50	8	101	99	200
Implementation	2	24	26	50	2	27	22	49	2	23	24	47	2	24	21	45	8	98	93	191
Total up to March 2007		115	77	192		90	69	159		111	79	190		104	89	193		420	314	734
<b>Right &amp; Access to Information</b>																				
Up to March 2006		67	44	111		56	54	110		72	44	116		72	51	123		267	193	460
Plan	2	25	25	50	1	13	12	25	2	26	24	50	2	25	25	50	7	89	86	175
Implementation	2	26	24	50	1	12	10	22	2	30	20	50	2	22	25	47	7	90	79	169
Total up to March 2007		93	68	161		68	64	132		102	64	166		94	76	170		357	272	629

*N=No. of Training, M= Male, F= Female, T= Total*

**TABLE – 10 (Training)**

Subject	Rajshahi				Dhaka				Khulna				Chittagong				Total			
	N	Participant			N	Participant			N	Participant			N	Participant			N	Participant		
		M	F	T		M	F	T		M	F	T		M	F	T		M	F	T
<b>Globalisation &amp; Sustainable</b>																				
<b>Up to March 2006</b>		494	249	743		90	74	164		630	636	1,266		477	320	797		1,691	1,279	2,970
Plan	2	25	25	50	2	25	25	50	2	25	25	50	2	25	25	50	8	100	100	200
Implementation	2	25	23	48	2	25	20	45	2	32	22	54	2	29	21	50	8	111	86	197
<b>Total up to March 2007</b>		519	272	791		115	94	209		662	658	1,320		506	341	847		1,802	1,365	3,167
<b>Citizen Rights &amp; Constitutional Guarantees</b>																				
<b>Up to March 2006</b>		427	385	812		220	204	424		558	466	1,024		401	462	863		1,606	1,517	3,123
Plan	2	25	25	50	2	25	25	50	2	25	25	50	2	25	25	50	8	100	100	200
Implementation	2	27	26	53	2	28	21	49	2	29	24	53	2	27	23	50	8	111	94	205
<b>Total up to March 2007</b>		454	411	865		248	225	473		587	490	1,077		428	485	913		1,717	1,611	3,328
<b>Land Law &amp; Management System</b>																				
<b>Up to March 2006</b>		10	5	15		36	30	66		51	41	92		38	27	65		135	103	238
Plan	2	25	25	50	2	25	25	50	2	25	25	50	2	25	25	50	8	100	100	200
Implementation	2	30	25	55	2	16	13	29	2	28	26	54	2	30	24	54	8	104	88	192
<b>Total up to March 2007</b>		40	30	70		52	43	95		79	67	146		68	51	119		239	191	430
<b>Cultural (Basic)</b>																				
<b>Up to March 2006</b>		126	7	133		126	24	150		128	22	150		83	25	108		463	78	541
Plan	3	50	10	60	2	30	10	40	1	18	2	20	2	30	10	40	8	128	32	160
Implementation	3	53	10	63	2	30	8	38	1	14	6	20	2	31	11	42	8	128	35	163
<b>Total up to March 2007</b>		179	17	196		156	32	188		142	28	170		114	36	150		591	113	704
<b>Cultural (Advance)</b>																				
<b>Up to March 2006</b>		33	6	39		26	10	36		28	10	38		25	10	35		112	36	148
Plan		9	2	11		11	2	13		4	5	9		4	3	7	2	28	12	40
Implementation		9	2	11		10	2	12		4	5	9		4	3	7	2	27	12	39
<b>Total up to March 2007</b>		42	8	50		36	12	48		32	15	47		29	13	42		139	48	187
<b>Cultural (Higher)</b>																				
<b>Up to March 2006</b>		14	2	16		9	4	13		9	4	13		8	1	9		40	11	51
Plan		3	2	5		4	1	5		3	2	5		3	2	5	1	13	7	20
Implementation		3	2	5		4	1	5		3	2	5		3	2	5	1	13	7	20
<b>Total up to March 2007</b>		17	4	21		13	5	18		12	6	18		11	3	14		53	18	71

*N=No. of Training, M= Male, F= Female, T= Total*

**TABLE - 11 (Refresher Training and Training Forum)**

Division	Refresher Training				Workshop For Higher Trainees				Forum		Forum Meetings	
	Plan		Implementation		Plan		Implementation		Up to March 2006	Up to March 2007	Plan	Implementation
	No.	Participant	No.	Participant	No.	Participant	No.	Participant				
Rajshahi	34	850	34	852					16	16	192	183
Dhaka	16	400	16	349					5	5	60	49
Khulna	18	450	18	421					12	12	144	144
Chittagong	38	950	38	961					9	9	108	108
<b>Total</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>2,650</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>2,583</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>504</b>	<b>484</b>

**TABLE – 12 (Cultural Activity)**

Division	Cultural Group		Cultural Workshop				Cultural Activity									
	Up to March 2006	Up to March 2007	Plan		Implementation		Plan					Implementation				
			N	P	N	P	Meeting	Discussion	Drama	Drama Festival/ Padajatra	People Song	Meeting	Discussion	Drama	Drama Festival/ Padajatra	People Song
Rajshahi	19	21	2	40	2	37	230	36	201	0	145	227	30	123	-	86
Dhaka	15	15	5	100	5	81	69	19	69	1	52	123	19	48	1	50
Khulna	14	15	5	100	5	86	132	17	112	0	53	157	17	109	0	63
Chittagong	8	8	7	140	6	125	108	18	169	3	210	91	14	132	1	98
<b>Total</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>329</b>	<b>664</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>551</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>598</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>297</b>

**N = No of Workshop, P = Participants**



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

Description		Agriculture	Fishery	Livestock	Rickshaw/Van	Shallow/Crasher	Small Business	Total
<b>Up to March 2006</b>								
Group	Male	746	245	284	152	4	472	1,903
	Female	550	50	150	16	0	674	1,440
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,296</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>434</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1,146</b>	<b>3,343</b>
Member	Male	15,501	4,686	5,898	2,687	131	9,635	38,538
	Female	10,317	1,027	3,101	290	0	12,968	27,703
	<b>Total</b>	<b>25,818</b>	<b>5,713</b>	<b>8,999</b>	<b>2,977</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>22,603</b>	<b>66,241</b>
Employment	Male	4065	1,432	83	364	138	2,205	8,287
	Female	649	334	418	0	148	3,390	4,939
Quantity		813.00	338.00	668	332	16	0	-
Investment in TK		13,219,771	2,315,666	2,495,522	1,310,523	100,500	4,320,079	23,762,061
<b>Increase in April 2006-March 2007</b>								
Group	Male	128	36	59	31	2	279	535
	Female	75	4	48	9	1	255	392
	<b>Total</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>534</b>	<b>927</b>
Member	Male	2,486	658	1,623	602	38	4,362	9,769
	Female	1,516	78	888	151	18	4,181	6,832
	<b>Total</b>	<b>4002</b>	<b>736</b>	<b>2511</b>	<b>753</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>8543</b>	<b>16,601</b>
Employment	Male	1,518	498	40	106	16	961	3,139
	Female	166	56	159	0	62	1,484	1,927
Quantity		209.20	139.58	183	86	7	0	-
Investment in TK		4,021,244	2,490,794	2,167,677	373,130	118,286	2,860,478	12,031,609
<b>Decrease in April 2006-March 2007</b>								
Group	Male	152	126	31	65	2	32	408
	Female	59	32	53	15	0	28	187
	<b>Total</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>595</b>
Member	Male	3,204	1,523	649	1,124	42	587	7,129
	Female	1,534	736	1,102	269	0	593	4,234
	<b>Total</b>	<b>4,738</b>	<b>2,259</b>	<b>1,751</b>	<b>1,393</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>1,180</b>	<b>11,363</b>
Employment	Male	20	305	12	128	99	178	742
	Female	19	12	20	0	108	193	352
Quantity		6.99	86.07	24	112	14	-	-
Investment in TK		2,149,823	285,692	157,329	671,674	55,500	349,014	3,669,032
<b>Total up to March 2007</b>								
Group	Male	722	155	312	118	4	719	2,030
	Female	566	22	145	10	1	901	1,645
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,288</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>457</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1,620</b>	<b>3,675</b>
Member	Male	14,783	3,821	6,872	2,165	127	13,410	41,178
	Female	10,299	369	2,887	172	18	16,556	30,301
	<b>Total</b>	<b>25,082</b>	<b>4,190</b>	<b>9,759</b>	<b>2,337</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>29,966</b>	<b>71,479</b>
Employment	Male	5,563	1,625	111	342	55	2,988	10,684
	Female	796	378	557	-	102	4,681	6,514
	<b>Total</b>	<b>6,359</b>	<b>2,003</b>	<b>668</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>7,669</b>	<b>17,198</b>
Quantity		1,015.21	391.51	827	306	9	-	-
Investment in TK		15,091,192	4,520,768	4,505,870	1,011,979	163,286	6,831,543	32,124,638
<b>Profit in cash (2006-07)</b>	Male	<b>1,682,301</b>	<b>1,022,480</b>	<b>1,400,320</b>	<b>242,784</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>919,000</b>	<b>5,286,885</b>
	Female	<b>842,100</b>	<b>231,214</b>	<b>912,507</b>	<b>216,007</b>	<b>6,000</b>	<b>519,337</b>	<b>2,727,165</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,524,401</b>	<b>1,253,694</b>	<b>2,312,827</b>	<b>458,791</b>	<b>26,000</b>	<b>1,438,337</b>	<b>8,014,050</b>

**TABLE – 14 [Access to Government Services (Safety net Programme)]**

Description	VGF/VGD Allowances	Elder Allowances	Widow Allowances	Freedom Fighter Allowances	Others Allowances	Total
Rajshahi	10,766	2,666	1,676	125	164	15,397
Dhaka	824	359	341	66	46	1,636
Khulna	3,045	783	429	48	176	4,481
Chittagong	3,101	1,988	1,578	199	184	7,050
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,736</b>	<b>5,796</b>	<b>4,024</b>	<b>438</b>	<b>570</b>	<b>28,564</b>

**TABLE – 15 (Legal Aid Activity)**

Division	Cases up to March 2006	New Cases	Total Cases	Cases Settled	Result		Cases on Appeal	Remaining Total Cases	Nijera Kori Run Cases	Group Run Cases
					Favour	Against				
Rajshahi	114	21	135	10	9	1	1	126	25	101
Dhaka	108	13	121	7	6	1	1	115	47	68
Khulna	120	46	166	35	30	5	5	136	20	116
Chittagong	276	31	307	38	36	2	2	271	105	166
<b>Total</b>	<b>618</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>729</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>648</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>451</b>

**TABLE – 16 (Level of Group Consciousness)**

Description	Rajshahi			Dhaka			Khulna			Chittagong			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Secondary Level															
<b>Up to March 2006</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>512</b>	<b>759</b>	<b>623</b>	<b>1,382</b>
Plan	58	58	116	27	24	51	31	36	67	31	28	59	147	146	293
Implementation	44	52	96	21	19	40	22	22	44	34	32	66	121	125	246
<b>Total up to March 2007</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>544</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>364</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>578</b>	<b>880</b>	<b>748</b>	<b>1,628</b>
Third Level															
<b>Up to March 2006</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>120</b>
Plan	18	18	36	3	2	5	13	9	22	4	4	8	38	33	71
Implementation	12	11	23	0	0	0	3	2	5	5	6	11	20	19	39
<b>Total up to March 2007</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>159</b>

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

Description	Participation		Contribution			Voluntary Labour	Beneficiary families		
	No of Group	Support Provided To	Within Group (TK)	Outside Group (TK)	Total (TK)	By Group Member	Among Group	Outside of Group	Total
Village Convention	3,311	236	71,885	0	71,885	2550	Grassroots people		
Union Convention	1,442	11	22,156	0	22,156	153	Grassroots people		
Regional Convention	2,053	20	28,976	0	28,976	168	Grassroots people		
Workshop	2,114	125	28,473	0	28,473	395	Grassroots people		
Refresher Training	1,919	106	25,785	0	25,785	247	Grassroots people		
Social Movement/Struggle	690	22	58,001	0	58,001	219	Grassroots people		
Cultural Programme	284	82	24,940	0	24,940	3106	Grassroots people		
Observance of National/International Day	8,455	184	93,130	0	93,130	3,503	Grassroots people		
Conducting Case	2,017	435	330,853	0	330,853	143	703	68	771
Assistance to Family of arrested Member	388	41	21,237	0	21,237	67	38	3	41
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>22,673</b>	<b>1,262</b>	<b>705,436</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>705,436</b>	<b>10,551</b>	<b>741</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>812</b>
Medical Support	2,185	94	127,652	16,340	143,992	317	29	65	94
School Repairing	12	1	1500	0	1,500	22	54	76	130
Educational Support	978	42	28,080	2,775	30,855	14	19	23	42
Marriage without Dowry	937	33	23,885	2,100	25,985	16	1	32	33
Contribution in Marriage	2,125	59	92,483	10,865	103,348	39	19	40	59
Bridge Repairing/ Construction	104	64	11,100	0	11,100	175	340	380	720
Road Repairing/ Reconstruction	428	30	15,144	0	15,144	134	640	750	1390
Dredging of Canal	121	5	1,300	0	1,300	37	240	390	630
Repairing of house	632	51	84,090	7,175	91,265	65	20	31	51
Tree Plantation	699	23	5,412	1200	6,612	67	880	1025	1905
Burial	294	14	5,420	1,800	7,220	104	8	6	14
Sub Total	8,515	416	396,066	42,255	438,321	990	2250	2818	5068
<b>Total</b>	<b>31,188</b>	<b>1,678</b>	<b>1,101,502</b>	<b>42,255</b>	<b>1,143,757</b>	<b>11,541</b>	<b>2,991</b>	<b>2,889</b>	<b>5,880</b>

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

<i>Description</i>	<b>Rajshahi</b>				<b>Dhaka</b>				<b>Khulna</b>				<b>Chittagong</b>				<b>Total</b>			
	No	M	F	T	No	M	F	T	No	M	F	T	No	M	F	T	No	M	F	T
<b>Union Parishad Up To March 2007</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>91</b>
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
<b>School Management Committee till March 2007</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>452</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>521</b>
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
<b>Market Committee till March 2007</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>251</b>
Sugarcane Purchase Committee till March 2006	2	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	0	3
<b>Nominated till March 2007</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>
Project Management Committee (U.P) till March 2006	9	12	4	16	8	9	2	11	11	13	8	21	34	97	34	131	62	131	48	179
<b>Nominated till March 2007</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>72</b>
<b>Sluice Gate Management Committee till March 2007</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>28</b>
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
<b>Social Movement Committee till March 2007</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>278</b>
<b>Watch Sub Committee</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Health Watch Committee</b>																				
<b>Upazilla Level (Member from Landless Group)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Union level (Member from Landless Group)</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>44</b>

*M= Male, F= Female, T= Total*

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

Description		Women against: (dowry, divorce, polygamy, rape, kidnapping, physical assault, fundamentalism & religious indictment)	Illegal Possession of Property from the Landless	Fundamentalism	Issue of Injustice & oppression	Total	
Total Shalish of Current Year 2007		499	129	41	371	1,040	
Member attended the Shalish		Male	4,563	2,072	801	3,295	10,731
		Female	2,961	225	229	1,850	5,265
Nature of Participation in Shalish	Shalish at Self-initiative of Landless Leader Nijera Kori	By Female Leader	83	3	0	35	121
		Jointly by Female & Male Leader	153	56	16	201	426
	Shalish under Joint Leadership of Landless and Village Authority	UP Chairman	86	16	5	54	161
		UP Member	95	19	11	28	153
		Teacher	8	14	1	5	28
		Local Matbar	66	19	5	48	138
		Political Persons	8	2	3	0	13
Landless Leader as Judge/Mediator	Male	1,031	166	69	481	1,747	
	Female	674	25	6	186	891	
	Total	1,705	191	75	667	2,638	
Landless Leader as Judge/Mediator In Internal Group Shalish	Male	266	46	39	274	625	
	Female	158	21	16	106	301	
	Total	424	67	55	380	926	
Result	No of settled Shalish	456	119	32	347	954	
	No of unsettled Shalish	43	10	9	24	86	
No of Court Cases on Unsettled Shalish		26	6	7	5	44	

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

Subject	Khas Land (Acre)								Water Body (Acre)					
	Land Registered		Land Leased		Land Owned		DCR		Water Body Leased		Water Body Owned		Water Body Open	
	No of Group Member	Amount of Land	No of Group Member	Amount of Land	No of Group Member	Amount of Land	No of Group Member	Amount of Land	No of Group Member	Amount of Land	No of Group Member	Amount of Land	No of Group Member	Amount of Land
<b>Up to March 2006</b>	<b>17,552</b>	<b>18,825.56</b>	<b>345</b>	<b>108.30</b>	<b>42,597</b>	<b>23,917.56</b>	--	--	<b>642</b>	<b>111.80</b>	<b>2,715</b>	<b>714.99</b>	--	--
Increase in April 2006-March 2007	4,118	2,218.02	--	--	2,955	1,822.62	8	5.18	239	232.45	53	12.00	9,000	1,238.02
<b>Total March 2007</b>	<b>21,670</b>	<b>21,043.58</b>	<b>345</b>	<b>108.3</b>	<b>45,552</b>	<b>25,740.18</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5.18</b>	<b>881</b>	<b>344.25</b>	<b>2,768</b>	<b>726.99</b>	<b>9,000</b>	<b>1,238.02</b>

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

Description	No of Movement for Reclaiming Illegally Occupied Land	Won in the Movement for Own Land and Quantity of Regained Land		No of Movement against Commercial Shrimp	Won in the Movement against Commercial Shrimp and Quantity of Regained Land			Beneficiary Family	No of Present Movement
		No.	Amount of Land (Acre)		No.	Amount of Land (Acre)	Amount of Water Bodies (Acre)		
Last Year	<b>142</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>316.59</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>420.00</b>	--	<b>2,051</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Current Year</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>32.42</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>236.00</b>	<b>900.00</b>	<b>10,200</b>	<b>24</b>

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

Issue of Social Movement /Struggle	Issue raised by organisation of Women / Men	On going Movement in 2005-06		Total No of Movement in Current Year	Division wise Movement/ Struggle in 2006-2007					Total No of Movement in Current Year & running for last year	No of Movement Won			On going Movement till date
		Women / Men	Total		Rajs	Dha	Khu	Chit	T		in running for last year	In Current Year	Total	
Violence against women: dowry, divorce, polygamy, rape, physical assault, kidnapping, fundamentalism and religious indictment	Women	23	35	256	63	15	45	38	161	291	23	144	167	17
	Men	12			55	0	31	9	95		12	86	98	9
Fundamentalism	Women	3	8	44	18	1	5	2	26	52	3	24	27	2
	Men	5			12	0	6	0	18		5	16	21	2
Establishment of rights on local resources: establishment of rights on khas land, water bodies, regaining possession of disposed land Environmental Issues: resisting commercial shrimp aquaculture, creating public support against excessive use of chemical fertiliser and pesticides Resistance to action and oppression of reactionary groups: resisting eviction of lands less from land, looting of ripe paddy, burning the houses, physical assault	Women	12	30	204	8	3	26	34	71	234	12	66	78	5
	Men	18			26	11	39	57	133		18	98	116	35
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. Resisting illegalities and irregularities of micro credit Movement for due wage. Movement against others	Women	17	32	365	59	2	9	79	149	397	17	127	144	22
	Men	15			105	2	23	86	216		15	192	207	24
<b>Grand Total</b>	Women	55	55	869	148	21	85	153	407	<b>974</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>361</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>46</b>
	Men	50	50	0	198	13	99	152	462		<b>50</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>70</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>869</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>869</b>		<b>105</b>	<b>753</b>	<b>858</b>	<b>116</b>

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

<b>Description</b>	Initiative by Government /Landless Group	Govt Resource	Commercial Shrimp Aquaculture	Education, Food for Education and Work	Local Development Activity	Local Govt Corruption	Health	Environment and Water logging	Oppression on Women	Paddy Plantation and Harvesting	False Cases & Harassment	Fundamentalism	Natural Calamity & Relief	National/ International Day	Law & Order situation
Deputy Commissioner	By govt:	8	4	0	1	3	0	1	1	0	0	0	3	2	4
	By group	22	11	8	6	6	2	3	8	15	10	8	3	9	14
Land Administration	By govt:	96	9	0	1	6	0	2	0	9	15	0	0	0	14
	By group	186	24	0	3	21	0	6	0	24	19	0	0	0	19
Upazilla Administration	By govt:	129	13	28	38	39	15	6	35	29	39	18	11	42	28
	By group	147	25	68	44	49	55	11	195	88	63	37	19	108	64
Police Administration	By govt:	29	8	0	6	45	2	1	54	33	46	10	1	24	74
	By group	89	18	1	13	103	3	2	67	49	89	28	3	36	74
Parliament Member	By member	5	1	2	6	5	1	0	6	8	13	13	1	12	21
	By group	8	3	8	12	16	2	9	51	12	15	28	9	22	29
Political Party	By Party	6	1	0	5	0	0	0	0	4	3	3	2	10	11
	By group	18	6	3	15	2	0	2	16	8	5	8	6	16	19
Union Council	By council	108	19	68	102	73	11	4	148	75	32	12	55	38	44
	By group	310	38	56	90	98	23	15	160	103	63	19	88	39	119
Health Administration	By govt:	0	0	0	0	3	24	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	0
	By group	0	0	0	0	11	46	0	52	0	0	0	0	1	0
Press Club	By club:	20	2	2	5	17	5	6	14	7	6	16	2	18	16
	By group	37	11	19	12	45	12	11	34	17	35	24	9	44	37
Bar Council	By council	6	0	0	1	1	0	0	3	5	2	2	0	1	2
	By group	14	0	0	3	14	0	0	12	15	22	4	0	0	10
Women Organisation	By org:	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	15	0	3	2	0	4	4
	By group	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	22	0	11	6	0	10	8
Education Administration	By govt:	0	0	0	17	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
	By group	0	0	0	38	12	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	4
<b>Grand Total</b>	By govt:/ others	413	57	100	183	196	58	20	292	175	161	78	75	152	223
	By group	845	136	163	239	395	143	59	635	346	354	166	137	285	407
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,258</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>422</b>	<b>591</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>927</b>	<b>521</b>	<b>515</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>437</b>	<b>630</b>