
Annual Report

April 2013 to March 2014

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List of Abbreviations

AC land	-Assistant Commissioner (Land)
ALRD	-Association for Land Reform and Development
ASK	-Ain-O-Salish Kendra
BELA	-Bangladesh Environmental and Lawyers Association
BLAST	-Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust
BMP	-Bangladesh Mohila Parishad
BNPS	-Bangladesh Nari Progati Sangha,
BNWLA	-Bangladesh National Women Lawyers Association,
CA	-Christian Aid
CCDB	-Christian Commission for Development in Bangladesh,
DC	-Deputy Commissioner
DD	-Deputy Director
GD	-General Diary
GMO	-Genetically Modified Organisms BRAC Human Rights and Legal Services Division
HDRC	-Human Development Research Centre
MJF	-Manusher Jonno Foundation
MP	-Member of Parliament
MPO	-Monthly Payment Order
NGO	-Non Government Organisation
OBR	-One Billing Rising
OC	-Officer In-charge
PIL	-Public Interest Litigation
PME	-Planning Monitoring and Evaluation
RIB	-Research Initiatives Bangladesh
RTI	-Right to Information
SANGAT	-South Asian Feminist Network (A feminist activist network)
TIB	-Transparency International Bangladesh
UNO	-Upazila Nirbahi Officer
UP	-Union Parishad(The lowest tier of local government)
VGD	-Vulnerable Group Development
VGf	-Vulnerable Group Feeding
WDB	-Water Development Board

Glossary

Anchal	- Area structure
Char	- Land rising up on the river banks or in the middle of rivers
Khasland	- Government property-normally agricultural land-water bodies
Nirbahi	- Executive (as in officer, or committee)
Parishad	- Committee or council
Shalish	- Alternative Dispute Resolution
Samity	- People's association
Thana	- Police station
Union Parishad	- Bottom level of elected bodies
Upazila Parishad	- Second level of elected bodies
Upazila	- Sub-district (Third tier of local government)
Naripokkhokho	- A national NGO
Jotedar	- Powerful land grabbers
Sammilito Samajik Andolon	- A social movement translates to Collective Social Movement

CHAPTER-1

A Brief Overview of Nijera Kori

1.1 Background

Nijera Kori, a well-known activist non-government organisation (*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. A group of urban women came in support of these migrating women to face the critical time with income from sale of processed food for which they helped them develop their limited local knowledge and capacity. The project gradually resulted in the nascence of “Nijera Kori” which in English means “We do it ourselves”.

The organisation remained inactive during the following years until fresh life was infused into it by a group of development activists who joined Nijera Kori in 1980. This group, comprised of people who were then working in leading NGOs, felt that raising consciousness of the poor is one of the key components to resolving the core problems of poverty. These activists helped draw a new line of objectives and action for Nijera Kori, moving away from its initial programme of rehabilitating a handful famine-affected urban destitute to undertaking initiatives to creating a society free from oppression and deprivation through the establishment of the fundamental rights of the people.

The organisation worked at the rural level, 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. It began addressing the situation that causes poverty and destitution of rural people, rather than making superficial efforts to ameliorate the suffering. To achieve these objectives, Nijera Kori worked towards making people conscious of their rights by assisting them to build their collective strength which led to conscious discourse and programmatic actions to establish rights. As the goal changed, the target group of Nijera Kori also expanded from its original concentration of destitute women.

Now Nijera Kori 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 currently has a total of 202,077 group members. Of them, more than half are women. The total number of programme staff in Nijera Kori is 399 out of which 263 are female and 136 male. The programme staffs work directly in the field. In addition, 101 support staff works along with the programme staff.

1.2 Mission of Nijera Kori

- Activities of Nijera Kori are directed to the establishment of rights of the poor.
- 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 recognise 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 peoples.

1.5 Management Process of Nijera Kori (Organogram in annex- A)

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 operational decision-making body of the organisation is the Central Staff Convention, which is held every alternate year and attended by all staff of Nijera Kori. Here they constitute a three-tier council for two years for overall management and coordination by electing their representatives (except the 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 Nijera Kori 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 area office 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 Nijera Kori along with the landless people. The groups themselves have their own structure for group activities.

Nijera Kori ensures that all staff and target group members have equal participation in the planning, monitoring and implementation of its activities. According to group structure, the groups, through annual group meetings, village, union, Upazila and area 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. Nijera Kori staff by participating in these meetings, become part of the decisions taken, which they later share in Nijera Kori's internal meetings/forums as per the 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. (*See Annex-B*)

1.6 Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting System

Nijera Kori has been practicing a comprehensive planning monitoring and evaluation (PME) and reporting system ensuring equal participation of staff and landless groups at all stages in the whole process (See Annex-C). The landless groups evaluate their activities and formulate plans through regular meetings. In these meetings leaders, representatives of landless groups or committees from other working areas actively participate, along with the field staff of Nijera Kori. 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 Upazila 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 Nijera Kori through Nijera Kori field staff, which later are discussed and evaluated at various levels of the organisation. Guidelines for Nijera Kori activities are set, through this process, and Nijera Kori staff members formulate the plans for the organisation on the basis of that. 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 counseling to their counterparts. The same process is followed when written reports are produced in each meeting based on which the annual report is made at the end of activity year.

1.7 Working areas (details in annex –D-A (table) and D-B (map))

From the very inception, the Nijera Kori 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. In addition, Nijera Kori also works in some specific areas where most of the inhabitants belong to the vulnerable communities such indigenous peoples etc. And in those areas fundamentalism and human rights are abused, also violation against women is rampant. Nijera Kori provides enough logistical support to carry out its programmes at field level and coordinate all its activities, including regular trainings. Overall activities in the working areas (see table-1) are managed and coordinated through 30 sub-centres, 14 areas, 4 divisional offices cum training centres located respectively in Tangail (*Gala*), Bogra (*Noongola*), Comilla (*Chandina*) and Khulna (*Maniktala*) (**annex table:1**). In addition the Head Office of Nijera Kori is located in Dhaka.

Year	2013-2014
Village	1,168
Union	147
Upazilla	31
District	14
Division	4

1.8 Our Uniqueness

Our focus on social mobilisation

Nijera Kori believes that the only true experts on poverty are the poor themselves. Therefore Nijera Kori strengthens the voices of the poor rather than speaking for them.

Because of our democratic management structure

Participatory democracy is a core value that shapes Nijera Kori's management structure and decision-making process. Nijera Kori imbues democratic practices through participation and accountability in planning, implementation, evaluation and overall management, not only with the landless groups, but also within the organization itself.

Because we don't do credit

Concerned that the emphasis of microcredit in Bangladesh has made people trapped in vicious cycles of debt, Nijera Kori helps groups develop group savings and engages them in economic generating activities.

Because of the 'pro-people' role of our staff

Nijera Kori expects a level of dedication, commitment and 'people' skills from its staff that goes beyond what is typically expected. More specifically, Nijera Kori staffs reject the high wages, luxuries, and benefits that have become standard in Bangladesh NGOs in order to minimize the social and economic gap between staff and constituents.

Nijera Kori staffs are social activists, who must live among and interact closely with the poor whom they try to mobilize. The role of Nijera Kori staff is less like an 'information collector', but more as a 'brother' or 'sister'.

Nijera Kori is characterized by a high frequency of meetings, for both staff and landless groups, because the organization regards face-to-face meetings as the best way to promote close relationships, establish trust, and ensure participatory decision-making and democratic accountability.

Because we target the most neglected groups

Nijera Kori aims to reach the most poor and marginalized groups in society. These groups include those dependent on physical labour as their main source of livelihood.

Nijera Kori works with specifically vulnerable communities, such as indigenous people, socially excluded people.

Development organizations in general have failed to reach the 'hardcore poor' - people whose poverty is so extreme that they do not qualify for micro-credit. In contrast, 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 organizations

Nijera Kori emphasizes on promoting autonomous landless organizations so that the members gradually decrease their dependency on Nijera Kori and rely on their own strength.

Nijera Kori develops a sense of community and ownerships in the landless groups through promoting participation, collective action, and joint economic activities.

Because of our approach to gender equity

Nijera Kori recognizes that gender inequality remains central to poverty and social injustice, and that patriarchy perpetuates abuse and discrimination in both public and private spheres. It thus works to ensure gender equality through education and supports women's pursuits to obtain leadership roles within the community.

Nijera Kori believes that male/female relations need not be inherently antagonistic and that men can become women's allies in the struggle against patriarchal oppression. Without active support and participation of the men from their families and communities, women from landless households would find their struggle for respect and recognition far more difficult.

CHAPTER-2

2.1 Analysis of Qualitative Results and Economic Benefits

Abstract

Awareness and collective capabilities: There has been a significant increase in awareness during the activity year. An additional 4,830 landless men and women, who were previously excluded from mainstream society, are now participating members in the landless organisations and so are now involved in collective capacity building and development. This has resulted in 205 men and women being upgraded to a higher consciousness level.

Representation in Local Power Structures: The increase in representation of landless groups in committees and shalishes has in turn led to empowerment. During the activity year, a total of 28,427 landless members monitored 1,757 shalishes and 458 landless members were elected onto management committees. This increased representation has resulted in increased accountability, transparency and practice of democracy, and reduced corruption.

Access to government services and natural resources: Increased awareness and mobilisation of members has enabled them to demand their rights and access resources. By accessing government services, 172,400 members saved a total of Tk. 132,841,920 and the total economic value of increased access of members to Khaslands and water bodies was Tk. 157,520,000. Tk. 16,552,186 was also saved due to a reduction in corruption as a result of 1,083 movements organised by the landless groups. This illustrates significant progress made towards economic empowerment.

Establishment of women's rights and empowerment: Via these changes; there's been significant progress made towards achieving women's empowerment, for married and single women. 16,767 female members are now participating in family decision making, 90,378 women now have access to government services, and 267 women were elected for union and management committees. 709 movements on violence against women were organized which, amongst other achievements, stopped 198 cases of domestic violence and prevented 103 child marriages.

Details Analysis of changes

In terms of progress towards meeting the Millennium Development Goal (MDG); Bangladesh has achieved many positive results. However, in terms of making the citizens aware, in creating a democratic system and in increasing accountability and development; the government's actions have not been satisfactory and the desired results have not been achieved. Therefore, the gap between the rich and poor has increased manifold, and the minority communities have been deprived of their fundamental rights. During the reporting period, due to political instability and country wide communal violence, the process of awareness building, mobilisation and establishment of rights by the landless groups were badly hampered.

As of March 2014, Nijera Kori was conducting activities in 1,168 villages across 14 districts. In March 2014 the total number of landless groups reached 10,096 (w-5,822 and m-4,274) and the total number of members was 202,077 (w-111,812 and m-90,265).

Throughout the reporting period, certain changes have been seen. These changes are due to the long enduring position of landless groups and their proactive and collective actions. For convenience, these changes have been classified into the following broad areas:

1. Awareness and collective capabilities;
2. Representation in local power structure;
3. Access to government services and natural resources;
4. Establishment of women's rights and empowerment.

1. Awareness and Collective Capabilities

Two indicators have been used to analyse the awareness and collective capabilities of the landless groups.

The first indicator is the level of inclusion of excluded people in awareness building and mobilisation processes.

The progress made in Nijera Kori's awareness and mobilisation processes is evident from the formation of new landless groups, and the increased depth of awareness of the landless group members. Minority communities often remain outside the social, political, economic and cultural awareness and empowerment processes, and so they remain excluded from the main socialisation. Therefore, they are deprived the opportunity to express their opinion in society and as a result, they remain excluded from the main stream development process. Even though they play an active role in society and the state's production process; their presence in society remains invisible.

To tackle this issue, the landless groups make it a priority to ensure the inclusion of the excluded communities in the landless organisation, awareness building and mobilisation processes. The older groups have discussed this need for inclusion in their group meetings, have held participation workshops and trainings, and are now taking the initiative and forming new landless groups. During the reporting period, as result of the formation of new landless groups, an additional 4,830 (w-2,871 and m-1,959) landless women and men, who were previously excluded, are now participating members in the landless organisation. This is a positive indication of the gradual inclusion of the excluded people in the awareness and collective capacity building process.

The landless members now have a clear perception about their own identity and about how others in the society perceive and label them. Nijera Kori is working to organise the unorganised women and men, to make them conscious about their own identity, freedom and autonomy. For this purpose; Nijera Kori is conducting many activities. As result of landless group meetings, workshops, trainings and cultural activities; the landless members have developed a clear perception of themselves as citizens of this country. Now the members prefer, and are proud, to refer to themselves in society as members of the landless organisation. This is a significant indication that their collective membership has given them awareness about their citizenship, and their political and cultural identity, which in turn has led to increased self-worth and dignity. Nowadays; society, people's representatives, local power structures, and even government and non-government officials regard them as "landless members". This is a key step towards making them identify themselves as rightful citizen of the country, rather than being regarded as a part of the impoverished masses.

Box-1

"When a political leader goes to the Upazilla Executive Office (UNO) they are requested to sit and have tea. When I visit the Upazilla Executive Office, I am also requested to sit and have tea. I am not involved in political parties, but I get an equal degree of respect"

Josim Uddin, shaghata.

In the mainstream development process, the landless members are now considered as privileged buyers, and people who can benefit from services; the empowered landless organisation is now considered as a human and social resource. This notion is very different from their conventional identity and is a very positive change. The dynamics of this change are observable in the members' arguments, demands, and movements. During the reporting period, the members, at their own initiative and under their own responsibility, organised a total of 83,139 (w-43,658 and m-39,485) groups meetings. A total of 205 (w-115 and m-90) have been upgraded from their former consciousness level to a step higher consciousness level. This graduation is based on measurements of the landless groups' awareness levels, which have increased.

Throughout the reporting period, whilst conducting various activities, the landless groups have spent a total of Tk. 2,060,009 (\$ 26,753 USD) from their group savings and they have conducted 473 legal cases at their own initiative. The fact that the landless organisations are conducting all these activities at their own initiative shows the progress that has been made in increasing their collective capabilities. During the reporting period, the landless organisations have conducted 2,603 movements against violation of human rights in order to establish justice and both constitutional and legal rights. This is a clear indication of a change in the society, and a movement against conventional power relations.

The landless members, after a discussion among themselves, determine the amount for group savings. They then take responsibility for withdrawing group savings, self-managing and utilising the money. The members can borrow money from group savings without any interest and, in order to contain economic crisis, the members can distribute the group savings among themselves when the need arises. The most important factor is that, in accordance with their group awareness, any activities concerning the group savings are undertaken collectively. The ability of the landless organisations to conduct economic activities with group savings independently is different from the conventional development trend and shows an alternative, successful, approach.

An important aspect of members' economic empowerment is the members' ability to use, implement and conduct the savings independently. This allows them to become economically self-empowered and gives them the ability to contain the economic crisis. This unites the members of the organisation and increases their level of co-operation. This also reduces the dependency of the members on money-lenders and micro-credit, and the tendency of members to sell their assets when facing an economic crisis has reduced. Conducting collective economic activities can also create alternative earning sources, and as a result of this members are earning more. This helps them in their day to day life, and has facilitated economic security for elderly members, women headed families, and single women. This is a very positive outcome, it indicates that the economic needs of the extremely vulnerable members in society are being met, and this is a huge achievement.

Besides this, the members have also used group savings to ensure rights to education and they gave support to those who needed help to establish justice. The members also conducted activities which aimed to render services and participate in government development activities. This demonstrates the implementation of their fundamental social rights as responsible citizen of the state. Landless groups therefore, are not only becoming economically empowered, they are also gaining collective human rights and capabilities.

2. Representation in Local Power Structures

For analysis of the level of representation in local power structures; two indicators have been used.

The first indicator is the level of collective demand for accountability.

Influential coterie; though family relations, social and political power, money and even religion; have control of the local power structure. Normally, local level decisions are still made by powerful politicians and business men who work at a higher, national level. Any local committees are usually formed based on advice from the powerful people at higher levels, who often select committee members and favor certain local people. These people selected are then influenced by and follow directions from powerful people and so conduct their activities accordingly. Therefore the committees are biased and do not give equitable representation of the local people. As a result, landless people have limited scope to demand accountability about their activities and the role played by them. During the reporting period, landless members collected information about the committee members regarding their role and their activities. Analysis of the information reveals multiple irregularities and corruptions. The landless members, after analyzing the information found that, the Union Parishad's (Union Council's) various committees were formed from the relatives of elected representatives. Most of the committees were not functioning as they should have been, but there was no room for demanding accountability from those committees. In the reporting period, the landless groups organised movements against the corruption and irregularities. Due to the movements initiated by the landless, the administration was compelled to investigate these allegations in 39 corruption cases. After staging 16 movements, the landless members were able to recover embezzled funds which were diverted from development projects at a local level. As a result of 709 movements, the tendency of the powerful groups to conceal and resolve violence against women cases secretly, was stopped. Also, because of these movements, government official from the agricultural office, the water development board and the women and children's affairs office are regularly making field visit. They are discussing the various issues and problems in the area with the members, and are practicing accountability and commitment.

In the reporting period, the landless members held 9,115 formal dialogue meetings with elected representatives, professional groups and government officials. This shows how representation of landless groups, accountability, transparency and practice of democratic culture are all improving in the decision making progress. This is an important base for good governance. However, in reality local administration is still manipulated by upper level power and decisions, and for this reasons, it will be a long, time consuming process to bring about the change needed in the local administrative structure.

In the reporting period, a total of 28,427 (w-9,833 and m-18,591) landless members played an active role in monitoring 1,757 shalishes by acting as observers. As a result, the landless members observed and made collective queries about the manipulation and control of the shalish system by the powerful groups. The landless group members pressurized the local shalishes to ensure justice. Even though the local powerful groups attempted to protect the criminal involves and settle the cases through bribes or by claiming relations to the criminal, the collective pressure of the landless groups prevented this and ensured that the case was taken to court and settled in accordance with the law. This resulted in achieving justice for the persecuted to some extent and this is significantly the result of landless group's ability to ensure accountability.

Second indicator is the representation of landless members in local power structure.

From the beginning of the reporting period, as per the policy of the landless organisation, Union Parishad (Council-UP) standing committees have been reorganised and they now consist of neutral members. Leadership development, citizen rights and constitutional guarantees, gender trainings and issue based result oriented strategic planning workshops, have all played an important role in achieving this. The landless cultural groups wrote songs and prepared dramas based on themes such as policy for formation of Union Council standing committees, extent of activities, present situation, and so on. By performing the songs and dramas, the landless could create strong public opinion on their demands for fair representation in their activity areas. Through these activities the landless groups made preparations for contesting the election of school and market management committee members. Meanwhile, through their advocacy activities, the members sought to create strategic pressure for selecting the contenders for representing the landless organisation. Also, in order to reorganise the Union Council standing committees, the landless members submitted a memorandum to the relevant administrations, which contained many signatures. As a result, the administration was alert in monitoring the steps taken by Union Council standing committees, which increased the accountability of the their actions.

Analysis of **table 2** shows that in the school and market management committee elections, a total of 914 (w-300 and m-614) landless members competed against local powerful coterie to be elected. A total of 458 (w-131 and m-327) landless members were elected. In the Union Council standing committees and other government service management committees, a total of 593 (w-267 and m-326) landless members were

Table-2: Representation in Different Institutional Committees			
April 2013 to March 2014	Women	Men	Total
School Management Committee (Elected)	125	212	337
Market Management Committee(Elected)	6	115	121
Sluice Gate Management Committee (Nominated)	18	36	54
Health Center Management Committee (Nominated)	56	55	111
SugarcaneManagement Committee (Nominated)	4	0	4
Union Council Standing Committee (Nominated)	33	19	52
Policing Committee (Nominated)	15	37	52
Disaster Management Committee (Nominated)	27	41	68
Project Management Committee (Nominated)	31	62	93
Law and Order Situation Control Committee(Nominated)	26	27	53
Committee on Stop Violence against Women (Nominated)	38	28	66
Women Development Committee (Nominated)	19	21	40
Total	398	653	1,051

nominated instead of local powerful coterie. This shows the dynamic changes of the landless groups' acceptance, leadership and empowerment. This representation of the landless organisations in local power structures has created a more equal balance of power.

The improved representation also creates an avenue through which the landless members can fight against corruption, the irregularities of government administration, and the traditional political and social power structure. As a result of the demands from the landless organisation, more and more support for the local communities is being generated. This is an important indication that transparency and accountability is being established in society. However, within the committees, the influence of fundamentalist political power is still visible and this poses a challenge for the activities of the landless groups. Above all, representation of landless members in local power structures, their increased access to natural resources and their contribution in achieving justice are significant positive achievements.

3. Access to Government Services and Natural Resources:

In order to analyse the landless groups' members' access to social services and natural resources, three indicators have been used.

First Indicator: economic empowerment through establishing rights

Nijera Kori is never involved in supplying social services or micro-credit to the landless members. Instead, by building their awareness and mobilisation, the members acquire the capability to demand their rights. As a result the landless members independently gather information about the government's social service and they develop a relationship with them based on accountability. At times, if need arises, as citizens of the state they make collective demands to develop social service benefits and local development activities. In this way, through awareness and collective strength, they are able to profit from social services and development of their areas. This makes a positive contribution towards their life and livelihoods and so enhancement of access in social service is an important factor for the life and livelihood of the excluded landless. Access to development activities and social services can greatly affect the life and livelihood of the landless in various ways. By gaining access to extra benefits from the government, and by establishing their rights to social services, landless peoples' extra expenditure is curtailed and they can save a large amount of money.

By saving this extra expenditure, the members can improve their economic position. It is to be noted that, the core trainings at the basic and advanced level, which include fundamental human rights, right to Information, and gender and globalization trainings and workshops, played a crucial role in raising the members' awareness about their rights to access to social services and local development.

Table-3: Access to Government Services and Economic Benefits						
April-13 to March 2014	Women	Men	Indigenous People	Disable	Total	Economic Value (TK)
Access to Safety-Net	26,466	19,907	386	253	47,012	43,452,425
Access to Government Agriculture Card	1,329	13,314	41	27	14,711	8,665,640
Access to Employment Generation Programme	1,632	2,231	60	0	3,923	26,836,004
Access to Student Stipend	21,467	17,039	0	0	38,506	46207200
Access to Government Health	37,336	26,446	344	169	64,295	3,461,001
Special Relief Allowances	2,148	1,706	72	67	3,993	4,192,650
Total	90,378	80,643	903	516	172,440	132,814,920

Analysis of table-3, shows that during the reporting period, the access of the landless members to the various social services and development activities supplied by

the government has increased. Throughout the reporting period, a total of 172,440 landless members have benefited from the government's social and development activities.

There has also been an increase in access of single women, disabled people and indigenous communities to their constitutional rights. The economic value of these services is equivalent to Tk. 132,814,920 (\$ 1,724,869 UDS). Overall, access to services and local development activities is a process by which citizen can gain economic empowerment. This demonstrates the economic value of awareness building and mobilisation activities.

Second indicator: effective implementation of rules and regulations- access to natural resources.

According to government policy, Khasland and water bodies ought to be distributed among the landless people. In reality however, natural resources especially Khasland and water bodies, have been illegally occupied by the powerful groups. These powerful groups are then using the Khasland and water bodies for commercial farming. The powerful groups then use this land and commercial farms as collateral assets which allows them to take loans from the banks. The landless people therefore encounter legal hassle when trying to establish their rights on the Khasland and water bodies and this increasingly reduces their chances of gaining access to them. In the reporting period the landless organisation gave more importance to the issue of access to Khasland and water bodies for the landless members. Trainings and workshops on various subjects including: Khasland distribution policy and management; land and women; indigenous people and land rights; citizen rights and constitutional guarantees;

leadership development; and issue based result oriented planning trainings and workshops regarding right to Khasland and water bodies, have all greatly helped in strengthening collective movements, and helped them to demand their rights. In the activity areas cultural activities have inspired the people and created strong public opinion. The landless organisation conducted these activities according to their pre-conceived plan. In the reporting period the landless organisation arranged 469 demand based movements regarding the issues of Khasland and water bodies. On top of this, they have submitted a memorandum and engaged themselves in dialogue with the government’s relevant administration. As a result, more progress has been made in establishing rights to Khasland.

Table-4: Access and Control over Natural Resources and Economic Value

April 2013 to March 2014	Khas Land and Water Bodies (Acres)							Economic Value		
	Last year 201 2-13	Reg. of Khas Land	Poss. of Khas Land	Poss. of WB	Rec. Land from Shrimp Farm	Rec land of Farmers from illegal Occupiers	Total (Acre)	Bene. Families	EV (taka)	USD
Core	53	10	46	16	0	10.48	73	620	21,969,000	285,312
MJF	229	39	202	0	0	0	242	377	72,501,000	941,571
ICCO	0	42	33	0	135	0	210	301	63,054,000	818,883
Total	282	91	281	16	135	10.48	525	1,298	157,524,000	2,045,766

Reg- Registration, Poss- Possession, Rec- Recovering, Bene-Beneficiary, EV- Economic Value, WB- Water Bodies

The analysis of **table 4** shows that, during the reporting period, the landless members have established their rights on a total of 525 acres of land and water bodies. Among these 91 acres were

registered, 281 acres were taking possession and 6 acres of Khas water bodies were open access for all. Also, 135 acres of agricultural land was recovered from commercial Shrimp cultivations and on 10 acres of land belonging to small farmers, the illegal occupants were dislodged.

In the reporting period a total of 1,298 landless member families established their rights on Khasland and water bodies. These families now have a dwelling place of their own and their permanent land resources have been ensured. The economic value of these land resources, the total amount of recovered land by the landless members, is Tk. 157,524,000 (\$ 2,045,766 UDS). This money is not the only sign of economic empowerment of the members, because by using the permanent land resources they will be able to cultivate and produce every year, enabling them to earn an income from the land, creating even more economic benefits. This shows how increasing the access of landless members to agricultural land and water bodies, will in turn ensure economic sustainability.

This is a significant positive example of awareness building and mobilisation, which has enabled a total of 1,298 landless families to now enjoy food security and employment opportunities. This demonstrates how the landless groups have made successful and promising progress towards creating sustainable economic empowerment.

Third Indicator: the utilization of natural resources such Khasland and water’s as another way of enabling economic empowerment.

Some natural resources, especially swathes of Khasland and water bodies in newly emerged areas which are called Chars, are still isolated because of a communication gap. Due to a lack of security, these “Chars” are not accessible by the landless members and instead, Jotdars and powerful groups occupy the Khasland and water bodies and use them for their own benefits. To generate a livelihood many of the landless members, using their labour and money, cultivate the Khasland and catch fish in the water bodies. However, every year the jotdars and powerful groups forcible grab their crops and take the fish, usually by hiring goons.

In the reporting period, importance was given to training and workshops relating to the use of common Khasland and water bodies through conventional methods of agricultural. As a result of these trainings,

the landless members collectively made plans to use the Khasland and water bodies for productive purpose. In accordance with these plans, during the reporting period, the landless members collectively cultivated paddy in Khasland and reared fish in the water bodies. They also cultivated paddy on Khasland which had previously been controlled by Jotdars and other powerful people. By collectively cultivating the land and regularly monitoring it, it meant the farmers could produce paddy and catch fish in the water bodies.

Analysis of **table-5** shows that, during the reporting period, the landless members were able to produce various types of grain by cultivating the land. The produced

April-13 to March 2014	Agricultural Production (Mound)					Economic Value		
	Paddy	Lecithin	Vegetable (taka)	Oil seed	Fish	Beneficiary Families	Economic Value (taka)	USD
Core	15,452	1,078	716,430	578	245	9,650	16,587,200	215,418
MJF	19,907	42	165,330	78	47	6,708	12,642,600	164,190
ICCO	1,272	61	220,440	134	39	575	1,672,400	21,719
Total	36,631	1,181	1,102,200	790	331	16,933	30,902,200	401,327

grains included; paddy (982tons), lentils (32tons), oil seed (21tons) and they also produced fish (9tons). After fulfilling family (subsistence) requirements, the landless members then sold Tk. 1,102,200 (\$14,314 USD) worth of vegetables to the market. The total net market price of produced grain was Tk. 30,902,200 (\$401,327 USD) and so this was their additional profit. With this profit, 16,933 landless families, by using Khasland and water bodies collectively, achieved economic empowerment. They also spent a smaller amount of money on buying food for their families as they could fulfill their daily food requirements with their own production. This increased the opportunity for the families to achieve economic empowerment. This means that if the family loses one avenue of earning for various reason, another avenue, or livelihood option, will remain available for the member families and their economic base will not fall apart completely. This is an example of ensuring sustainable economic empowerment and reducing the vulnerability of member families.

Fourthly Indicator: Stopping corruption to open another avenue of achieving economic empowerment of excluded people.

The Government service and development sector is manipulated by the powerful groups and jotdars who fix wages and control the shalish system. The local business community is also a part of the powerful groups which they take advantage of in order to be included in various types of market oriented business. The marginalised people often get persuaded by the aggressive advertising from the business community and rather than spending their money on food, medical treatment and education, instead they buy drugs and watch obscene videos with their meager income. The family is therefore deprived of food, treatment and education. To pay for this, some families are compelled to sell their minor assets including cows, goats, poultry and furniture, and so their livelihoods gradually become more uncertain. Fortunately, these deprived families in the society have begun to benefit from government social service and development processes and activities. Through collective protests and movements they have been able to ensure a fair wage. Above all, by stopping the illegal actions of the local powerful groups, they have ensured that their daily income is now being spent in the proper and productive channels. During the reporting period, the landless groups organised a total of 1,083 demand based movements for several reasons including; against irregularities and corruptions; for legitimate wages; to stop illegal trade (drugs and obscene videos); for women’s legitimate share; and to stop corruption in shalish. The landless members were motivated by various trainings, workshops and cultural activities. They used the Right to Information Act and this helped them to successfully organise the movements. As a result of these movements, the landless members have been able to reduce their unnecessary and unexpected expenditure and so their economic base has become stable.

Analysis of **table- 6** shows that, in reporting period due to successful

Table-6: Money saved as Result of Collective Movements (In Taka)						
April 2013 to March 2014						
	Women	Men	IP	T- Taka	USD	T- Bene
Movements against Corruption in Education Sectors	337,964	276,516	0	614,480	7,980	1,950
Movements for Higher wages	175,183	160,623	32,590	368,396	4,784	470
Movements against Corruption in Police Stations	146,652	202,007	0	348,659	4,528	4,325
Movements against illegal business-drug, DVD & Credit	199,804	5,815,310	0	6,015,114	78,118	7,850
Movements against Corruption in Development Projects	441,306	533,011	0	974,317	12,653	346
Movements against Corruption related to Violence against Women i.e. dowry, maintenance etc.	2,258,000	135,000	10,000	2,403,000	31,208	1,958
Money saved from justice through Shalish	4,620,497	1,207,723	0	5,828,220	75,691	2,149
Total	8,179,406	8,330,190	42,590	16,552,186	214,962	19,048

IP- Indigenous people T- Total and Bene- Beneficiaries

movements, the landless organisation benefited from saving a total of Tk. 16,552,186 (\$214,963 USD). Also, in many sectors expenditure has declined and the amount of embezzled funds from various social services and development sectors has reduced; amounting to a saving of Tk. 1,937,465 (\$25,162 USD). By stopping the sales of drugs and obscene videos, unexpected and unnecessary expenditure has fallen and a further total of Tk. 6,015,114 (\$222,617 USD) has been saved. Meanwhile, for victims of shalish and unlawfully low wages, a total of Tk. 6,196,616 (\$80,476 USD) has been recovered through fines. This is success story involving 19,048 landless member families who were able to fulfill their rightful claims. Awareness building and mobilisation has led to this key result of sustainable economic empowerment, through raising voices and collective demands against irregularities, corruptions, transparency and accountability in society and the state.

4. Equity and Women Empowerment

Although women have played a very prominent role in bringing about the significant achievements of Bangladesh, within the family, the place of women has not changed. This is according to statistics from the Bangladesh BBS survey report in 2014. From this perspective, the achievements of landless groups have been considerable during the reporting period. Four indicators have been used to assess the achievements of the landless groups.

First indicator: participation of men in the household chores

In the patriarchal society, the cultural division of labour for women and men is itself gender discriminatory. The whole family obeys the males' decisions and the members of the family feel it is their duty to obey decisions made by male members. Therefore, there is no scope to practice democracy within the family. For a long time Nijera Kori has conducted activities working against this discrimination, and has achieved some success. However, there has been a weakness in the findings and in presenting the information. During the reporting period, changes have been measured according to qualitative data consisting of members' personal habits, behaviors, activities and experiences. With this information, it will be possible to see whether women's opinion is respected and accepted in the family and so any change or progress that has occurred in the reporting period will become clear to see.

Analysis of **table- 7** shows that a total of 11,086 landless male members are now participating in domestic work including; cleaning the house, taking care of children and helping with cooking and washing.

Table-7: Stopping violence against women	
Description	Achievement (No. of People)
Male participation in domestic work	11,086
women participation in family decision making	16,767

A new total of 16,767 landless member families are now making family decision through mutual discussion between men and women. This shows an increasing level of respect for and acceptance of women in the society, which is healthy change, much needed in society.

Second indicator: rights of women and empowerment

In the family, society and the state; harassment and persecution of, and discrimination against women is not uncommon. Therefore, Nijera Kori feels that conducting awareness activities for women is not enough and will not address and reduce the main problems. In the light of MDG, the government is claiming that Bangladesh has achieved success in establishing women's rights and parity between women and men. However, in this reporting period, the government has, for the first time, conducted a survey on violence against women. The key findings from the survey are that that, the rate of domestic violence is 87.7% and the rate of violence against women in the work place is 16.2%. For this reason, both Nijera Kori and the landless organisations feel that women's movements should generate awareness about patriarchal relationships between women and men, and at the same time aim to establish women's rights through continuous collective movements organised by both women and men. Landless organisations and Nijera Kori are conducting activities at field level in two ways. Firstly; in both female and male group meetings, the women's issues were given priority and high importance in the discussions. Secondly; special trainings were organised on gender, reproductive health rights, land and women, agricultural and women and so on. In the other trainings, issue such as gender and patriarchal concepts, women's right, violence against women in cultural activities and legal rights gender equity, were all given more importance. On top of this, development of women leadership workshops has also played an important role in developing collective leadership of women and men in both the landless organisation and society.

Third indicator: collective voice and participation of women in protests on violence against women;

The extent of women's mobility outside the house can be measure through the participation of female members in landless groups' activities and protest against women's persecution. The level of participation of women in demonstration, meetings and dialogues with the government, reveals the active representation of women in the society, as by participating in these activities they are making their presence noticed and their voice felt. Therefore, in the activity areas, the landless organisations are considered to be a power group; influential in the fight to stop violence against women. During the reporting period, the landless group has actively resisted violence against women in two ways. Firstly, by organising collective protest by landless groups on violence against women; and secondly, by monitoring shalish regularly to ensure women's justice during legal actions.

Analysis of **table 8** shows that, in the reporting period, a total of 709 movements on violence against women were organised collectively. Among these, in 699 of the movements, the landless organisations were successful in achieving their demands. It should be mention that out of the total 709 movements, 283 movements were initially started by male landless groups. Due to these movements; 109 child marriages were stopped, 238 dowry issues, 52 divorces, 62 polygamy issues and 198 case of domestic violence were stopped. Also, 130 women laborers received increased wages, 66 women received maintenance allowance and 19 women inherited property.

Still, 177 women persecution incidences were manipulated by pressure from the powerful groups through shalish, however the collective pressure from the landless groups managed stopped these forcible negotiations and settlements. Due to the support and assistance given by the landless groups, female victims were able to file cases against the culprits in the formal court and so were able to access justice. Due to these movements organised by the landless groups, a social resistance against violence against women has developed in the activity areas. Importantly, within the landless member families, women's persecution has reduced considerably due to regular monitoring and guidance by the landless group members.

BOX-2

On the 9th of March, 2014 to Celebrate "International Women's day" The government's Women and Children affairs department executed invitation to landless organisations for discussion, to render peoples songs and to performed drama's at field level. Police sought assistance from the landless groups in investigating incidences of violence against women, because the government knows that regarding violence against women, the landless organisation is an uncompromising power group.

Jamila Begum, Elengee, Kumarkhali

Fourth Indicator: representation at decision making process and empowerment

According to government policy, representation of women in various committees is compulsory. However, in reality, relatives of powerful people are made committee members just for show. These members normally do not attend the committee meetings. They just give their signatures to fulfill their so called obligation. This is a very cunning way of excluding women from the process of empowerment and women are being deceived by this process.

During the reporting period, the landless groups made collective demands to nominate women's representatives in the decision making process. Meanwhile, in the landless groups' committees, women members contested against the male members for the open seats. Landless women members also contested against powerful candidates in the elections for school and local market management committees.

Analysis of **table-9** shows that, in the reporting period, in the landless committee's open seats (those

Table-9: Landless Group Leadership and role in the society								
April 2013 to March 2014	Women contested and elected in the open post committee						Women role in Shalish	
	Contested			Elected			Observer	Judge
	W	SW	T	W	SW	T		
Village	473	84	557	397	56	453	9,833	1,300
Union	73	21	94	60	13	73		
Area	83	19	102	65	13	78		
Upazilla	17	23	40	12	14	26		
Total	646	147	793	534	96	630		
W- Women, SW- Single Women and T- Total								

posts in which both women and men members can contest) 793 female members contested against male landless members and 630 of these women were elected. This shows how landless groups, have made encouraging progress towards nominating female members for election

and in accepting women leadership and this is another milestone for increased women leadership. Among the elected women members, 96 are single women and 8 are from the indigenous communities. This is a very positive achievement because even the most excluded populations are being represented.

Table 9 also shows that, during the reporting period, 1,300 landless women members have participated in shalishs (alternative dispute resolution) as judges along with powerful men. Among these women, 205 were single. The women members ensured justice in the shalishs through their pertinent legal expositions and arguments.

Table-10: Representation in Different Institutional Committees			
April 2013 to March 2014	Description		
	Women	Single Women	Total
School Management Committee (Elected)	119	6	125
Market Management Committee(Elected)	3	3	6
Sluice gate management Committee (Nominated)	17	1	18
Sugercan Committee (Nominated)	2	2	4
Health Center Management Committee (Nominated)	45	11	56
Union Council Standing Committee (Nominated)	29	4	33
Policing Committee (Nominated)	15	0	15
Disaster Management Committee (Nominated)	17	10	27
Project Management Committee (Nominated)	30	1	31
Law and Order Situation Control Committee(Nominated)	26	0	26
Committee on Stop Violence against Women (Nominated)	28	10	38
Women Development Committee (Nominated)	19	0	19
Total	350	48	398

On the other hand, analysis of **table 10** shows that, during the reporting period, 300 landless female members contested in school and local market management committee elections, against local powerful candidates. In these elections, 125 women members have been elected in school committees and 6 women members have been

elected in local market management committees. It is to be noted that, in general, women are not being elected in market management committee as much. Still, this progress has increased women's representation in the local power structures and this illustrates the increased recognition of landless women leadership in our culture and politics.

Analysis of **table 10** also shows that, in the reporting period, a total of 267 landless women members were newly nominated for Union Parishad (council) standing committees, whereas previously there were no female landless members on the committee. Among the 267 nominated women, 36 are single. This shows acceptance of landless women members in local level, government policy making processes.

BOX-3

Jotdars were trying to settle Roxana's maintenance allowance with a swell sum of money. I explained the legal perspective in front of the people. The first time the jotdars did not agree, but I was firm in my resolution. The shalish was held 5 times, until the lost the jotdars could not settle the matter by giving pressure. As per the verdict of the shalish, Roxana is getting Tk. 900 monthly.

Amena, Subarnochar, Noakhali

Fifth Indicator: economic empowerment of women

Contribution of women in the country's economic development is substantial. However, until now, the economic value of women's domestic labour has not been recognised by the family, society or state. However, the government has now admitted that at present, women's domestic labour is contributing a major share of the countries' Gross Development Product (GDP). However, this contribution is not being presented in economic terms as part of the national economy. Due to patriarchal values, women's domestic labour is not calculated as economic worth and it is not included in national economy. This is because the state, society and the family consider it as a challenge to men's role and their control of the economy. This causes issues for achieving recognition for women's labour and limits the progress of empowerment. Therefore, the achievements by the landless groups in the reporting period, through challenging family, society and the state, are commendable.

April 2013 to March 2014 Government Service:	Number of beneficiaries		Economic Benefits	
	Women	Single Women	Total	Value (TK)
Safety-Net	25,205	1,261	26,466	24,462,092
Government Agriculture Card	982	347	1,329	782,859
Employment Generation Programme	1,468	164	1,632	11,163,997
Student Stipend	21,467	0	21,467	25,760,400
Government Health	36,738	598	37,336	2,009,798
Special Relief Allowances	1,833	315	2,148	2,255,400
Total	87,693	2,685	90,378	66,434,546

Analysis of **table- 11** shows that, during the reporting period, the landless groups have organised 173 demand based movements with the aim of resisting irregularities and corruption in the social service sector. Therefore, collective social pressure in the service sector, for ensuring the delivery of service to the poor, has increased. Women landless

groups especially, engaged themselves in monitoring the sector. Due to these activities, an additional 26,466 landless women members are now included in the governments safety-net programme. Among these, 1,261 are single women. Also, an additional 2,961 landless women are now included in the agricultural card and employment generation programme and among them, 511 are single women. Meanwhile, 60,951 landless women members have received their owed services from the other government's development projects and social service sectors, as is their right according to the rules of the systems.

On top of this, an additional 147 landless women members are now included in economic activities. Some of the main economic activities include daily labour and small businesses. This has meant that women's independent income has increased by Tk. 403. Also, as a result of 7 movements for increasing wages, the average yearly income of women laborers has increased by Tk. 148,268 (\$1,926 USD).

A total of 334 collective protests against irregularities and corruptions have been organised, benefiting a total of 9,823 landless women members. Analysis of **table- 12**, depicts two types of empowerment.

April 2013 to March 2014	Women	Single Women	Total Amount	Total Beneficiaries
Movements against Corruption on Education Sectors	337,964	0	337,964	811
Movements against Corruption on Development Project	402,096	39,210	441,306	64
Movements for Higher wages	148,268	26,915	175,183	130
Movements against corruption on Police Station	118,702	27,950	146,652	674
Movements against illegal business i.e. drug, DVD and Microcredit	182,504	17,300	199,804	4,283
Movements against corruption on Violence against Women i.e. dowry, maintenance etc.	2,258,000	0	2,258,000	1,958
Money saved from justice through shalish (Taka)	4,538,987	81,510	4,620,497	7,920
Total	7,986,521	192,885	8,179,406	9,423

Firstly, women have been empowered in economic terms through movements and resistance against corruptions in education and developments projects. These movements have benefited 875 women members in economic terms.

Secondly, economic empowerment has also been achieved through; increases in wages; cessation of illegal trade; resistance of violence against women; establishment of justice; and a reduction of corruptions among police. These have all enabled the landless members to avoid spending extra money and so the member families are no longer spending money unnecessarily. Overall, a total of Tk. 8,179,406 (\$106,226 USD) has been saved due to the changes previously mentioned. This gives an economic value of the right based awareness and mobilisation activities.

Table-13: Access and Control over Natural Resources & Economic Value				
April 2013 to March 2014	Total (Acre)	Beneficiaries		Economic Value
		Women	Single women	
Registration	9	24	17	2,700,000
Possession	29	222	194	8,700,000
Establishing Inheritance of property	1.59	0	9	477,000
Total	39.59	246	220	11877000

Analysis of **table- 13** shows that, in the reporting period, 9 women were able to establish their rights to inheriting property and 457 women gained access to Khasland and water bodies. Among these, 211 are single women. Also during the

reporting period, the increased establishment of rights of landless women to assets was a remarkable achievement. The economic value of these rights gained is a total of Tk. 11,877,000 (\$154,247 USD). This again shows the economic value of awareness building and mobilisation activities.

Sixth indication- state recognition of contribution made by women landless members and recognition of their leadership

At the grass root level in Upazillas, a programme called “In search of Joyeta in Bangladesh” was launched in 2014 to honor and recognise successful women. The government has recognised 12 women landless members as “Successful Joyeta” and has honored them as part of this programme. For their contribution to family, society and the state’s development, these women have been recognised by the state across 5 different categories. 3 women landless members were recognised in the category for development in society; 2 in the successful mother category; 2 for economic success; 3 for erasing the trauma of violence against women and starting a new life; and finally 2 in the education category. They have all been honored by the state. This recognition of landless women members by the family, society and the state is very encouraging.

2.2 Outcome Based Report

The activities of Nijera Kori have had concrete and tangible impacts on the lives of landless group members. The results of Nijera Kori's activities are presented under **4 (four)** outputs based on precise indicators.

Outcome- 1

Rights of the organised landless are established in the working areas through strengthened organisational and mobilisation capacities of Nijera Kori in social and economic spheres.

Indicators

- 1.1** Economic base of landless group members strengthened through greater accumulation of collective capital and increased revenue from collective investments;
- 1.2** Increased success of the landless in collective bargaining for living wages;
- 1.3** Increased success of members in accessing collective resources to mitigate economic & family crises;
- 1.4** Cumulative increase in the amount of land recovered for landless and marginal farmers;
- 1.5** Increased leadership of landless group members in conflict mediation;
- 1.6** Increased number of children of landless group members attending schools;
- 1.7** Increased voice of the organised landless against injustice, religious fundamentalism, corruption, and violation of rights (including that of women and indigenous people).

Achievements:

1.1.1 Accrual of collective assets through group savings: The group members saved a total of TK 16,081,359 (\$208,848 USD) during the reporting year, which significantly added to the amount of group savings. This is 11% less than the previous year. The cumulative savings of the group members, at present, stands at TK 73,805,194 (\$958,509 USD). By taking the responsibility over their savings, the group members have become self-reliant and overcome their dependency on moneylenders. They also use these savings to fund educational and social welfare activities, deal with unforeseen crises, and pay for legal aid (*details in annex-table 8*).

1.1.2 Participation of the groups in joint economic activities: A total of 303 groups (*w-147 and m-156*) have undertaken joint economic activities. The participation of female groups in joint economic activities is 49 % less than last year. But this is an indication of increased economic empowerment of women group members. During the reporting year, the landless groups newly invested a total of TK. 7,418,860 (\$96349 USD), from group savings. At present, 5,399 groups (*w-2,747 and m- 2,652*) manage joint economic activities as well as investment activities from their group savings.

These activities empower the landless members to be economically self-sufficient without making them dependent on loans– either from banks or from traditional moneylenders with exorbitant rates. In addition, these activities serve as a catalyst in cementing their community spirit and belief in the effectiveness of joint actions (*details in annex - table13*).

1.1.3 Increased livelihood security of the group members: The group members have made a profit of TK. 6,696,737 (\$ 86972 USD) from their joint economic activities, which is 4% higher than last year. This profit is particularly useful for the poor and members and has significantly contributed to increasing their livelihood security.

In the reporting period, with group consensus, funds were distributed in equal amounts among all members in order to alleviate the impacts of financial crisis during the agriculture production and other line periods. The use of group savings in mitigating the temporary financial crisis is a definite step towards economic empowerment. *(Details in annex- table 13).*

- 1.1.4 Increase in employment opportunities for group members:** The joint economic activities of group members created employment for 18,375 persons this year. Out of this total number 6,988 were women and 11,441 were male. This is a positive indication for creating self-employment through joint economic activities from the previous year. *(Details in annex- table 13)*
- 1.2.1 Increased success of group members in ensuring higher wage rates:** During the past year, a total of 7 wage-related movements were organised by the landless groups, which contributed to a daily wage increase of average TK. 15 to TK. 20 of 470 labourers *(women-130 and male 340)*, the majority of whom are weavers and agricultural day labourers *(details in annex- table 22).*
- 1.3.1 More self-initiative by the group members in solving their financial problems:** In the past year, group members decided to distribute TK. 21,316,734 (\$276840 USD) from their savings amongst themselves to use for agricultural farming. The rate of distribution is 61% higher than last year. Through the collective initiatives of saving and investment, the group members were able to improve their own economic condition and go further than just using the savings in case of necessity brought on by crisis. *(Details in annex- table 8).*
- 1.3.2 Increased group solidarity and collective initiatives in managing personal expenditures:** The group members spent a total of TK. 997,447 (\$12,954 USD) to pay for health care, education, wedding expenses (not including dowry), as well as other family needs and solving their immediate problems. This is 53% less than last year. They also spent an additional TK. 2,060,009 (\$26,753 USD) for various organisational activities, movements, and legal actions to ensure rights. This is a very significant positive indication of attaining self-reliance and taking greater initiative to solve personal and community problems. If a member is in trouble, the other members actively extend their support, which indicates their collective mentality and capability to confront adverse situations. *(Details in annex- table 17).*
- 1.4.1 Success in evicting illegal occupants:** The group members have been able to recover an area of 10.48 acres of land belonging to poor and marginalised farmers from illegal occupants. This significant success of the landless movements is an indication of landless people's organisational strength and increased empowerment to protect themselves against illegal power holder, elites and jotedar *(powerful land grabbers. (Details in annex- table 21).*
- 1.4.2 Success in recovering land from commercial shrimp farming:** The group members were able to recover an area of 60 acres of agricultural land and water bodies belonging poor and marginalised farmers from illegal commercial shrimp farming. This is 15% higher than the previous year. *(Details in annex - table 21).*
- 1.5.1 Strong participation of the landless in village salishes (alternative dispute resolution):** In total 4,829 (1,300-women and 3,529-male) group members participated as judges in 1,757 village *salishes*. The participation of group members as mediators/judges in *salishes* increased 14% from last year. It is also noteworthy that in roughly half of these *salishes*, group members took their seats as mediators alongside elected representatives of local governments, professionals and local elites. *(Details in annex- table 19).*

- 1.5.2 Improved quality of outcomes due to role played by the landless group members in village salishes:** Due to the firm position and regular monitoring of the landless group members, 177 cases of *salishes* involving criminal offences were stopped. This is 7% more than the previous year. Out of these 107 of these cases were taken to the formal court. It is to be noted that in the present year, 60% of total stopped *salishes* were taken to court. The village *salishes*, which are usually controlled and commandeered by the local influential people, are increasingly recognizing the role and accepting the leadership of the landless members. (Details in annex- table 19).
- 1.6.1 Increase in the number of students in school:** There are 44,937 students (23,520 girls and 21,417 boys) in schools run by the group members, an increase of 7,715 students (4,084 girls and 3,631 boys). Enrolment of students is 21% (both girls-21% and boys-20%) higher than last year. This is mostly as a result of increased awareness on the importance of education amongst the group members.
- 1.7.1 Increase in continuity and quality of issue-based movements:** In the last year, group members organised 1,234 movements to establish their rights. In 1,206 cases, they were able to secure their demands. The number of successful movements was 10% less this year than the previous year. The landless groups have raised a range of issues within society, including minority land rights, violence against women, and corruption. Participation in these movements is not only limited to group members; non-group members also participate in most of these movements. These movements have reduced exclusion, and increased access to rights for deprived communities in Bangladesh (details in annex -table 22).

Outcome- 2

Greater equity between women and men at family and community levels for landless group 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;
- 2.4** Increased visibility of women in public through their participation in *salishes*, market committees, school committees and local governance bodies;
- 2.5** Increased men's participation in movements against violence against women;
- 2.6** Increased visibility and role of landless groups as leaders in local struggles against violence against women.

Achievements:

- 2.1.1 More women in organisational leadership positions:** A total of 630 women representatives were elected as leaders in Nijera Kori committees at the village, union, *upazila* and area levels, which is 55% higher than the previous year. This is a clear reflection of greater acceptance of women's leadership and empowerment through Nijera Kori activities. It also shows that male Nijera Kori members have become more willing to accept women as equal counterparts, which will gradually lead to increasingly gender sensitive collective leadership.

- 2.2.1 More active role of the landless peoples in demanding justice and fair treatment:** The landless group members played an active role in 1,148 *salishes* on issues related to violence against women. Out of total, 1,011 *salishes* ensured justice. This is 3% higher than the previous year. The group members stopped 137 *salishes* because the sentences did result in justice for female victims. Such strong and definite action taken by the landless groups is a step towards ensuring justice on issues of violence against women. *(Details in annex- table 19).*
- 2.2.2 Legal action for fair justice of the violence against women:** Through advocacy by landless group members, a total of 137 *salishes* on criminal cases of violence against women were stopped in order to ensure legal justice for victims through the formal court system. This is 10% higher than the previous year. A total of 102 cases were filed in formal court, with the remaining cases being in the filing process. This indicates the greater ability of landless members to ensure justice for victims of violence. *(Details in annex - table 19).*
- 2.3.1 Women landless groups' savings improving women's self-sufficiency:** During the reporting period, the female members collected a total of TK. 9,628,613 (\$125,047 USD) as savings. During the reporting period, female members distributed TK. 12,504,330 (\$162,394 USD) among themselves to mitigate personal and familial crises. This shows the ability of the female members to overcome immediate crisis through self-sustainability and economic empowerment. *(Details in annex - table 8).*
- 2.3.2 Increased participation of women's groups in joint economic activities:** During the reporting period, 147 women groups initiated joint economic activities with their group savings. This is 55% less than last year. At present, 2,747 women groups are running joint economic activities with their group savings, earning profit of TK 28,159,978 (\$365,714 USD), a 8% increase from last year. This is very positive indication of economic empowerment of female members. In particular, it helps to increase their participation in the family decision-making process. *(Details in annex- table 13).*
- 2.3.3 Increased economic empowerment and job opportunities:** The joint economic activities run by the female groups have created job opportunities for 6,988 women members as of March 2014. In the reporting period, employment opportunities increased by 168 women members. This gradual but consistent increase of employment opportunities has led to the greater economic security of women group members. *(Details in annex- 13).*
- 2.3.4 Increased access of women members to the registration of khasland:** In the reporting period, 41 single women and women headed group members families received registration of 9 acres of *khasland* in their name, ensuring access of women-headed households to government *khaslands*. This is significantly (5-in last year) higher than the previous year. This also increases women's ability to demand their constitutional rights to life and livelihood opportunities. *(Details in annex-table 20).*
- 2.4.1 Establishment of women group member's possession over khasland:** A total of 516 single women and women headed group members families successfully established their possession over 29 acres of *khasland* during the reporting period. This is significantly (27- in last year) higher than the last year in the number of families establishing such access. *(Details in annex -table 20).*
- 2.4.2 Increased and more prominent role of the women group members in salishes:** A total of 1,300 women group members, acted as judges in *salishes*. Women participation increased by 16% this year. Women participated as mediators in issues beyond those concerning women's right, which indicates strong leadership of women members in society. *(Details in annex - table 19).*
- 2.4.3 More active role of the women group members as observers in salishes:** A total of 9,833 women members played the role of observers in various *salishes* and contributed to ensuring justice to the

victims. This is 11% higher than the previous year. In total 28,427 women members participated as observers. Their presence is forcing the mediators to be accountable to the communities and marginalized groups. (Details in annex-table 19).

- 2.4.4 Increased participation of women in various informal and formal local committees:** A total of 131 women members were elected as representatives in various formal and informal institutional committees. 125 women were elected to School Managing Committees and 6 to Market Committees. (Details in annex - table 18).
- 2.5.1 More active role of male group members in stopping violence against women:** Landless groups mobilised in 709 cases on issues of violence against women. Of these movements, 243 (34%) were raised and organised by the male groups. This is a 1%, increase from last year. Moreover, there was active participation of men in all the movements regarding the issue of violence against women, strengthening genders sensitivity within men and women’s landless groups as well as within society at large. (Detail in annex- table 22).
- 2.6.1 Strengthened collaboration and solidarity with professional and local associations on issues relating to violence against women:** In the reporting period, there was an important increase in collaborative initiatives among the local professional organisations on the issue of violence against women. These associations included local Press Clubs, Teachers Associations, School Management Committees, rickshaw pullers, Women’s Associations, and Combined Cultural Alliance. Such collaboration is important for creating an effective movement for establishing the rights of women.
- 2.6.2 Strengthened collaboration with the public representatives and human rights organisations on issues relating to violence against women:** To ensure proper investigation and fair trial of causes related to violence against women, there was greater collaboration with public representatives and human rights organisations. There were joint initiatives with human rights organisations including ASK, BLAST, BRAC Human Rights and Legal Services Division, ALRD, TIB, BNWLA, Naripakhhko, MJF, Action Aid, BNPS, CCDB, BELA, RIB, Nagorik Uddug, Bangladesh Hindu-Buddhist-Christian Oikko Parisad, Movement Resisting the Vested Property Act, the Collective Social Movement, as well as many smaller local NGOs and activist groups. One Billing Rising (OBR)

Outcome- 3

Locally elected representatives and government officials have been made more accountable and pro-poor in their actions as a result of pressure from landless group members.

Indicator

- 3.1 Increased actions against irregularities and corruption in government schemes at the local level;
- 3.2 Increased allotment and possession of *khas* land and water bodies to the landless;
- 3.3 Increased eviction of illegal land grabbers from lands owned by landless group members;
- 3.4 Increased access of vulnerable and deprived women and men to various social and economic safety net measures of the local government;
- 3.5 Progress toward ensuring fairness in court verdicts on land and other human rights related cases involving the landless;
- 3.6 Number of meetings between representatives of landless groups and local government representatives to discuss issues and concerns of the poor.

Achievements:

- 3.1.1 Monitoring and observation by watch committees:** During the reporting period, there were separate pilot watch committees on Education, Health, Natural Resources (agricultural land and water), Local Development and Governance, Fundamentalism, and Gender. The committee members collected relevant information and shared them with other landless groups and professionals at the local level. This showcases the power of information in mobilizing people to demand transparency and accountability for themselves. The significant achievements in the five sectors are discussed in details in 4.4 (*under Watch Committee and its activities*)
- 3.1.2 Continued movement by the landless peoples in stopping corruption and irregularities at the local level:** In the reporting period, the landless peoples' organisations held a total of 334 movements against corruption. This is a 52% increase from the previous year. Local community members, both landless group members and non-members alike, participated in these movements under the leadership of landless groups (*details in annex- table 22*).
- 3.1.2 Establishment of group member's possession over khasland:** A total of 482 group members successfully established their possession of 281 acres of *khasland* during the reporting period. This is a 101% increase from the previous year in the number of families establishing such access. (*Details in annex-table 20*).
- 3.2.1 Increased inclusion of the landless in the allotment list of Khas lands:** Following persistent protests and movements of the landless peoples, the names of 115 landless families were included in the registration of *khaslands* distribution and a considerable number of legally ineligible wealthy families were taken off the lists. Out of these 33 families, 5 were female-headed households. This has reduced the attempts of the local elite to usurp *khaslands* and has established greater accountability and transparency in the distribution of *khaslands*. (*Details in annex- table 20*).
- 3.2.2 Increased access to water bodies for local communities:** As a result of landless movements, 620 families now have access to 16 acres of water bodies. This is 20% more than last year in terms of the numbers of families. This is a big step towards ensuring access of local communities to common property. It will contribute to livelihood security of the local communities, especially fishing communities. (*Details in annex table-20*).
- 3.3.1 Decrease in the illegal occupation of marginalised families' own land:** With the help of landless groups and organised movements, 82 marginal families were able to recover 10 acres of their own land that was forcefully taken from them. Such actions will contribute to gradually reducing illegal occupation of land of marginalised families. (*Details in annex- table 21*).
- 3.4.1 Recovery of misappropriated funds:** During the reporting period, landless people successfully organised the recovery of TK 1,937,456 (\$25,162 USD) in misappropriated funds from government and non-government development projects, wages and crop pillage. The success of landless groups indicates improved ability of the landless to reduce corruption and irregularities.
- 3.4.2 Improved livelihood conditions through collective savings:** During the reporting period, the landless members saved TK 132,814,920 (\$1,724,869 USD) by getting free access to government services through collective movements. This represents an increase from the amount of savings generated last year (Tk. 137, 265).
- 3.4.3 Gradual inclusion of landless peoples in government safety net and others programmes:** An additional 47,012 individuals (*w- 26,786 and m- 20,226*) were included in the reporting period in various government safety net programmes. This is 9% less than last year. 3,160 individuals (*w-1,896 and m-1,264*) received their social safety net benefit cards after organised protests, and 12,006

ineligible persons were deleted from the list of such programs. In addition to this, 125,428 families received other government support to which they were entitled. *(Details in annex - table 14).*

3.5.1 Strengthened position of the landless in ensuring justice in the court of law: Favorable verdicts were given to landless organisations in 81 out of a total of 93 settled cases. Furthermore, landless groups filed 51 cases in the reporting period, mostly related to violence against women and land-water rights. The landless organisations took the responsibility of conducting 473 of the total 727 cases they were involved in. The cases required a total amount of TK 1,032,980 (\$13,415 USD), which was financed from their own group savings. This demonstrates that the landless groups are becoming increasingly self-reliant. *(Details in annex- table 15 and 17).*

3.6.1 Dialogue and advocacy for ensuring transparency and accountability: A total of 9,115 dialogues were organised between the representatives of the landless organisations, government officials, and local peer groups to solve various local problems. This represents a 8% less in such community dialogues being organized through the landless groups since last year. A total of 3,065 such dialogues were held at the initiative of the government. The remaining 6,535 meetings were convened at the initiative of the landless organisations themselves. The dialogues were immensely beneficial in ensuring the collective efforts and coordination of all parties involved, and promoting accountability and rights of the poor and the landless. *(Details in annex- table 23).*

Outcome- 4

A demonstrably high profile agenda of pro-poor policy reform leading to a debate on reform of the work of landless group members and Nijera Kori

Indicator

- 4.1 Developing public opinion on land reform issues at local and national levels;
- 4.2 Networks established at national and international levels against industrial shrimp aquaculture;
- 4.3 Strengthening a policy forum on access to, and sustainable use of water resources;
- 4.4 Increased knowledge base for pro-poor policy review and reform;
- 4.5 Number of Issue-based media interactions held at local and national levels.

Achievements:

4.1.1 Regular monitoring for effective implementation of vested property Amendment Act. 2011: Nijera Kori is an active member of Jatio Nagorik Samanay Cell and it has been playing positive role. After the law was passed it was found that in Land ministry’s published list, in “B” (Kha) section mostly names were listed illegally from past 23rd March, 1974 list. The pressure of public opinion made the government rectify most clauses of the Act on October 2013. In the rectified law section “B” (Kha) was completely cancelled. As a result few lacs of victimized people were saved from harassment and the prospect of losing their property.

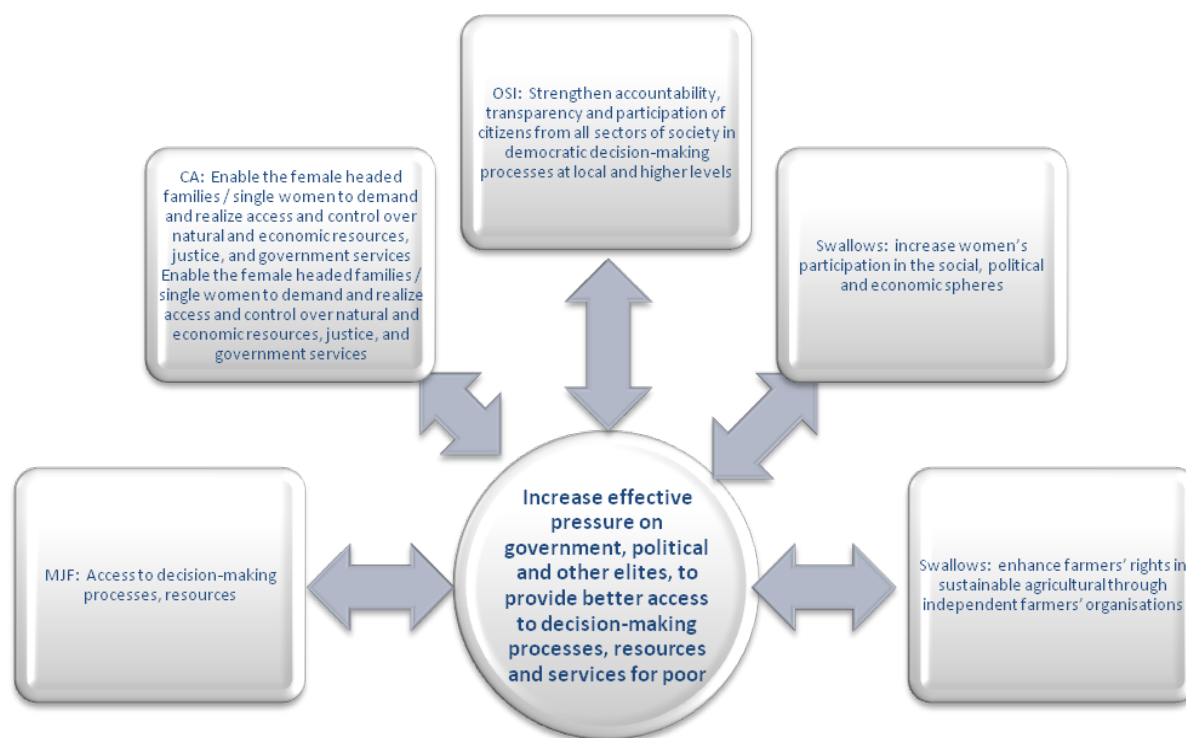
4.1.2 Mobilizing public opinion at national-level: Tow national level discussions were held on “vested property amendment Act’s 18 months, experience in implementation and problems at field-level”. Besides, on 21st June, 2013 in National Press Club, an opinion-sharing meeting of citizens was organized on vested property amendment Act 2011. In all these national-level meetings victims from various districts, research persons, movement organizers and representatives from policy forming office were presents. This is a good indication to strengthen the public monitoring.

- 4.3.1 Mobilizing public opinion to protect right to water:** On 25th May, 2013 a round table conference named “Bangladesh Water Policy 2013, People’s Right and Proper Utilization of Water Asset” was organized by Right to Water forum. This conference was attended by local poor women or men, researcher, lawyers, development activist, political activist, various networks. The key points were raised such as **a)** In implementing the policy the opinions of the people was not taken into account; **b)** In water policy though the term “water” has been acknowledged as fundamental right but in implementation the right is missing; **c)** Government policy and government plan must be observed without fail or else fine is liable and it is punishable offence; this is an undemocratic decision; **d)** In this law present and future generation’s right to water has not be recognized and **e)** The law does not make any provision to assess public opinion in dividing water resource areas and there is also no provision for public hearing, so that the participation of people would be encouraged. As a result it is opined that the jotdars would abuse water resources taking advantage of the law.
- 4.4.1 Legal action to protect people’s rights:** ALRD, Blast, Vested property Act resistance movement, HDRC, Sammilito Samajik Movement and Nijera Kori jointly challenged few clauses of vested property Act for violating the constitution and decided to field a writ petition. The No. is 5140/13 on 4th June 2013. The court’s verdict initially proved that vested property amendment law, in many instances was contradictory to constitutional rights. Hence, for the interest of the people rectification of the law is necessary. This will reduce the tendency of the influential people to grab the property.
- 4.4.2 Participation in new network on against BT Brinjal forum:** This forum has been formed against GMO production. The government of Bangladesh has signed an agreement with an American seed and Pesticide Company called Monsanto, to replace local Brinjal with a toxin induced anti-germ variety. This is against the farmer’s right to protect their seeds and is also harmful for health. The purpose of this forum is to create pressure on the government through developing awareness and collective voice by creating public opinion. As a result Information is being collected from various areas of the country. The future plans are also discussed and in process.
- 4.5.1 Media interaction:** This reporting period, a total of 1,206 issue-based movements were publicized in local and national newspapers. The issues brought to light were: commercial shrimp cultivation, salinity of cropland, and agricultural insecurity.
- 4.5.2 Press conference:** A total of 19 local and national-level press conferences were organized on different issues such as the violation of human rights, violence against women, land rights, water rights and mismanagement of the RTI act, etc.
- 4.5.3 Mobilising public opinion against communal violence:** After the election in 2014, the whole country was gripped by communal violence. Minority communities were attacked and houses were set on fire. Women were raped and human rights were indiscriminately violated. In order to investigate these violent attacks, to create public opinion against it and to demand justice, like-minded organisation felt the need to create pressure on the government as well as strengthen public protection. So that, TIB, BLAST, ALRD and Nijera Kori together collected information at a district level. They organised discussions and projects to bring this information together to give a national level representation. While preparing the report, information was collected from Satkhira, Gaibandha, Dinajpur and Jossare districts. This is a very significant step to protect the members of the minority community. It is to be noted that, due to the firm position of and collective monitoring by the landless groups, no incidences occurred in Nijera Kori’s working areas.

CHAPTER-3

3. Social Mobilisation and Organisational Activities

Nijera Kori's Programming Relation and Structure

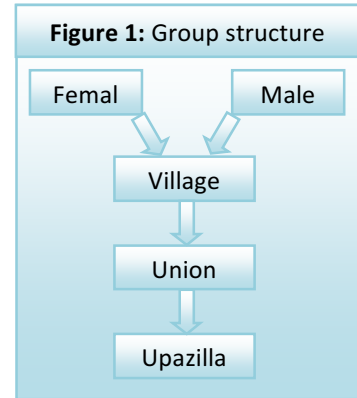


At the center of Nijera Kori's programming is a network of landless groups distributed throughout Nijera Kori's working areas across rural Bangladesh. In addition to being the focal point of Nijera Kori's core programming, these groups both support and are supported by each of Nijera Kori's additional programmatic areas. The mutually constitutive nature of this relationship is at the very heart of Nijera Kori's rights-based approach and ideology. While each of the individual programs aims to promote the achievement of a particular set of rights and entitlements, Nijera Kori's overall collective rights-based approach is grounded in the commitment to supporting rural communities in struggling for and achieving their own rights, on their own terms.

As such, this approach runs counter to the predominant service-based approach, for which the achievement of rights is not at the centre of the provision of entitlements. Each of Nijera Kori's individual programmatic areas helps to strengthen our commitment to promoting these rights, and to reinforce the importance of the particular rights foci within the broader struggle for rights in rural communities. This approach recognizes that these particular sets of rights are interdependent on each other, and a concentrated focus on each is essential to the achievement of all others. This concentration on particular programmatic areas is thus always channelled through our work with individual landless groups throughout our network.

3.1 Landless Groups and its Activities

Primary landless groups (shamities) are formed with a minimum of 16 and a maximum of 30 members. The groups are separated by gender to ensure that women have a safe space to express their voice in the context of a predominantly patriarchal society that stresses exclusion of women from public spheres. At a later stage, when both women's and men's groups are more receptive and able to work together as equals, committees are formed integrating the sexes. Once groups are expanded to cover two-thirds of the targeted population of a particular Village, Union and Upazilla, committees are formed in those areas (See Figure-1 and Annex-B).



However, the landless can form additional co-ordination committees called 'area committees' as needed for running organisational activities in a particular area, even if the organised group members constitute less than two-thirds of the targeted population. The formation and renewal of the landless' committees at every level are done through annual conventions. In this process, the landless groups are gradually strengthened and gain credibility in their communities, which ultimately ensures their participation in the local power structures.

Formation of landless group and members (detail in annex table 2 and 3).

Achievement

In awareness and mobilization activities, an important strategy is to form new groups comprised of unorganized women and men. By forming new groups in the activity areas, the bulk of deprived masses gain an opportunity to become organized. As a result, in the activity areas the landless people gradually become powerful. Analysis of **table -2** reveals that in the reporting period a new total of 246 (w-147 and m- 99) landless groups were formed. Compared to the plan, the rate of achievement is a total of 103% (w- 106 and m- 100). In **table-2** achievements of various projects are reflected as per plan, Core- 96%, ICCO- 105%, MJF- 153%, CA- 78%, and ACCESS- 125%.

It may be mentioned that in respect of group formulation, the rate of women's group formation is higher than male group formation. Women's group is 48% higher. This is a positive factor in mobilizing and generating awareness among the deprived female population. It may be mentioned that in the reporting period two new groups were formed with minority community population, one women group and one male group. At present the total number of minority community groups is 97 (w- 42 and m- 55). This is a positive achievement in establishing recognition and dignity for minority community masses residing in the plains. Above all, due to formation of new groups in Comilla-1 and Paikgacha area-3, in total four villages and 1 union, activities of landless groups have been extended. Hence in Paikgacha area, two more villages have been covered. *(Condition for coverage is that in a village 75% of people need to be members of a landless group. For union 75% of villages and for upazila 75% of upazilas must come under the activities of landless groups).*

Table-2, New Group Formation			
Description	Plan	Achievement	%
CORE	160	153	96
ICCO	22	23	105
MJF	30	46	153
CA	18	14	78
ACCESS	8	10	125
Total	238	246	103

In Nijera Kori's awareness and mobilization activities, men and women are incorporated in two ways. Firstly, unorganized landless masses are organized and formed into groups and are directly involved with landless group's activities.

Other family members of these organized groups, though they do not become members, still participate indirectly in various activities of landless groups (*such as listening to discussions, watching cultural activities, gathering information and disseminating it to the landless groups, participating in protests and movements and supporting the activities of landless groups*). By participating in these activities directly and indirectly other women, men and children also get involved in the awareness and mobilization activities of landless groups. As of March 2014 nearly 97,340 landless members' families, numbering 476,966 women-men were part of the awareness program. Hence, they are able to make decisions on their own about their activities. They act as auxiliary workers to the team of authentic members. (*Each family is composed of an average 4.9 members, source statistic pocket book 2010*).

Reasons

In the bi-annual staff meeting in 2012-2013, a decision has been made to re-arrange the activity areas. As per decision of staff present in the meeting, activities have ceased in Palashbari, Delduar, Majhalia, Sribardi, Gangni, Kulbaria and Bhatpara activity areas. In these areas activities were conducted for a protracted period without getting any expected results. In Palashbari, Delduar, Majhalia, Sribardi activity areas in majority families, male members have gone abroad. For going abroad, they have sold their land and homesteads and have moved to other villages, living in their parents or other in relative's houses. On the other hand, due to hard cash in their hand, their life style has changed radically.

Also, Gangni, Kulbaria and Bhatpara sub-centers are bordering activity areas. In the last few years criminal activities like border killings, insecurity, smuggling etc. have become rampant. As a result, the men and women of the areas cannot gather in a place for discussions or conduct other activities. The law enforcing agencies unnecessarily harass the people if they are found in a group. Hence, the landless members cannot conduct their activities regularly. For this reason expected result cannot be achieved.

Analysis of annex-2 shows that, due to ceasing activities in these areas, a total of 1,570 (w-868 and m-702) landless groups have been dropped from tabulation. For this reason, as shown in statistics table in annex-3a, a total of 38,209 (w- 20,047 and m- 18,162) members have been excluded.

Lessons

From the beginning of the reporting period, Nijera Kori's staff and members collectively took initiative to form new landless groups. For this the rate of group formation is higher than planned. One should follow this strategy again next year.

3.2 Group's annual, representative and joint meeting (detail in annex table 4 and 5).

Achievement

In awareness building activities, the members endeavor to gain knowledge by discussing various topics among themselves in group meetings. The group members fix their topics for discussion according to their needs and requirements and they participate in discussions with eagerness. They conduct the group meetings themselves. They are also able to make concerted decision, such as; who would go for training on behalf of the group, what would be the role of each member in a movement, who would participate in a shalish and finally, what type of economic activity should be conducted with group savings. Therefore the members are gradually participating more in group activities and their responsibility are also increasing. This is a very positive and important factor in developing self-sufficient, landless organizations.

Analysis of annex **table-3**, reveals that compared to planned implementation of group meetings, 76% was achieved (w-77% and m- 74%). Project based achievement analysis shows the following percentages were achieved; Core- 78%, ICCO- 75%, MJF- 79%, CA- 73%, ACCESS- 75% and ARP- 94%.

Table-3: Landless group meetings								
Description	Group meeting		AGM		JM		RM	
	P	A	P	A	P	A	P	A
Core	89,306	69,424	3,918	3,641	416	469	332	395
ICCO	19,917	14,340	784	593	66	143	35	66
CA	54,187	39,630	2,753	1,908	24	23	147	143
Access	8,463	6,377	352	291	11	17	33	37
ARP	1,190	1,118	30	30	0	0	0	0
MJF	16,807	13,322	1,511	1,170	12	19	94	104
Total	189,870	144,211	9,348	7,633	529	671	641	745

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

It may be mentioned that this year 32% of group meetings were implemented in the presence of staff, whilst landless groups implemented 44% of group meetings with their own initiative. This is an encouraging aspect in achieving self-sufficiency and sustainability of the group.

Above all, in the reporting period the landless groups had organized annual group meetings to assess their achievements, shortcomings, weakness, risks and for planning next year's policy. A total of 7,633 (w-4,511 and m- 3,122) annual group meetings were held, which compared to the total number of groups shows that 76% of the groups conducted annual group meetings. In the annual meetings the members assessed the activities, discussed leadership's qualities, accountability and transparency. This is imperative to establish the practice of democracy in the group and develop Accountable leadership.

Also, to ensure co-ordination, accountability and to determine the strategy of movement, representative and collective meetings were held. *(In an activity area a representative meeting is held with the nominated members from various groups. Collective meetings are held with a number of groups residing in close vicinity).* In the reporting period, as per plan, 116% representative meetings were organized and 127% collective meetings were organized. In representative meetings and collective meetings males and females attended by sitting together.

Women members were vocal in demanding accountability from male members. On issues relating to women, male members made guidelines for action. This tendency is developing good relationships between men and women and it is also helping in developing collective leadership. Meanwhile, women's dignity, status and leadership are flourishing in society.

Reasons

Due to political turmoil and instability towards the end of the reporting period, the members could not organize regular group meetings. For this reason, the implementation of group meetings is less than planned. There was a need for coordination and assessment of the situation in the landless organization. That is why the number of representative meetings and collective meetings was higher than planned.

Lessons

It is necessary to increase the participation of members in group meetings. It is necessary to ensure continuity of group meetings.

3.3 Workshops (detail in annex table -5)

Landless groups organise day-long field-level workshop to analyse their activities, which included identifying organisational strengths and weakness, making decision about future activities, identifying local issues to address, and conducting risk analyses. For the past few years, landless groups have demanded that such workshops be held regularly. Usually 25-30 landless members take part in the workshops. These workshops are mostly funded by groups own funds.

Achievement

In the reporting period importance was placed on issue based workshops. Specifically, issue-based, result oriented, strategic planning workshops were given priority. In the reporting period a total of 9,325 (w-4,807 and m-4,518) members were supposed to participate in the workshops according to the plan. It should be mentioned that, in the workshops, participation of women members was higher than male members. This is a positive indication of awareness building amongst women.

On the basis of **table -4**, the rate of achievement is 108% as per plan. The project based achievements are Core-110 %, ICCO-103%, CA-104%, Access-102% ARP-103% and MJF- 112%. In the reporting period the landless groups addressed the needs and priorities on the basis of key issues in the working areas. This shows the enhanced awareness among the members. The analysis of result of the workshops reveal certain positive indications; firstly, Nijera Kori and landless organizations are collectively issue-based, result

Description of workshops	Core		ICCO		CA		Access		ARP		MJF	
	P	A	P	A	P	A	P	A	P	A	P	A
Strategic planning workshops	975	1,129	225	230	250	261	50	51	50	52	150	161
Climate change & impact on livelihood	300	298	75	78	125	128	0	0	0	0	0	0
Collective production and management	275	323	100	107	100	99	25	27	0	0	50	83
Re-productive health rights	400	450	0	0	100	102	50	51	0	0	0	0
Seed bank management	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	50	51	0	0
Patriarchy	300	323	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Globalization and impact on livelihood	1,075	1,100	50	51	100	105	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gender	1,150	1,235	0	0	100	122	50	52	0	0	0	0
Food Sovereignty	275	318	100	99	100	98	50	48	50	52	100	98
Fundamentalism & impact on livelihood	1,175	1,231	0	0	125	134	0	0	0	0	0	0
Leadership Development	400	479	0	0	50	54	50	51	25	26	50	53
Leadership Development for women	0	0	0	0	0	0	50	53	0	0	0	0
Land rights of Minority community	50	77	0	0	100	97	0	0	0	0	0	0
Saline water tolerant agriculture	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	50	55	0	0
Land and Women	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	50	52
Access and management of Market	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	25	0	0
Right to Information	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	50	55	0	0
Agricultural and women	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	50	52	0	0
Agricultural Rights	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	125	121	0	0
Preparatory workshop on Public Audi	50	79	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	6,425	7,042	550	565	1,150	1,200	325	333	475	489	400	447

oriented and undertake strategic planning workshops, and for this reasons the endeavor for result oriented planning has be successful. Secondly, organizing subject based workshops have allowed the landless members to do public monitoring of the subject, and to gather information. As a result, representation of landless members in the local decision making body has increased and they are able to make collective demands. Thirdly, as result of subject based workshops at field level, the members have become adapted to making decisions on issue of the areas after reviewing the issues thoroughly. It should be mentioned that, in the reporting period, members were away from their activity areas, so the regular workshops were organized after they returned to their respective areas. As a result, these members were getting less opportunities in awareness building due to being absent from the regular group meetings, where extensive discussion took place. This is why the workshops were organized after their return; to supplement their lack of awareness. It may be mentioned that, in the reporting period landless groups spent a total of Tk. 172,026 (USD-2,234) from their group savings. This is a positive indication of implementation of the collective activities.

Reasons

Due to financial constraints, Nijera Kori and landless groups made activity plans after assessing the overall situation. In the reporting period, due to a lower level of training, more subject based workshops were organized to fill the gap. As a result, in the activity area it was possible to implement issue based workshops in a continuous manner. For this reasons the need for field level workshops has increased.

Lessons

Issue based workshops have made an impact in awareness building and mobilisation. By organizing workshops after the return of the absent members, who were away due to demands of their livelihood, it was possible to reduce the gap in their knowledge and awareness to some extent. Hence, there have been high levels of progress in planning issue-based, result oriented and strategic planning workshops.

3.4 Formation of landless committee, meeting and group convention (detail in annex table 6 and 7).

Organisational committees are formed at the village, union and upazila levels. When 66% of the population in a village is organised, a village committee is formed with seven representatives from the village landless groups. Similarly, when 66% of the villages in an area are organised, a union committee is formed with thirteen representatives. The same is done at the upazila level, but the committee is comprised of twenty-one members. When it is not possible to form a committee at union or upazila level, an anchal (area) committee can be formed at the village sub-centre to support and coordinate activities, ensure accountability and conduct rights movements. An anchal committee is formed with 11 members. The organisation committee is elected for one year by a democratically run open vote during the annual group convention. In the event that the time span of an annual group convention is more than one year, the previous committee can carry on the responsibility on an ad hoc basis till a new committee is formed.

Achievement

Landless groups have formed committees to coordinate organizational activities in their area. At the same time, by forming committees, the landless group attempt to develop collective leadership in the area. As a result they are able to ask questions to the local power structures and demand accountability. This is a positive indication in challenging the local power structures. In the reporting period the plan was to form 2 village committees.

Description	V	U	UP	A
Plan (Committee Formation)	2	0	0	0
Achievement	2	0	0	0
Total committees in March 14	301	24	3	29
Plan (Convention)	342	30	3	28
Achievement	281	20	3	23
Percentage	82	67	100	82
Plan (Committee Meeting)	3,501	279	36	322
Achievement	3,222	265	34	320
Percentage	92	95	94	99

(V=Village, U= Union, Up= Upazilla, A= Area)

Table 5 shows that, as per the plan, 2 new village committees have been founded. In March 2014, the number of committees that started open ship activities reached 301 villages, 24 Unions, 28 areas and 3 Upazilas committees. Analysis of table 1 shows, compared to the plan, the rate of implementation of committee meetings was 92% in villages, 95% in Union, 94% in Upazila and 99% at area level.

This analysis shows that the committees were regularly reviewing and monitoring the activities, and they helped the organisation in making progress through the active role of

collective leadership. Regular implementation of meetings also meant that that the leadership was made to act with accountability, responsibility and democracy. After the implementation of the activities as per plan, the landless groups organize landless group convention at the end of the reporting period. By holding the landless group convention, the landless members reviewed the activities, selected the issues, conducted risk analysis and finalized the future plan. Also **table 5**, shows, as per plan, the rate of implementation of group conventions was 82% for villages, 67% for unions, 100% for upazila and 82% at area level. In these landless group conventions, besides reviewing activities, the landless members also elected the committee in a democratic process.

April-13 to March 2014	Last year		Open Post							%
	Cont.	Elect.	Contested				Elected			
	W	W	W	SW	M	Total	W	SW	Total	
Village	303	279	473	84	734	1,291	397	56	453	35
Union	41	34	73	21	142	236	60	13	73	31
Area	84	77	83	19	214	316	65	13	78	25
Upazilla	11	8	17	23	37	77	12	14	26	34
Total	471	406	646	147	1,127	1,920	534	96	630	33

Cont- Contested, Elec.- Elected W- Women, SW- single women

Analysis of **table 6**, shows, in the reporting period, in 586 open seats (these open seats in which both women and men can contest) 1,127 men members and total of 793 women members contested. It may be mentioned that, among the women candidates, 147 were single. In the election, a total of 630 women members, who contested against the male

members, were elected in the open posts for the different landless committees. The rate of females elected against the male members was 56%. In the open post the ratio of elected members are women-33% and men 67%. It is noted that, elected rate of single women is 5%. This is a very significant positive indication of empowerment of most vulnerable women in society.

The trend of landless organisation to accommodate women members, both as candidates and elected for leadership for open posts is a significant stride in acceptance and empowerment of women members in society. Especially for a single women to get elected in an open seat, which shows the empowerment of deprived and oppressed women. Also, electing women members shows that in the landless organisations, collective leadership of women and men is strengthening. Above all, the leadership of landless group, consisting of 20 members (w-8 and m-12), who have been elected as they represent the excluded and minority communities and hence their representation is a significant achievement.

Reasons

The reasons for not fulfilling pre-conditions for the village coverage criteria are that the plan was made to form a lower number of committees comparatively. In general landless group conventions are held at the end of the reporting period. In the reporting period, due to political instability, fewer group conventions were implemented than planned.

BOX- 3: -Condition for organisational committee formation	
Village committee	
<i>In a village 75% population need to be organised in order for a village to be covered;</i>	
<i>In a village, of the total number of groups, when 25 groups are promoted to the primary level, when 50 groups to the secondary level and when 25 groups to the third level, a village committee can be formed;</i>	
Union committee	
<i>In one union when the total number of villages is 33%, village committee will be formed. Besides, 33% villages must have strong landless groups; in other villages, landless organisational activities must prevail.</i>	
Upazila committee	
<i>In an upazila when 33% unions are covered, union committee will be formed; besides, in 33% unions, there should be strong landless organisations; in other unions or areas landless organisational activities should prevail;</i>	

Lesson

It is necessary to form new groups to advance village coverage. We must encourage the women members to contest more for open posts; the single women especially should be encouraged to contest in election. The landless groups must concentrate in developing new leadership.

3.5 Group savings and bank account (detail in annex table-8 and 9)

Group savings is collected to conduct group organisational activities and joint economic activities. The rate of contribution is decided with the consensus of the group, but the group is encouraged to consider the financial ability of all its members. The groups take full responsibility for managing the accounts, but Nijera Kori staff assists with book keeping. No staff member ever collects funds or operates the account.

Achievement

As per policy of the landless group, the group members decided the amount of savings. Landless group savings is collected and kept by landless group's own management system. These two aspects are different from the mainstream development approach. This is why advancing the members financial condition and helping them in achieving economic self-sufficiency is an important factor.

In the reporting period, the landless groups saved an additional amount of TK. 16,081,359 [USD-208,849](w-9,628,613 and m-6,452,746) as group savings. For better management of the group savings, a total of 86 collective accounts (w-57 and m-29) have been opened in the bank.

Also, in the reporting period, during agricultural season the members, through the collective decisions made in group meetings, distributed a total of TK. 21,316,734 [USD-276,841] (w-12,504,330 and m-8,872,404) amongst themselves for supplementing their financial need for agricultural farming. It may be mentioned that, normally in the mainstream development sector, members are compelled to keep the collected savings with the development agency. As a result, the members are unable to use the saving fund independently to meet their financial requirements, usually they take micro-credit from the development agency. But, landless groups, as per their policy, use their savings when they need to, they are free to utilize their savings to overcome their financial crisis. For this reason, most of the members do not take micro-credit or credit from money lenders and the members have become skilled in collective economic activities. As a result, in any crisis, the members use group savings by conducting collective economic activities. Through this activity they are achieving solidarity in the economic sphere. This is a positive indication.

Also, the landless groups, by taking decision, are using group savings for organizational and local development activities. In the reporting period, for organizational activities such as; workshops follow up of trainings, group convention, legal support, protest-movements and cultural activities the landless groups have spent a total of TK. 2,060,009 [USD-26,753].

The landless organizations have conducted various local development and welfare activities such as; repairing schools, earth-beaten roads, repair of culverts, for drainage cleaning of water bodies and canals, giving assistance in education and health and arranging dowry free marriage. For all those purposes they spent a total of TK. 997,447 [USD-1,291].

For both these purposes, by using group savings, a total of 5,261 families have benefited. The participation of groups in organizational and local development activities is a very positive achievement.

Reasons

To reduce the dependence of members on Micro-credit and money lenders, distribution of group savings needs to be higher. This is important as bank interests on loans has increased whilst, for savings in the bank, interest rates have decreased comparatively, so money is more expensive to borrow, and people are earning less interest on their savings. Another issue which occurred during this reporting period was the difficulty in opening joint bank accounts with multiple signatures. As the savings were a relatively small amount of Taka, banks were unwilling to open joint bank accounts for the groups due to the extra work and cost involved. This meant fewer bank accounts could be opened by the groups.

Lessons

The groups collect savings and manage them independently. It is important that the groups manage their collective economy activities themselves, as an alternative to other development approaches, so that, in the activity areas, micro-credit and money lenders become redundant. Therefore independent economic empowerment and management in the economic sphere needs to be achieved.

3.6 Collective economic activity (detail in annex table-12)

The main purpose of group savings is to generate group economic activities and there by encourage member mind-set and collective perception of life. With this purpose in mind the landless organization conduct collective economic activities such as cultivation of agricultural khas land, water bodies, or taking leased land from others; rear poultry and cattle; farm fish; and engage in small business.

Achievement

Instead of taking micro-credit, credit from money-lenders, or loans from banks, the landless groups are conducting collective economic activities self-reliantly with their group savings.

Normally the landless groups cultivate crops, rear fish and cattle by taking lease or share in the occupied Khas land and water-bodies, or they invest in rickshaw and small business. As a result of collective economic activities undertaken at the initiative of landless groups, the members feel a sense of solidarity amongst themselves. This is a very positive factor in building collective trends in mind-set among the members at group-level because it will assist in conducting activities and in the practice of methodology. Through these activities they are practicing effective management and equal distribution and are detecting the problems, risks and weakness in their activity areas and examining them. As need arises, they are deciding the mode of action. The system of equal distribution is generating a sense of equal rights among the members in their activity areas. Meanwhile, in awareness and mobilization activities, credit or service rendering activities are not conducted. The self-reliance of the landless groups' collective economic activity with group savings, is a gesture of economic sustainability and this is a positive sign. Due to these activities, job opportunities are created. Conducting economic activities self-reliantly is a tremendous success story and is by-product of awareness building and mobilization.

Table:7- Joint economic activities	
Description	2013-2014
No. of group increase	
Women	147
Man	156
Total	303
No. of group decrease	
Women	351
Man	455
Total	806
No. of employment	
Female	63
Male	105
Total	168
Amount of profit	
Women	2,815,978
Man	3,880,759
Total	6,696,737

Analysis of **table- 7**, shows in the reporting period, 303 (w- 147 and m- 156) new groups have started collective economic activities with the savings. Previous groups and the newly started groups in the reporting period gives a total of 6,210 (w-2,946 and m-3,264) members who are conducting economic activities. In the reporting period the members have earned total TK. 6,696,737 [USD-86,971] (w- 2,815,978 and m- 3, 880,759) profit from these activities.

Due to these economic activities, a total of 168 new members (w- 63 and m- 105) have found jobs. At present due to these activities a total of 18,429 members (w- 6,988 and m- 11,441) are employed, on average for 6 months in a year. Last year on the basis of total groups 47% (w- 42% and m- 54%) conducted collective economic activities.

As a result these members have achieved economic solvency, and employment opportunities and food-security have increased.

Reasons

731 members (w- 311 and m-420) have been excluded from the information tabulation. In the reporting period, for not getting lease/share of Khasland/water-bodies at their own convenience, and for selling live-stocks and not being able to buy again 309 (w-146 and m- 163) they stopped their economic activities temporarily. Therefore, for stopping activities in some activity areas a total of 422 groups (w- 165 and m- 257) have been dropped from tabulation.

Lesson

The landless groups are discussing independently about how to apply the savings in economic activity, how the management will be conducted, how the produced products will be distributed and they are making the decisions collectively. Hence, this activity has established collective management. The participation of members in conducting, managing and monitoring the economic activities and taking collective decision is a hallmark of collective participation.

Meanwhile, by collectively cultivating Khasland and farming fish in water-bodies, the position of landless groups has strengthened. Collective cultivation in Khasland and water-bodies has made the claims of landless groups more convincing and the chance of occupation by jotdars is slim. For this reason, it is necessary to give priority to collective cultivation in occupied land and water-bodies. Also, it is important to renew the lease of Khasland and water-bodies on time.

3.7 Group Consciousness level (detail in annex table -16)

Education for the landless groups is a continuous process. When half of the members of any group master the skills taught in one level, the entire group is elevated to the next level, whereby they can continue to gain tools to become self-reliant. **Box-4**, discusses the process in detail.

Achievement

Awareness building and mobilisation is a time consuming and continuous process. Awareness building and mobilisation are influenced by local, national and global situations and the process of continuous change which directly and indirectly affects everything. Hence, awareness process progresses quickly at a first but at times slows down. Analysis of annex table 16 shows that, in the reporting period, as per plan, a total of 163 landless groups (w-91 and m-72) were upgraded from primary to secondary level. The rate of achievement, compared to the plan is 103% (w-105 and m-100). A total of 42 landless groups (w-24 and m-18) have been upgraded from secondary level to third level. The rate of achievement as per plan is 98% (w-104 and m-90). It may be mentioned that, in the reporting period, planned group consciousness levels was made higher for women groups than the men groups. Achievement rates show that, as per plan, compared to male groups, women groups' consciousness levels, as well volume, was higher. This is a positive indication in the progress of women consciousness level and empowerment.

Reasons

Compared to the total number of landless group, the group's level of consciousness is comparatively less. This was mainly due to the forced migration of members for employment, which made it difficult to develop collective awareness among them. Also, dwelling outside their activity areas meant they had less opportunity to conduct activities regularly and participate in movements and protest continuously. Hence, the process of collective interaction by the members was hampered. For these reasons, the progress of increasing group consciousness level was reduced.

Lessons

It is necessary to identify the group's initial level of consciousness at the beginning of the reporting period in order to focus the aims of increasing group consciousness level so that the progress to the next level can be seen. This allows the groups, through their activities, to make the group consciousness level dynamic and allows them to see how they have progressed. Special activities can be included to enhance consciousness levels and, preconditions for consciousness levels can be discussed.

Box-4: Level of Group Consciousness
Primary Level
Groups at this level concentrate on developing basic awareness, organizing members of similar class, learning to trust and sympathize with members of the same class. <i>The group gives special emphasis on cultivating a sense of unity amongst the members. It organises regular meetings, ensures regular deposits and withdrawal of savings and undertakes the responsibility of forming and renewing group committees.</i>
Secondary level
At this level the group is able to organise protests against any ongoing injustice. The group is also responsible for ensuring the continuation of the movement for protests if their initial efforts fail. The members at this level learn from an evaluation of the various activities. The members raise awareness amongst the various professional groups by holding discussions. The group also sees to the participation of its members throughout the village. <i>The group specifically takes the initiative to invest its savings in joint cooperative ventures and organise members of the same class to ensure group accountability and to develop a collective culture.</i>
Tertiary 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 neighboring villages, expand and enlarge support of the well-wishers, and raise the cultural and awareness amongst people. <i>The group should specifically develop a clear conception about exploitation, organize for the group savings to be invested in joint ventures, raise cultural awareness amongst the masses, and take responsibility for conducting local committees.</i>

CHAPTER-4

4 Awareness raising and capacity building process

Training Activities

Core development trainings are held with 20-25 participants in each session. At the basic level, trainings are provided to female and male members separately while at the advanced level, trainings are organised jointly.

Again, at the higher selection level, they are organised separately and at the advanced level of this section, they are organized jointly. Given the prevailing socio-religious condition, the first phase of trainings are gender segregated in order to create a safe space, especially for women, so that they can interact openly with their fellow participants.

Afterwards, female and male members participate together at the advanced level to create an environment of reciprocal interaction, developing a greater understanding and overcoming gender bias. The same process is followed at the higher selection and training levels for the same reasons.

A few other trainings are also undertaken based on specific demands of groups from the working areas, which are jointly attended by men and women. An example of this is a joint cultural training organised at the basic and advanced levels with 20 female and male cultural group members.

4.1 Group training (detail in index-10)

Achievement

The trained members are now facilitated to participate in the subject based discussions in the regular group meetings. They are also facilitating the process of collective participation of all members in the discussion. Hence, the discussions in the group meetings has improved; the members are receptive and the level of participation is very encouraging.

In the reporting period, discussions in the trainings were based on local issues. As a result, the participants could easily communicate about issues such as law, policy, power structures, production systems and women's rights. As a result of the issue based strategic plan workshops, in various activity areas the members could formulate their results while focusing on a practical plan.

In order to enhance awareness and to better organise rights based movements, there is an increased need for training activities. Training activities are playing an important role in identifying subjects for discussions in group meetings and they also ensure the participation of the members. Meanwhile, at the group level, the practice of accountability by the leaders is encouraging. Above all, in the reporting period, the role that trained members have played in forming new landless groups has also been very encouraging.

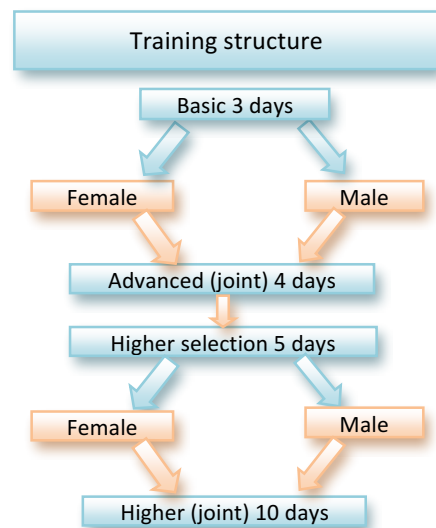


Table –8: Training activities for group members 2012-2013															
Description	Core		ICCO		CA		Access		ARP		MJF		Total		
	P	A	P	A	P	A	P	A	P	A	P	A	P	A	
Core (Fundamental training)															
Basic	534	444	117	142	150	150	28	28	-	-	96	84	925	848	
Advanced	116	127	26	25	25	20	12	12	-	-	26	26	205	210	
Higher selection	87	49	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26	26	226	75	
Other issue based training															
Land law and management	50	25	50	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	50	57	150	132	
Land and women	75	15	25	25	-	-	25	25	-	-	10	10	135	75	
Citizen rights and constitutional guarantees	50	15	-	-	-	-	25	25	-	-	10	10	85	50	
Leadership development	25	24	-	-	-	-	50	50	72	47	-	-	147	121	
Reproductive health right	125	25	-	-	25	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	150	48	
Food sovereignty and land use	50	0	50	49	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	25	125	74	
Gender	75	89	13	-	25	25	50	49	75	62	0	32	238	257	
Adivasi and land rights	50	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50	25	
Right to information Act.	50	47	-	-	-	-	25	25	72	70	25	25	172	167	
Use of organic fertilizer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50	48	-	-	50	48	
Organic pesticides	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	12	-	-	12	12	
Agriculture and women	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	47	47	-	-	47	47	
Collective production and management	-	-	-	-	-	25	25	-	-	-	-	-	25	25	
Production and market management	-	-	25	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	25	
Climate change	-	-	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	-	
Alternative of regular production	-	-	25	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	25	
Saline water and land fertility	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	25	-	-	25	25	
Organic market management	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	25	-	-	25	25	
Agriculture rights	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	125	121	-	-	125	121	
Refresher training	1,083	985	-	-	175	211	-	-	-	-	225	225	1,483	1,421	
Thematic Refresher training	300	236	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	300	236	
Basic Cultural	60	47	13	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	73	60	
Higher Cultural	20	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	18	
Total	2,750	2,171	382	354	400	429	240	239	503	457	493	520	4,768	4,170	

P-plan and A- Achievement

Analysis of **table-8**, shows that, in the reporting period a total of 4,768 (w-2,534 and m-2,234) members were supposed to participate in the training according to the plan. In reality, a total of 4,170 (w-2,154 and m-2,016) landless members participated in various trainings. The rate of achievement compared to the plan therefore, was 87% (85% for women and 90% for men).

The rate of project based achievement for core was 79%, 93% for ICCO, 107% for Christian Aid, 100 for Access, 91% for ARP and finally 105% for MJF. Analysis of the statistics also shows that, in the reporting period, participation of women members was higher than that of male members. This shows that women in society are becoming more aware and their mobility beyond the home is increasing. This is a significant indication of the empowerment of women. Also, increasing participation in landless group activities ensures the commitment of the female members and their acceptance into the landless groups. This in turn has contributed to developing strong collective leadership in the landless organisations.

Reasons

In the beginning of the reporting period, due to a delay in getting approval from the NGO Affairs Bureau (NGOAB), a few trainings could not be held. Later on, the training schedule was revised and trainings were organised at the end of the reporting period. However, due to political instability at the end of the reporting period, communication was hampered and hence a few trainings could not be held even though preparations had been made. As a result, the number of trainings implemented was lower than the amount planned.

Lessons

In the activity area a yearly plan for the training will be made, based on the analysis of relevant issues and the need of the members. This will ensure the effectiveness of training at the field level. To improve the effectiveness of trainings there is a need to arrange workshops on the issues of the activity areas.

4.2 Follow-up training activities (detail in annex table- 11)

The group members receive an opportunity to discuss issue-based concepts or ideas in the context of their own lived reality, making the discussions more relevant and relatable. Members are able to apply their theoretical skills in practice. Follow-up discussions take place at the field level through the following process: first, by ensuring exchange of views and experiences gained by the trainees in group meetings through activating analytical discussion and ensuring everyone's participation; secondly, by ensuring regular discussion about the trainings at the field level; and thirdly, by forming training forums with trainees having equal levels of awareness and holding regular discussion meetings every month.

Achievement

Due to training follow-up activities, the members are able to acquire practical experience in addressing the relevant issues and problems. This allows the trained members to identify and examine issues in their activity areas and so they are able to decide their actions in a definitive manner. This is a very positive achievement. Analysis of **table 9**, shows that, a total of 60 follow-up trainings were conducted. Compared to the plan, the rate of achievement is 120%. A total of 1,471 people (w-642 and m-829) have participated in training follow-up activities. Also, 406 forum meetings were held. Compare to the plan, the rate of achievement of forum meeting is 93%. At present, 47 forum activities have been conducted.

Division	Plan		A		%
	No	P	No	P	
Rajshahi	16	398	16	394	100
Dhaka	4	100	4	88	100
Khulna	9	225	14	345	156
Chittagong	21	525	26	644	124
Total (NK)	50	1,248	60	1,471	120

P- Participants and A- Achievement

Reasons

At the field level, some members remain outside their activity areas for a temporary period, as they go in search of livelihood activities elsewhere. As a result, in group meetings regular subject based discussions cannot be held for the trainees. Therefore, when the trained members return to their areas, as needed, some discussions and trainings need to be repeated, for those who were absent previously. For this reason the rate of implementation of follow-up trainings was higher than planned.

Lessons

It is necessary to repeat discussions from the training with the previously trained members. So in subject based training, it is necessary to repeat discussions with the already trained members.

4.3 Cultural activity (detail in annex table- 12)

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

Achievement

In awareness building, the need for cultural activity is very important. In order to meet issue based demands, it is imperative that the role of cultural activity is considered. Also, in the activity areas, considering cultural activity also increased subject based awareness. In the reporting period, awareness of and opinion against communal aggression among the masses was duly generated because of cultural activities. 61 new female members began participating in cultural activities, including open dramas, during the reporting period. This is a positive step towards gaining decision making power, defying family and social obstacles, and becoming informed. The decision to participate in the collective activities is also praiseworthy.

Analysis of **table-10**, illustrates the plan to organise 70 cultural workshops. In reality, 66 were implemented. A total of 1,327 members (w-326 and m-1,001) participated in the workshops. During the workshops, the participants wrote 61 new dramas and gained proficiency in writing and staging the peoples' dramas. Analysis of **table-10** also shows that the rate of implementation of cultural activities, compared to the plan, was 95% for cultural meetings, 92% for drama performances, 103% for cultural discussion, 109% for staging of peoples' dramas, and 95% for rendering peoples' songs.

Description	P	A	%
Drama based workshops	70	66	94
Meetings of cultural group	635	602	95
Cultural discussion	60	62	103
Drama performance	547	503	92
Padajatra/Drama festival	11	12	109
People's song session	342	325	95
Cultural function by children	93	107	115
<i>(P=Plan, A=Achievement)</i>			

Also, children and adolescents (daughters and sons of the landless group members) staged a total of 101 dramas. As well as this, the landless cultural groups organised a total of 12 cultural long marches. Compared to the plan, the rate of achievement of these marches was 109%. In annex-12, the rates of achievement compared to the plan have been given.

Box-5

Not commercialisation - we want traditional agriculture

To enhance mass awareness about the rights of the farmers in agriculture three, landless cultural groups organised a cultural long marches on the 10th till the 11th of December, 2013. The march took place in the Khulna district's Paikgachaupazila's, through five villages- Radhanagar, Syedkhali, Horinkhola, Darunmollik and Noai. Due to commercial shrimp cultivation, the local farmers are deprived the opportunity of farming agricultural products. Due to commercialization, food sovereignty in this locality has been badly hampered and people in this area suffer from food insecurity. The slogan for the march therefore was "not commercial, we want traditional agriculture", and the aim was to instil the masses with awareness of their agricultural rights.

Main theme of the drama

Peoples' drama "MathaeHatt". The theme of the drama is that, instead of market orientated commercial cultivation, there is a need for traditional agriculture. The children's drama- "Want education" has the theme of demanding that child labour is stopped, and that the duty of the society to implement children's education.

Activities

Nearly 350 people, both males and females landless members, marched 20 kilometers of road carrying banners and festoons, while repeating slogans. Wherever they found open ground, bazars or schools, they gathered people by banging the drum, staging dramas or starting discussion meetings. In a total of 13 places, they staged 26 peoples' dramas. After the dramas they replied to the audience's queries and discussed the subject matters. On the first day, the villagers were full of enthusiasm and again on the second day the villagers participated in the rally spontaneously and enthusiastically.

Every day cultural performances started in the evening. The landless organisation arranged an agricultural "mela" in the some areas, and erected apandel. They exhibited a variety of local paddy's, vegetables, fruits and the local techniques of cultivation. Each day the cultural function was attended by a few hundred people.

Results

The people in the local area have become aware about the damaging effects of market dominated commercial farming and the awareness of the rights of farmers in agriculture has also increased. There has also been an increase in networking and communication among the people about the demand for food security.

Reasons

As shown in information tabulation 11, the number of cultural groups have been dropped as regular activities were stopped in a few sub-centers. At present, 58 landless cultural groups are conducting activities in various areas.

Lessons

Through organising issue based protests, dissemination of news and creation of public opinion are being increasingly achieved by the cultural groups. In the reporting period, cultural activities have played a very important role in raising awareness against commercial violence. Therefore, for issue-based protests, it is necessary to plan cultural activities with the aim of distributing news and creating public awareness.

4.4 Activities for qualitative enhancement of staff

Nijera Kori, from its inception, has given great importance to improving the quality of its staff. Nijera Kori has made particular efforts towards the capacity development of its staff and has always used the motto of “self-development”. Special efforts are made to **1)** arrange special “schooling” sessions weekly in the sub-centres and monthly at the regional level, arrange bi-monthly divisional meetings, and quarterly executive meetings; **2)** ensure continuous collection of new information and tools, and share these materials with the staff at the sub-centre level; **3)** organise various cultural trainings and workshops; **4)** enable the staff to participate as observers in all training sessions in order to gain further experience; and **5)** review the lessons and specific initiatives at the annual staff convention of Nijera Kori.

Achievement

Consistent discussion topics are determined in the beginning of the reporting period to make the weekly and monthly schoolings more effective in terms of staff capacity development. The divisional and central representatives participate at every step to conduct each of the schoolings on a dedicated basis. Owing to the nature of debate and analytical discussions in these schoolings, the staff are able to enhance their knowledge as well as their analytical skills.

In the reporting period, Nijera Kori has put emphasis on staff development on specific topics such as food sovereignty, strategic planning and Logical Framework Analysis, as well as on result based monitoring. Throughout the, a total of 126 (w-42 and m-84) staff participated in the trainings and workshops. It is to be noted that, this the first time Nijera Kori has organised a workshop on Logical Framework Analysis with its staff. In order to enhance management, monitoring experiences and skills, some staff from Nijera Kori attended trainings organised by other organisations, mainly related to land and water rights. 13 staff also participated in workshops on Gender Planning Methodology, the Rights Based Approach and Logical Framework Analysis, organised by Access and MJF.

Lessons

The strategy of studying multiple books and articles by different writers rather than studying only one book or article should be adopted, so that the readers do not consider the information of only one book or one writer to be the ultimate truth. The staff of Nijera Kori believe that the schooling and self-development process would be more effective if the materials learnt are relevant to the backdrop of the present situation. Topics should be chosen to reflect the major issues of the working areas in order to ensure the effectiveness of subject-based workshops. Additionally, the strategy to ensure the participation of Nijera Kori staff in the trainings of fellow-spirited organisations should also be encouraged.

CHAPTER-5

5.1 Legal aid (detail in index- 15)

As the movements of the landless organisations for establishing basic rights have become stronger, the voices and struggles of the disadvantaged people have gained more recognition from the state and society. Their increasing success has threatened the local vested groups who systematically try to harass the landless groups by conspiring against them, filing false lawsuits and using the police to persecute them. In such a context, legal recourse is one of the most potent means for the landless people to defend their rights, and legal aid is extremely necessary for those affected. When there are a high number of cases, it becomes difficult for landless groups to support the economically disadvantaged people in fighting the legal battle, and they turn to Nijera Kori for financial support. In these cases, when it is determined that the case is important in establishing the rights of the landless groups, Nijera Kori provides support to finance legal aid activities as needed.

Characteristics of cases	New cases	Resolved cases			
		T	I	Ag	A
Total	51	93	81	11	5
Criminal	31	40	34	6	2
Groups of the plaintiffs	12	11	8	3	0
Groups of the accused	19	29	26	3	2
Civil	6	26	25	1	1
Groups of the plaintiffs	5	14	14	0	0
Groups of the accused	1	12	11	1	1
Violence against Women	14	27	22	4	2
Groups of the plaintiffs	14	26	22	4	2
Groups of the accused	0	1	0	0	0

T= Total, I = infavor, Ag= Against and A= Appeal

Achievements

Analysis of **table-11**, reveals that, in the reporting period, 51 new legal cases were conducted. Among these cases, 20 were filed by locally influential coterie, and the rest of the 31 cases were filed by landless groups. Within the cases filed by landless groups, a few points become noteworthy on analysis.

Firstly, during the reporting period, landless groups have filed 14 cases concerning the persecution of women, whereas local influential people did not file a single case regarding this matter. It is evident therefore, that landless groups are playing an important role in taking legal action against women's persecution. Also, regarding issues of illegal occupation of Khas land by jotdars, the landless groups filed 5 cases. In response to this, the local influential people have filed 19 criminal cases against landless members, just to harass them. This shows how the landless groups are trying to establish justice in society, with the aim of eventually establishing rights. On the other hand, local influential people are filing cases only to harass the landless members, with no intension of achieving justice.

In the reporting period, out of all the cases filed by both the landless groups and the influential people, 93 have been settled. From among these, verdict was given in favour of the landless groups in 82 cases, meanwhile the landless groups have appealed against the verdicts of seven other cases in higher court.

If we analyse the settled cases, it is noticed that out of a total of 93 cases settled, 26 of these were filed by the landless groups. Among these, 22 cases received a verdict in favour of the landless groups. The landless group has appealed against the verdict of 5 cases in higher court. On the other hand, in the verdicts against the influential people, no appeal has been made by them in the higher court.

A total of 26 cases concerning issues of land and water bodies have been settled. Out of these 26 cases, 25 received a verdict in favour of the landless groups. Out of 40 criminal cases that have been settled, 34 gained a verdict in favour of the landless groups. After analysis of the cases, important features can be identified. This includes that, in 26 criminal cases that the local influential people filed and lost, they did not appeal the decision in higher court. This illustrates how the influential people's purpose for filing these cases was simply to harass the individuals involved. It suggests that they knew the accusations they were making were false, and this is why they did not appeal the decisions made. Analysis of overall results throughout the reporting period indicates that the landless groups have achieved positive results regarding legal actions, which is very encouraging.

The landless groups have spent a total of Tk. 1,032,980 (\$13,415 USD) from their group savings on legal matters. This spending demonstrates the awareness of landless groups, and their desire to establish justice and rights in society. The total number of cases in March 2014 was 727. Among these 727 cases, Nijera Kori assisted in 253 cases, whilst 473 cases were conducted by the groups independently.

Lessons

In the past, the locally influential people and jotdars would file cases against the landless members, usually with the aim of harassing them. Now, the landless members are filing cases for several reasons; against the occupation of Khasland and water-bodies, against the assault of their members, against violation of human rights and also against the persecution of women. This attempt by the landless groups to establish justice is very encouraging.

5.2 Educational activities

Due to lack of awareness and absence of public schools, children in the remote and poor areas start working from a very early age. The groups have long been fighting against this injustice and demanding children from poor and disadvantaged background have the ability to realize their right to education.

Achievement

The landless organisations conduct their education programmes through 30 primary schools, 4 junior high schools and 1 high school. It should be noted that this education programme is conducted

Description	Number of students		
	Girls	Boys	Total
Primary	12,434	11,428	23,862
Junior high schools	6,439	5,872	12,311
High schools	563	486	1,049
Total	19,436	17,786	37,222
Total No. of students with stipend	9,427	6,671	16,098

completely by the endeavours and management of the landless organisations.

Table- 12, also shows that the number of students increased to 37,222 (*Girl students- 19,436 and Boy students- 17,786*) reporting period. The rate of increase in the number of female students was 24% greater than male students. The rising enrolment of female students,

particularly in the secondary and high schools in the remote areas, shows the positive impact of consciousness-raising on the necessity of and right to women's education within the landless organisation.

It should be mentioned that during the reporting period, 414 (217 girls and 197 boys) students rejected madrasa education and joined regular school, which is a very significant positive achievement. This achievement is 121% higher than in the previous year.

In addition, a total number of 16,098 new students received government grants for education (girl students-9,427 and boy students-6,671) in the reporting period. This rate is 5% higher than the previous year. On the other hand, a total of 315 students (Girl students- 141 and Boy students- 174) were forced to drop-out from schools in the reporting period.

The landless groups spent a total of TK. 54,567 (\$700 USD) from their group savings to purchase books and notebooks and academic other cost for students, which is 78% higher than previous year. Of this amount, around TK. 6,615 (\$85 USD) was spent supporting children of non-group members.

The landless organisations are also monitoring the educational activities or programmes in their schools on a regular basis. Assemblies are held in every school as well as a number of events like sports, discussion meetings and cultural functions. The landless organisations also discussed the necessity of education with the guardians. If a student stopped coming to school or if his/her absence rate suddenly increased, the teachers and landless members visited his/her house, collected information, and took necessary steps.

As a result, there was a noticeable qualitative change in the education programme carried out by the landless organisations. It is to be noted that in Primary School Certificate (PSC) 94% of the students in the landless schools received Junior School Certificate (JSC)100% and Secondary School Certificate (SSC) 90% students were successfully promoted in the schools conducted by the landless organisations. This highlights the quality of education among students conducted by the landless.

Reasons

Some students were obliged to work outside their areas to earn a livelihood and, despite the best effort of the landless organizations, dropped-out of schools. Meanwhile, the administrative procedures of government registration of two schools have advanced. However, the registration has not been completed as a number of government conditions are not yet fulfilled.

5.3 RTI Application and access to information

On the basis of information from the Management of Information System (MIS), below is a summary of the application for information, the information received and experience of landless members.

Summary of application analysis see table below

Table-13: RTI applications							
Description	No. of RTI Applications		Total	Information Recived		Total	Rejected by Concerned Authorities
	April-13 to March-14	Pending Application		April-13 to March-14	From Pending Application		
Primary applications	64	7	71	42	6	48	-
Appeal applications	15	-	15	6	-	6	-
Complain application	9	-	9	3	-	3	6

Analysis of RTI applications

- a)** In the reporting period, the landless group members submitted a total of 64 primary applications to obtain information. It is to be noted that, out of the 64 application, 9 applications were submitted by women landless members and 55 applications by male members. During the reporting period-the landless group members received information from 48 applications. A total of 6 primary applications were pending in the administrative process. (type of applications: 12 on health; 25 on safety-net programme; 14 on *Khas* land and water; 6 on local development projects; 5 on education and 2 on vested property);
- b)** During the reporting period landless group members submitted a total of 15 appeal applications. Out of the 15, the landless group members received information for a total of 6 appeal applications;
- c)** In the reporting period landless group members submitted 9 complaints to the Right to Information Commission. Out of the 3, hearing sessions were held. The judgment for all of the hearings came out in favor of the applicant's i.e. the landless members (Please see Annex-B, case study on RTI complain hearing).
- d)** A total of 6 complaints were rejected by the RTI Commission because gap of appeal application.

5.4 Formation of watch committee and Its activities

Watch committee

Nijera Kori believes that marginal communities are being deprived of constitutional and human rights. Lack of information is one of the major causes of this deprivation. This is why Nijera Kori considers it crucial to build an effective monitoring system at the grass-root level. Such a monitoring system would help in establishing transparency, accountability and partnership in society.

Achievement analysis

Nijera Kori believes that marginal communities are being deprived of constitutional and human rights. Lack of information is one of the major causes of this deprivation. This is why Nijera Kori considers it crucial to build an effective monitoring system at the grass-root level. Such a monitoring system would help in establishing transparency, accountability and partnership in society. As a result, both Nijera Kori and landless organisations have taken joint initiatives to build watch committees. Each watch committee is centered around a Union and comprises six sub-committees: **1)** Education **2)** Health **3)** Access to Natural Resources (land, agricultural and water) **4)** Local Development and Good Governance **5)** Fundamentalisms, which includes increase of religious intolerance and bigotry and **6)** Gender Equality. Each sub committee is formed with five members. The concerned landless committee performs the responsibilities of coordinating the activities of the watch committee. This is why a designated general member of the landless union committee plays the role of conveyor of the sub-committees. She or he presents the activities, issues and plans in the meeting of the concerned landless committee, and makes necessary decisions. The decisions are then implemented under the leadership of the Landless Union Committee. It should be noted that the other members of the watch sub-committees are nominated by all the landless members of the area. At present, one watch committee acts in each of the four regions in four divisions. The achievement of sub committees describe in the bellow.

As a result of Watch Committee monitoring and actions there are some achievement (only in watch committee areas)

During the reporting period one new Watch Committee was formed in Mohammadpur Union in Daudkhandi Upazila, under the Comilla District. On the other hand the achievement of sub committees describe in the bellow.

Local governance

- a)** Social Safety Net Programme identified irregularities in distribution of 417 cards. Later, the concerned authorities were obliged to issue and distribute the cards in the names of 339 members by probing into irregularities and collective demands.
- b)** In the Mohammadpur Union council boundary there were toilets but because of damage. As result of Watch Committee monitoring and collective pressure, Union Council was renovation the public toilet. Thus, local communities have access to facilities.
- c)** In addition to that, Watch Committee conducted mapping in Mohammadpur Union. Through mapping one problem was address on mad road of Raipur village. Thus the government rebuilt mad road of Raipur village before rainy session.
- d)** As result of collective pressure 4 watch committee members were included in Social Safety Net Programme management committee in Daudkhandi and Saghata areas.
- e)** The sub-committees communicated with the Local Government Engineering Department (*LGED*) to ensure safe drinking water in the char (*shoal land*) regions. As a result, the government installed eight new tube wells in the char areas for safe drinking water.
- f)** In addition to that, the sub-committees communicated with the LGED Department to protect river erosion by piling and use of concrete block inSaghata area.
- g)** The sub-committees, in addition, identified irregularities though regular monitoring of earth work by world food programee in Saghata area. As a result, the LGED Department formed an inquiry into the work. Later on, the sub-committees compelled the government to stopped taking bribe from the labour.

Accessibility to natural resources (land, agricultural and water)

- a)** The plan for establish seed bank was four. As per the plan the landless members established three Seed Bank to ensure the preservation and use of indigenous seeds. A total of 135 landless members were involved with the seed bank and the 17 types of seeds are being preserved in the seed bank. On the other hand, around 271 group members preserved seed in their own house, mean seed house. Which encourage built the Seed Bank. *It is to be noted that, the watch committee in Daudkandi area newly formed. Therefore, they could not arrange the space and storage facilities thus, though they have planned to establish seed bank but the landless group member could not be able to establish seed bank (Please see Annex-A, case study on seed bank).*
- b)** During the reporting period, additionally 204 landless members were cultivated their own preserved vegetable seed instead of hybrid variety and getting profit Tk. 10,470 (*\$138 USD*). The experience of the landless members is that the profit is higher production cost.
- c)** The sub-committees regularly monitored the fertilizer market particularly the quality and price of the fertilizer. The sub-committees identified irregularities in 9 fertilizer shops. They were taking 50 taka more price than the actual price. The sub-committees asked to the agricultural department. As a result, the agricultural department temporally suspended the authorized agencies.
- d)** In addition to that, 39 landless members were stopped use commercial hybrid seed which is one time seed.

- e)** The sub-committees conducted mapping in Shahos Union and through this process they identified water lodging is one of the major problem. The sub-committees communicated with the LGED Department and water development board. As a result, the administration was compelled to remove the water from the agricultural land.

Education

- a)** In the reporting period, additionally a total number of 26 madrasa students rejected madrasa schooling and were admitted to primary schools,
- b)** Sub-committees identified irregularities in distribution government free books, certificate and granting scholarships for the students in eleven schools. The sub-committee members exerted pressure upon the school management committees collectively to stop those irregularities. As result, 2,478 students getting above mention government support. In addition to that, they also recovered Tk. 10,550 (\$-139) as bribe.
- c)** Members of the sub-committees communicated with the school management committee about late attendance of two teachers Raipur Government Primary School. As result, school management ensured their attendance on time.
- d)** According to the government rule a total of 3 schools were not assemble and hoisted flag. As a result of collective pressure the school practiced.
- e)** As a result of regular monitoring Sub-committees identified stalking of girls on road and informed to the school and police station. As a result stalking of girls was stopped in 4 schools.

Fundamentalism

- a)** The committees have successfully stopped activities of 9 Talim Kendros (*Informal Islamic Teaching centers*) as conducted in different areas.
- b)** A total of 16 members' families stopped paddy contribution to Masque (*Islamic prayer centre*).
- c)** As a result of regular monitoring Sub-committees identified 3 Masques as sued political purpose. The sub-committees were communicated with police station. As result, at present the 3 Masque were free from the political activities.

Health

- a)** The committees successfully prevented 19 women from using Norplant as a contraceptive method,
- b)** Around 91 landless families installed and used health friendly latrines,
- c)** 21 expecting mothers were admitted to hospitals during their child births along with regular check-ups in the pre-delivery phase.
- d)** Regular arsenic test of around 207 tube wells was ensured. Of the total number of tube wells, use of total 19 arsenic contaminated tube wells was stopped.
- e)** In addition to that, a total of 549 landless members were getting proper treatment with free of cost medicine in the government hospitals.

Gender

- a)** A total number of 21 child marriages were prevented by exerting collective pressure.
- b)** Giving and taking of dowry were stopped in 34 marriages by exerting collective pressure.
- c)** Approximately 14,000 landless members were made careful in terms of ensuring health, medical treatment and nutrition of women.
- d)** In addition to that, the sub-committees were regular monitored on the issue of violence against women. As a result, violence against women was reduced in watch committee areas, particularly within landless group member families.

CHAPTER-6

6. Networking and advocacy

Nijera Kori aims at enhancing the collective ability of the masses so that they can establish their rights by organising continuous grassroots movements to realise their demands. Such mass actions help foster public support, which lends strength to local-level joint initiatives and creates pressure on policy makers at national and international levels. Thus, mobilisation of the masses and coalition-building between the landless and different professional groups remain central to the core objectives of Nijera Kori. Nijera Kori, on the basis of the demands and the issues raised by the landless group, adopts and conducts advocacy activities at local, national and international levels with the participation of landless organisations.

6.1 Local level

- **Collective movements:** In the reporting period, the landless organisations organised 2,603 distinct movements. Of these movements, 1,372 addressed violence against women, 59 resisted fundamentalism, 469 concerned establishing rights to local resources, and 703 addressed local corruption and irregularities.
- **Networking with local activist groups:** The landless organisations were successful in having their demands met on 1,206 issues. Though the movements were organised by the landless groups, they received active support from professionals, political and cultural workers, women's organisations, other development organisations, local clubs, rickshaw-bus-truck driver's samity (association) and school students. This is a positive achievement in developing public relations and networks at local levels.
- **Dialogue with local decision-makers and activists:** In this reporting period, the landless organisations held 9,915 meetings concerning local issues with local civic bodies and local government administration in different districts. These opinion-sharing meetings were held 3,055 times at the initiative of the government administration and 6,050 times at the initiative of the landless groups. These meetings are positive steps towards solving local issues, collecting reliable information, ensuring accountability and establishing rights.
- **Local and national newspaper reports:** In the reporting period a total of, 703 news reports were published in 11 local-national newspapers on the demands and movements of the landless on various issues. Among them, 154 were for establishment of rights to khasland, 37 for removal of illegal land grabbers, 141 for resisting industrial shrimp cultivation, 9 for establishing land rights of the indigenous, and 362 against violation of human rights such as fatwa, hilla marriage, rape, murder of women, and dowry.

A total of 71 reports were published on protests and movements with information provided by the landless people. Additionally, in the activity areas of different newspaper published 63 reports independently on various issues of concern to the landless groups.

6.2 National and International level

Issue-1: Amendment of vested property Act: 2011

Nijera Kori is an active member of National Citizen Coordination Cell and as such, has been playing a positive role. After a protracted movement the "Vested property amended Act 2011" has been passed. After the Act was passed, it was found that in the Land ministry's published list, in section "B" (Kha) most of the names had been listed illegally since 23rd March, 1974.

In light of this discovery, National Citizen Coordination Cell started activities to try to cancel the Act. Clause number 45 passed in 1974 and in accordance with the Supreme Court's directive, there was an annulment of "B" (Kha) tafsil. [Khatafsil is called second list of the vested property]

In order to reinforce the movement's momentum to annul the "B" (Kha) tafsil, public opinion and awareness was generated in various districts and upazila's through discussions organised and dialogues held at a local and national level. Also, in order to cancel the "B" (Kha) list, to reform the flawed Act and to assemble a correct list, memorandums with signatures were submitted in August, 2013. The secretariat also made proposals and submitted Parliamentary Committee on ministry's law.

Result: The pressure from the public opinion and awareness generated made the government rectify most of the problematic clauses of the Act in October 2013. In the new rectified Act, section "B"(Kha) was completely cancelled. As a result many victimized people were saved from harassment and from the prospect of losing their property.

Issue-2: Vested property amendment Act: Writ petition to protect people's rights

ALRD, Blast, Vested property Act resistance movement, HDRC, Collective Social movement and Nijera Kori all collectively challenged some of the clauses of the vested property Act as they violated the constitution. They jointly decided to submit a written petition. On the 4th of June, 2013, some of the clauses of the Act's constitutional legality were challenged and a written petition was submitted, the number of this petition is 5140/13. The main demands of this written petition were:

- "B" (Kha) section's tafsil's 45 No. Act is inimical to Act and as according to the Supreme Court's verdict and directive it is illegal. Thus, in accordance with this, the vested property amended Act in 2001's 2 "B" (Kha) and the 9(1) clause in the published "Kha" tafsil, should be cancelled completely.
- As the properties which were listed and incorporated in A(Ka) tafsil' gazette are in violation of the Supreme Court's verdicts after 23-03-1974, they must also be removed from the gazette.
- The properties listed in the 2001 clause 9(6), are illegal as they violate the vested property amendment and therefore must also be cancelled.
- On the 5th of March, 2013, in accordance with the rectified Act's 4th clause, the main clause of the Act 9(1) was extended and clause 9(1Ka) was added to it. Extending the time limit through this alteration of clause "A" (Ka) and "B"(Kha) tafsil, is illegal and so this rectification must be annulled.
- In accordance with the vested property amendment to the 2001 Act, clause 13 - Abatement rule, previously, those who claimed back their properties received a civil court or revenue court's decree or verdict. Against these decrees or verdicts, appeals or revision are still ongoing and so they have incurred loss. Therefore, through the amendment, for those who have received civil or revenue court's written verdict in their favor and so will be receiving their properties, and those who have an appeal or revision ongoing in higher court, clause 13 of the Act will not be applicable and so their names will not be on the list.

After the hearing; the double bench contestant, secretary, Act, justice and parliamentary related ministry, parliamentary related secretary, secretary, human resources ministry and 61 district's (all except 3 Hill tracts districts) administrators, were all served with a notice to show cause within 2 weeks.

Result: The court's verdict initially proved that the vested property amendment Act, in many instances, was contradictory to constitutional rights. Hence, for the best interests of the people, rectification of the Act is necessary. This will reduce the tendency of influential people to grab and control the property.

Issue-3: Discussion at national-level on vested property amendment Act

For implementation of the Act in reality and for presenting information at a national level, on the 14th of June 2013, a daylong round table discussion meeting was held to discuss “vested property amendment Act’s 18 months, experience in implementation and problems at field-level”. Also, on the 21st June, 2013 in the National Press Club, an opinion-sharing meeting of citizens was organised with the topic of the vested property amendment Act 2011. Victims from various districts, researchers, movement organisers and representatives from policy forming office were presents at all of these national level meetings.

Issue-4: Mobilizing public opinion to protect right to water

To ensure right to water, 8 organizations with similar views have started activities to arrange a forum. Nijera Kori is playing an active role at local and national levels to implement these activities. On the 25th of May, 2013 a round table conference named “Bangladesh Water Policy 2013, People’s Right and Proper Utilization of Water Asset” was organized by Right to Water forum at the press club. This conference was attended by local poor women and men, research scholars, lawyers, development workers, political personalities, and various networks and representatives of the policy making body. In the conference the points that were observed are given below-

1. When implementing the policy the opinions of the people were not taken into account.
2. In water policy, the term “water” has been acknowledged as fundamental right however, in implementation the right is missing.
3. Government policy and government plan must be observed without fail or it is a punishable offence and a fine is liable; this is an undemocratic decision.
4. In this law; present and future generation’s right to water has not be recognized.
5. The law does not make any provision to assess public opinion in dividing water resource areas and there is also no provision for public hearing, so that the participation of people would be encouraged. As a result it is believed that the jtdars would abuse water resources by taking advantage of the law.

Issue-5: Participation against BT Brinjal forum

The government of Bangladesh has signed an agreement with an American seed and Pesticide Company called Monsanto, to replace local Brinjal with a toxin induced anti-germ variety. This is against the farmer’s right to protect their seeds and is also harmful for health. The purpose of this forum is to create pressure on the government through developing awareness & collective voice by creating public opinion.

Result: Information is being collected from various areas of the country.

Issue-6: Mobilising public opinion against communal violence

After the election in 2014, the whole country was gripped by communal violence. Minority communities were attacked and houses were set on fire. Women were raped and human rights were indiscriminately violated. In order to investigate these violent attacks, to create public opinion against it and to demand justice, like-minded organisation felt the need to create pressure on the government as well as strengthen public protection. To fulfill this need TIB, BLAST, ALRD and Nijera Kori together collected information at a district level. They organised discussions and projects to bring this information together to give a national level representation. While preparing the report, information was collected from Satkhira, Gaibandha, Dinajpur and Jossare districts.

Result: Through analysis of the information we planned to prepare a country report. Activities are still ongoing in order to present the final report. It is to be noted that, due to the firm position of and collective monitoring by the groups, no incidences occurred in Nijera Kori’s working areas.

CHAPTER-7

Management and finance

7.1 Documentation, Experience Sharing and Publications

Although research is not the main activity of Nijera Kori, research and in-depth case studies are often required to review its strategies for addressing relevant economic and social issues. In order to make an impact, Nijera Kori and the landless people need to be fully armed with information, not mere impressions. In the reporting period, Nijera Kori prepared and showed the documentary film “Public Hearing” in different meetings and seminars at national level.

7.1.1 Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation

Nijera Kori has been practicing a comprehensive planning monitoring and evaluation (PME) and reporting system ensuring equal participation of staff and landless groups at all stages in the whole process (*See Annex-C*). The landless groups evaluate their activities and formulate plans through regular meetings. In these meetings leaders, representatives of landless groups from other working areas actively participate, along with the field staff of Nijera Kori. 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 Nijera Kori through Nijera Kori field staff, which later are discussed and evaluated at various levels of the organisation. Guidelines for Nijera Kori activities are set, through this process, and Nijera Kori staff members formulate the plans for the organisation on the basis of that. 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 other’s working areas with a view to assess, evaluate, monitor and provide necessary counselling to their counterparts. The same process is followed when written reports are produced in each meeting based on which the annual report is made at the end of reporting period. Nijera Kori plans, monitors and makes assessments using three means.

First, Nijera Kori organises yearly group meetings among the landless groups, representative meetings, workshops, committee meetings, experience exchange tours and group conventions. Activities are monitored and achievements are analysed.

Second, weekly staff meeting, monthly divisional and quarterly Nirbahi Parishad (Executive Council) meetings, staff-representative meetings, field tours by staff-representatives, experience gathering tours, and staff conventions and councils are held to ensure the participation of all persons.

Third, activities are analyzed in the General and Executive Council meetings. This ensures accountability and transparency of Nijera Kori’s activities vis-à-vis all its stakeholders.

In addition, the Governing and General Body participate, analyse, review and give necessary directions. Further, field visits are made by representatives of donor organisations and, when asked, Nijera Kori conducts evaluations. Nijera Kori’s activities on the basis of mutual understanding

7.1.2 Participation and role of landless organisation in PME

- Through the workshop the elected members and nominated staff of sub-centres in the four divisions watch committees conduct activities. In the workshop the present activities of the Watch Committees were evaluated and a future action planned was decided upon. Through these workshops the participants finalised the structure and the names of the committees, their purpose, policy of operation, activity strategy, and coordination and accountability.
- In total 7,633 groups (f-4,511 and m-3,122) participated in the annual group meeting through analysing and evaluating the group activities and developing activity policy for the next year based on last years' experience.
- At village, union, upazilla and area levels, 327 group conventions were organized to discuss and evaluate the activities. The related committees shared their experiences to formulate a joint policy for the area.
- In various activity areas the group members actively participated and decided on organisational activities, evaluated policies, scrutinised group's strengths-and weakness, and identified and evaluated the issues and the risk factors. A course of action was then determined through 906 representative meetings, 745 joint group meetings and 617 group workshops. As a result new issues were included for planning and activities worked out with the full participation of the members.

7.1.3 Participation and role of staff in PME

- Group annual planning and village based planning strategy was adopted after elaborate discussions on group planning in sub-centres, which formed the basis of draft planning. In area meetings the staff evaluates the entire activities, identifies strength and weaknesses, discusses issues, isolates risk factors and decides on the next course of action. Afterwards, elected staff representatives meet at regular intervals. In these regularly held meetings the representatives analyse, evaluate and decide the actions, review plans, add to or subtract from the list of actions to respond to the needs of the people, thus making the annual plan more rational, realistic and effective.
- Staff conventions were held in all four divisions. All the staff in the divisions participated together in evaluating the activities. In the convention the staff went through the same exercises but in a larger forum. They analysed the strengths and weakness, developed strategies for combating risks and identified actions to be adopted. A divisional plan was adopted after reviewing all area plans. Later on, in the bi-annual central staff convention, Nijera Kori's annual plan was adopted after scrutinising and evaluating the four divisional plans and combining them into one master plan.
- In the reporting period two organisational and training cell meetings were held at the central level and four training cell meeting were held at the divisional level. As a result, organisational and training activities were evaluated, strengths and weaknesses were analysed and necessary action items for adoption were considered.

Analysis of activities and participation of executive body and partners organisations in evaluation process

- Nijera Kori's general body and annual meetings were held to evaluate progress. On a quarterly basis regular executive body meetings were held to provide its recommendations to the general body.

In the annual general body meeting proposed activity plan and budget was approved. On the basis of planning and budget approved by the general body, the executive body worked out the quarterly budget and reviewed the action plan before implementation started. The members, working through a rigorous evaluation, gave positive direction for achieving the desired goal.

In the reporting period, on 27-28 February 2014 meeting was held with Nijera Kori's partners. Representatives of Christian Aid, Bread for the World - Protestant Development Service, Inter Pares, ICCO, The Swallows participated and Manusher Jonno Foundation. In the meeting annual progress report and present status of major activities were discussed.

7.2 Administration

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 operational decision-making body of the organisation is the Central Staff Convention, which is held every alternate year and attended by all staff of Nijera Kori. Here they constitute a three-tier council for two years for overall management and coordination by electing their representatives (except the coordinator) from among the staff. These councils are **1)** Anchal Parishad (*Area Council*), **2)** Bibhagiya Parishad (*Divisional Council*) and **3)** Nirbahi Parishad (*Executive Council*). The overall activities of Nijera Kori 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 area office 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 Nijera Kori along with the landless people. The groups themselves have their own structure for group activities.

Nijera Kori ensures that all staff and target group members have equal participation in the planning, monitoring and implementation of its activities.

According to group structure, the groups, through annual group meetings, village, union, Upazilla and area 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. Nijera Kori staff become part of the decision making process, by participating in these meetings. Later on, they share experiences in Nijera Kori's internal meetings/forums as per the 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.

Staff strength

- a)** A total of women 1 employee joined the organisation in the reporting period. On the other hand, a total number of 43 employees (*f-13 and m-30*) left the organisation. The total number of staff working in Nijera Kori in March 2014 was 356(*f-121 and m-235*). It should be mentioned that 98 employees (*f-11 and m-87*) are performing their duties as service staff.
- b)** It should be noted that of the total employees, 317 are performing their duties under the auspices of the core programme (*f-112 and m-205*).
- c)** A total of 39 employees (*f-9 and m-30*) are performing their duties under the programme as supervised by the project of Manusher Jonno Foundation.

Statement of Financial Accounts (Annex-F, receipts and payments statement)

During the reporting April 2013- March 2014 Nijera Kori received financial assistance totaling BDT 68,683,353.00 from different partner organisations. The total amount of the money spent during the reporting period was BDT 82,688,583.

- a)** Nijera Kori (April 2013-March 2014) received financial assistance amounting to BDT 61,453,678.35 from Bread for the World, ICCO and Inter Pares to operate its core programme. The amount of the total money spent during the reporting period was BDT 79,133,686.00.
- b)** Nijera Kori also received a total of BDT 11,232,841.00 for operating its project activities from April 2013 to March 2014 from MJF. The total amount of money spent in the reporting period was BDT 11,635,836.00.
- c)** Nijera Kori also received a total of BDT 2,354,899.00 for operating its project activities from January 2013 to December 2013 from The Swallows India Bangladesh for the Agricultural Farmers Right project (ARP). The total amount of money spent in the reporting period was BDT 2,354,899.00.
- d)** Nijera Kori also received a total of BDT 5,222,349.00 for operating its project activities from January 2013 to December 2013 from The Swallows India Bangladesh for the Access project. The total amount of money spent in the reporting period was BDT 5,217,273.00.
- e)** It should be noted that Nijera Kori received a total amount of BDT 7,229,674.80 (including advance received BDT 3,780,043.80) for operating its project activities from April 2013 to March 2014 from Christian Aid. The total amount of money spent in the reporting period was BDT 3,554,897.00.

Peoples action case studies

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. Nijera Kori is supporting the landless organisations in this struggle, focusing on establishing the rights of the landless people over khas lands, violence against women and other right issues. Furthermore, a number of movements were also held to protest against the illegal tricks during the measurement of lands by the corrupt systems.

Case study-1

Implementation of right to information Act: Establishment of rights on Khas water-bodies by landless groups

Area

Village: Chandpur, Union- Bramhagacha, Upazila- Raigong, District- Sirajgong.

Background

In Chandpur village, forty landless families have taken refuge for nearly four decades from river erosion which washed away the land they had previously inhabited. To support these families' recovery, the government built a small pond. Residing on the banks of this pond, these families earn a living by catching fish. The rights to fish in ponds and water bodies such as this, known as "karis," are provided to landless fishing communities by Bangladeshi law.

Attempt to capture Khas water-body

For decades, local elites have attempted to wrest control over this pond from the families who live around and make their livelihoods from it. For this purpose, these influential people started building a mosque in 1985 on the western bank of the pond. Eventually, for the development of the mosque, an organization named "Cahndpur Jubo Unnayan Samity" (Cahndpur Youth Development Association) signed a two-year lease of the pond, as a result of which, the landless families residing on the bank were prohibited from fishing in the pond or using any of its water.

When the assaults against these families' access to the pond began, there was no landless organization in the area, and they had no way to resist the attempts to occupy their land and the pond. However, in 2006, with the assistance of the landless organization from a neighboring village, the landless families of Chandpur organized their own landless group.

Khas water-body lease, harassment and attack

On 5th November 2009, the government declared its intention to lease the pond again. The landless group organized to apply for the lease (as is their right by Bangladeshi land use policy), but the cooperative officials refused to register it to them. Meanwhile, local businessmen registered and obtained lease to the land on 20th March 10, posing themselves as the landless.

In this situation, the landless group mobilized to investigate the case using the Right to Information (RTI) Act, and to bring it to the attention of the government. The landless organizations decided to protest and strongly challenged the government notice in occupying the Khas land illegally.

On the other hand the lease owners started commercial fish farming. As a result the surface water has become polluted by the chemicals used for their project. The landless members were attacked on 28th February in 2010 by the lease owners when they protested. As a result, the landless members have filed case [GR (General Dairy) case no 14/10] against the criminals but the lease owners have also filed a criminal case (GR case no 15/10) against the group members as a revenge.

RTI to establish rights on Khas water-body of the landless group

To establish rights on Khas water-body, the landless members tried to collect information informally from the government cooperatives department from time to time. But the government cooperatives department officials refused to respond to their request. In this situation, the group members decided to use of RTI Act and the on behalf of the landless group Baher Ali submitted RTI application to designated official of cooperatives department on 10th June 2012. The content of the application were covered the following requests:

1. The list of the registered cooperatives of fish farming in Raiganj upazila
2. The constitution and the policy of those cooperatives
3. The list of the names of the members of fish farmers

However, Upazila Cooperative Officer did not respond and as a result as per the RTI Act the group members submitted appeal application for the above mention information on 8 July 2012. In response to the appeal, the authority write to the group members on 26 July that, the they are unable to consider the application due to information gap as it needs more specific on about the objective of the demand and the procedure how the applicants would like to have the information. In this situation, after the discussion in the landless representative meeting, Baher Ali filed complain to the Information Commission on 26 August 2012. As per the complain hearing is been arranged on the 26th of November 2012. But on hearing day as the government side was not present information commission reschedule the hearing date 31st December, 2013.

In the hearing on 31st December 2013, the information commissioner admonished the local officials for not upholding the landless groups' right to access the pond, and ordered them to provide information to the landless collective.

After receiving the necessary information, the landless members submitted a memorandum to the relevant district officials to cancel the illegal lease of the Kari pond to the local businessmen. Through their investigation of the case, the local officials found that the group to whom the pond had been leased was not in fact the original fishing community, as they had claimed. As a result, the local officials cancelled the illegal lease, and newly registered it to the Nijera Kori landless members' "Chandpur Pond Bank Fishing Community Cooperative Samity" in April 2013.

Result

As a result of their organizing and mobilization, the landless members were able to regain access to the pond, after decades of assaults on their legal rights. This is a strong example of the possibilities provided by the Right to Information Act to help poor communities gain access to natural resources. Moreover, local people have become aware of the RTI Act, and the potential of its use in gaining information in order to establish their rights. Additionally, local officials have also become aware of the importance of the RTI Act and its use in ensuring justice for all of Bangladesh's citizens. Most importantly, through the use of the RTI Act, the landless members established more secure livelihoods in order to provide for themselves and their families.

Background

Bangladesh has a rich heritage of traditional agriculture which has been used by farmers to cultivate crops for centuries, with countless varieties of local rice and vegetables which have been developed by farmers to adapt to local requirements and ecologies. The traditional storage of seeds and use of natural fertilizers has declined in the past few decades, as new scientific agricultural technologies have been introduced and promoted by extension agents and NGOs. These new technologies require substantial investment for cultivation, particularly due to the fact that the seeds from hybrid crops cannot be collected during harvest for use in subsequent seasons. As a result, farmers have begun to incur substantial financial losses through cultivation. In order to address this crisis faced by small farmers all across Bangladesh, Nijera Kori landless groups have begun establishing seed banks where they store and promote the cultivation of traditional seed varieties. The renewed control over seeds among farmers themselves has already begun to have dramatic impacts on the livelihoods of participating farmers.

The only asset owned by Noresh Ali, a farmer in Kachuahat village, is 10 decimals of agricultural land. Like many other farmers, he cultivates his land with a variety of rice seed known as Bangla-6, which he buys from a nearby market every year. The first time he cultivated these seeds, the yield of rice was good. However, since 2012, it has started to decline. Last year, the yield was so low that he earned less from selling his rice crop than the amount of money he had to spend on seeds, artificial fertilizers, and chemical inputs to cultivate it.

This year, Noresh Ali decided to grow a traditional variety of rice, made available by the seed bank started by local landless groups. To cultivate his 10 decimals of land, he paid 850 taka for traditional cow-dung manure, and had no additional expenditures. For this, his yield was four and a half mounds of rice paddy. He stored 5 kg of rice to use as seeds next year, and the remaining crop was worth 3,800 taka at the market. As he didn't have to borrow any money to cultivate this crop, he stored the rice for his own family's consumption. Happy with his yield, Noresh Ali said, "even though the yield of paddy is less, but the local variety ensures food security. So, I am satisfied".

Seed store and management

The Nijera Kori "Agriculture-Land-Water" watch sub-committee established a seed bank to store traditional varieties of seeds which have become supplanted by new varieties of high-yield seeds in the market. From four villages (*Bashata, Kachuahat, Sathalia and Gobindi*), 29 women and 16 men have become members of the seeds bank, which they manage collectively. One member keeps records of the storage and use of various varieties of seeds. In order to build up the seed bank's capacity, after withdrawing seeds for their own use in planting, members replenish the bank's supply with 50% more rice seeds and 25% more vegetable seeds after harvest.

They store the seeds in clay pots, using ash and acacia leaves to preserve them. Their current stock includes 5 varieties of traditional rice and 11 varieties of vegetables. In addition to the members who are already using seeds from the bank, 7 other farmers have taken seeds for cultivation.

Golapi Begum is not a member of a Nijera Kori landless group. She used to work as a vegetable vendor in a local market, but for the past year years, she has been growing her own vegetables on 1 decimal of land next to her house, which help her to feed her family. Last year she purchased and planted hybrid papaya saplings from a local nursery. Disappointed with the results, she said “it is more expensive [to cultivate hybrid papaya trees], and the trees are short. Because of this, if you don’t harvest the papayas quickly, new fruits won’t grow. For this reason, it’s not possible to ripen the papayas in the tree. The seeds can’t be preserved either. This year, I have taken seeds from the landless seed bank and grown my own saplings with those.”

She continued, “7 farmers those who are not members of the landless groups, but they have cultivated and sold saplings from the saplings I grew with the seeds from the Seed Bank. By selling the saplings, I have been able to cover the costs of cultivation. The yields from the local variety of papaya are lower, but as they ripen on the trees, I get a better price for selling ripe papayas. If only the landless group had established Seed Bank in every village, many more people would have been able to benefit!”

Experience of the members

When we started the seed bank, there were only 5 members. In only 2 years, the number of members has increased to 32. The number of farmers using seeds from the bank has also increased. Now many farmers have also started storing their own seeds at home after seeing the success of the seed bank.

Case study-3

Resisting sale of agricultural ingredients meant for free distribution in the market for profit

Area: village-Madhusarai, Union- Atbarpur, Upazila- Chandina, district- Comilla

Introduction: The assistant agricultural block official is officially stationed in this village, but being a local person in the union, he is also involved with agricultural development activities in the neighboring union. As a result, he developed an unwholesome liaison with the business-men dealing in agricultural ingredients. These dealers or businessmen are people who are influential locally as they have contact with the party in power. As a result, the local farmers are unable to protest any irregularities.

Sale of free agricultural ingredients in the market:

The Atbarpur union agricultural block supervisor has been undertaking his duties in his own union for the past 7 years. During this long period, he has developed controversial relationships with the locally influential people such as seed, pesticide and fertilizer dealers and businessmen.

In 2013, the officer withdrew from the store tomato, potato and mustard seeds for free distribution at the seasonal agricultural exhibition. However, he did not distribute the seeds freely to the farmers. When some of the landless members went to the local market on the 4th of November, 2013 to buy seeds, they saw the assistant agricultural officer selling the free seeds to local businessmen. Instantly the members demanded to know why the free seeds were being sold in the market. When people gathered around the officer, instead of replying to their questions, he escaped from the market.

Seeds and victimized farmers:

1. Mustard seed- victimized farmers- 20 people.
2. Potato seed- victimized farmers- 15 people.
3. Tomato seed- victimized farmers- 20 people.

Landless organization in resisting irregularities:

The landless organization collected information from the local markets in Atbarpur and from various other markets in other union. From most of the markets, they found evidence of the sale of free seeds. In reaction to this situation, the landless organization conducted a meeting on the 6th of November, 2013 in Atbarpur school ground. In this meeting they demanded the stoppage of free agricultural ingredients being sold in the market, they also demand an investigation into this situation and punishment for the culprits. After the meeting, they marched into the office of the Upazila agriculture officer and handed over the memorandum. In reaction to the demands of the landless organization, the Upazila agriculture officer made an investigation in various markets of Atbarpur on the 9th of November. He also had one to one talks with many of the local farmers. During the investigation, in the presence of the landless members, the assistant agricultural officer confessed to selling free seeds in the market. He begged for forgiveness and pledged not to repeat this mistake in future. Still, the landless members demanded exemplary punishment. On the demand of the landless organization, Upazila agriculture officer promised to ensure justice.

Result: As charged of selling free seeds, the assistant agricultural officer was terminated from the job temporarily. The farmers were given compensation money equal to the value of the market price of the seeds which had been sold. As a result, in most of the unions in Chandina upazila, there is no longer any sale of free seeds. Now the assistant agricultural officer is performing his duties correctly.

Case study-4

Education institution and building market. Environment and establishment of rights

Area: Union- Sahas, upazila- Dumuria, Khulna

Background:

In the past the Bhadra River extended over the greater part of Sahas upazila. Between 1983-84, commercial shrimp cultivation started and they erected unplanned embankments and forcibly occupied the river. As a result, the river was filled up and new “chars” emerged at various points. The influential coterie forcibly occupied these chars by dubious means.

School and market- There is no boundary:

To spread education, a few important people in the area built the “Sahas Noakati School”. It is a very old school and it has been officially registered. As a result, for many past years it has enjoyed all government benefits. The government granted some land for a new market to be established, but the land granted was already occupied by the local “jotdar”. Therefore, instead of the designated land, the Noakati market was established on land adjoining the school. This has destroyed the peaceful atmosphere of the school.

Why and when was the market established

Due to prolonged movements by the landless group during the past many years, commercial shrimp cultivation has stopped on over 2,000 acres of land. The local farmers with their traditional skill and knowledge have made the land fit for agriculture once again. As a result, the farmers can now grow rice as well as vegetables on these lands over the year. However, they did not have a market in the area and so the farmers were compelled to sell their products to the middlemen at a reduced price.

At one stage, in order to sell their products directly, they built an unplanned market adjacent to the school boundary. This unplanned market destroyed the school's academic atmosphere. The "Education watch sub-committee" identified the problem due to the complaints of the guardians and student.

Identification of the issue and strategic steps

On the basis of information and advice supplied by the watch sub-committee, the landless group identified 2 issues. These issues were firstly the extension of the educational institution and creation of congenial atmosphere, and secondly, retrieving the government land which was allotted for establishing the market from the "jotdar" who currently occupy it. To address these 2 issues, the landless group made a strategic plan. As per the plan created in 2012, 8 landless members contested for the membership of the market committee. Out of the 11 members of the market management committee, the president and the secretary, a total of 6 landless members were elected. Therefore, the market committee was controlled by the landless group.

Retrieving the land for market: establishing market

After collecting the official documents for the land allotted for the market, the landless group started raising public support for dislodging the unauthorized occupiers of the land. They organised meetings and gatherings in various villages, staged street demonstrations and hung posters with the occupiers' names and blue-prints. As a result, the people in the area were provided with correct information. Given this information and increased awareness, the people started demanding the erection of the new market on the allotted land.

The landless group also collected 3,000 signatures and submitted it to the local parliament member, UNO and union parishad. Copies of the memorandum and the signatures were also submitted to land owners, local government and the village development and co-operative ministry.

Allotment of fund and construction work

The pressure from the landless group compelled the related administration and parliament members to allot funds for extension of the school and for erecting the market. The education ministry granted funds for extension work of the school, and for erecting the market and the local government, village development and co-operative ministry also allotted the required funds. However, the problem remained concerning the unauthorized occupiers of the land. To tackle this, an opinion sharing meeting was organised, with participation from parliament members, the Upazila Executive Officer (UNO), the upazila chairman, the Union parishad chair-man and the landless group. As decided in the meeting, the elected representatives then called the illegal occupiers and asked them to vacate the land within 3 days. However, the illegal occupiers disobeyed the directives of the elected representatives. Therefore, on the 28th of November, 2013, the landless group with five hundred members, dislodged the unauthorized occupiers from the land in the presence of elected members. The occupiers filed a case against 24 landless members. The case number is General Diary (GR) GR 25/310. The landless members ignored the cases filed against them, and assisted in building the market and they are currently monitoring it.

Results

As a result of the extension program for the school, a new five room school building has been erected. This means there are now two sections for class 1 to class 5, and the number of students and teachers has doubled. Meanwhile, the Noakhali local market has been erected on the government allotted land away from the school. Work on shade, sewerage, bathrooms and the structure of the market has started.

Farmers from nearly 15 villages are doing their transaction in this market. We can sum up that the efforts of landless group have contributed in ensuring a peaceful atmosphere in school and for erecting a much needed market.

Case study-5

Irregularity in health care system Legitimate investigation and administrative steps

Area: Village-Alenga, union-Nandalalpur, upazila-Kumarkhali, district-Kustia

Background

According to government calculations, the rate of Child and Mother's mortality has reduced. At union and upazila level there are child and mother's health care centers. Although these centers have facilities, most of the time service is not available due to the absence of doctors and so health care is not always available in these centers. In Kumarkhali upazila there are no doctors in the "Child and mother's health care center". Between Kushtia district's two upazila's—Kumarkhali and Mirpur, there is only 1 doctor. This lack of doctors has created opportunities for non-government clinics to flourish. These clinics are more interested in making profit as opposed to delivering health service.

Irregularity in delivering service:

Landless member Minara Begum, after becoming pregnant was receiving health care regularly from Kumarkhali upazila "Mother and child health care center". When labor pain started her relatives brought her to "Kumarkhali Mother and Child Healthcare Centre". The on duty doctor asked them to treat Minara Begum as per the advice of mid-wife. They did not have time to shift her to Kushtia Sadar Hospital. Hence, on the advice of the matron they were compelled to give treatment at "Pratik Modern Private Hospital and Diagnostic Centre". This non-government hospital quickly rendered service by getting a doctor from outside and delivering the baby by caesarean operation. Soon after the operation Minara Begum's condition deteriorated. The owner of clinic realized the condition of the patient and, ignoring the relatives, took Minara Begum to Faridpur Specialized hospital on the 23rd of June. After delivering the patient in the hospital the owner of the clinic left, taking with him all of the patients health papers.

Doctors at the Faridpur hospital started Minara Begum's treatment but unfortunately she died the same night- on the 23rd of June. The doctors in the hospital informed us that due to wrong operation and the use of below standard equipment, infection spread very fast and caused her death.

Demand of justice by landless group:

After they heard this news the landless group decided to protest. From the morning after her death, the landless group organized meetings, gatherings and street dramas to mobilize public opinion. At the same time the landless group discussed the matter with local representatives, press club, lawyers, women's organization/clubs and the Local Market (haat-bazar).

On the 24th of June, the landless groups barricaded the office of the upazila administration with thousands of males and females, demanding justice. On the demand of the masses Upazila Executive Officer (UNO) pledged to take quick action. Keeping to this pledge, on the same day the UNO (also first-class magistrate), assistant commissioner (land) and landless group started the investigation of "Pratik Modern Private Hospital and Diagnostic Center". The investigation revealed many irregularities in the center. The administration appreciated the steps taken by the landless group.

Result: The UNO empowered with mobile court power, closed the "Pratik Modern Private Hospital and Diagnostic Center". For using below standard equipment they were fined Tk 5,000 (\$65 USD). At present, divisional investigations are still ongoing for the irregularities and specifically for the negligence of Kumarkhali Mother and child health care's doctor and mid-wife.

Case study-6

Micro Credit: Insecurity of life and property

Area: Village- Laskmipur, Union-west Mohammadpur, Upazila-Daudkandi, Comilla.

Background

The main purpose of micro-credit is to alleviate poverty and therefore micro-credit schemes are being implemented all over the country. For many, micro-credit is considered a model of development. However, there is large amount of controversy about the impacts, irregularities and harassment experienced by recipients of micro-credit.

Micro-credit activities: Policy and reality

Gita Rani (45) and her husband Narendra Majumder live in Laxmipur village. This family is not members of Nijera Kori's landless group but they support the organization. In the past, farming agriculture products was their main source of income. Tempted by the promises given by micro-credit organizations, Gita Rani took a loan in 2003 from a micro-credit organization to buy a fishing net. After a few days, she took even more loans to buy three more fishing nets. Consequently Narendra Majumder gave up farming and formed a group with eight people from the local area and started renting and fishing in various ponds. All the members of this group worked as laborers, while Narendra Majumder was the owner of the nets. Initially, after paying the rent for the pond and the wages for the laborers, Narendra could still afford to pay the installments to the micro-credit organizations. This motivated and lured Narendra into borrowing more from a few other micro-credit organizations in order to buy more nets and from a bigger group.

Many organizations started pestering him regularly to form a bigger group and therefore create job opportunities for more people. These organisations did not care to investigate whether there was ample opportunity in the area to catch the huge amount of fish that would be required to sustain the livelihoods of this group and its members. In this regard the micro-credit organization did not follow the right policy. Instead, all the organizations put mental pressure on Narendra for him to take more loans. Hence, instead of trying to assess the actual situation in realistic manner, Gita Rani started taking new loans from various organizations to buy more nets. The total amount of loans borrowed from various organizations became Tk.5, 56,000 (\$ 727USD).

Uncertainty and mental pressure

As they had taken loans from various organizations, payments of installments were due to one organization or another every day. Meanwhile, the rate of installments also started increasing. The area did not have sufficient ponds to sustain fishing with so many nets. There was not a big enough supply of fish and so not enough demand for renting the nets. Every week, each day only 2 to 3 nets were rented to catch fish. Therefore payment of installments became difficult and uncertain. In this situation, the micro-credit organizations started behaving very harshly and roughly towards Narendra. At one stage, one of the organization's representatives visited his house to intimidate him and threaten him with filing a law-suit. Narendra could not endure the mental pressure anymore and became sick.

So, Gita Rani started conducting the activities of the fishing groups instead. However, payment of installments regularly became almost impossible. Eventually she defaulted on repayments of loans to all the organizations. Hence, they were forced to leave their dwelling to escape from the creditors.

Possession of their property

Narendra Mojumder inherited the homestead and 10 decimals of land which was the only asset belong to Narendra Majumdar and Gita Rani. All the micro-credit organizations started pressuring Gita Rani to sell the asset in order to pay back the loans. Eventually, they were forced to sell their farmland. They became destitute and started living in a hut which they built on their inherited homestead. After selling their land they paid off Tk. 3, 40,000 (\$519 USD). But they could not pay off the entire amount. They still had a loan of Tk. 2, 16,000 (\$2,805 USD).

New occupation to pay off the loan:

Gita Rani and Narendra Majumdar had 5 children. All of them were married and lived separately. In this crisis none of the four sons came to assist their parents. So, the mother and the daughter took jobs in the nearby cold-storage. By depriving themselves they started paying off the loan each month. They paid Tk. 12,000 (\$156 USD) each month to the various organisations. Still, the creditors began pressuring them to sell their homestead in order to pay off the remaining loan. The creditors started looking for buyers.

Role of landless organization

In this situation Gita Rani and Narendra Majumdar bought their problem to landless organization and they sought after their assistance to solve the problem. The landless organization assessed the situation and thought that security of the couple was a very important factor. For their security, with the assistance of the landless group, Gita Rani made a General Dairy (GD) in October 2013 to stop intimidation and threats from the creditors. The number of G.D is 158. At the same time the landless group organized an opinion-sharing meeting with the micro-credit organisations, local administration and local union parishad. Also, the landless groups organised meetings and gatherings in unions, villages

and explained the irregularities, the threats and the realities of Gita Rani's case. In each village, they requested the villagers did not buy the homestead. As a result of these meetings and gatherings, gradually negative opinions against micro credit were created. This made the micro-credit organisations reduce the pressure they put on Gita Rani for repayment.

For the next course of action, the landless group again organised another opinion-sharing meeting. The meeting was attended by the officer in charge of thana (police station), the union parishad chairman, members and representatives of the micro-credit organisations involved. After much discussion they unanimously made two decisions.

Result/decision: Firstly, Gita Rani will pay off the principle. She will not pay off the interests. **Secondly,** Gita Rani will not pay off the installments weekly as demanded by the organizations. Each month she will pay Tk. 10,000 (\$130 USD) only. This 10,000 taka will be distributed among the micro-credit organizations according to the percentage of their loan. Also, this sort of double standards and irregularity will not be repeated in future.

Box-6:

To abandon the policy of double standard – Polli Karma Sahayak foundation (PKSF).

Each micro-credit organization must forsake double-standards.

- Before making the member of one organization a member of any other organization a discussion must be held with the original organization and the opinions expressed in this discussion must be respected.
- If a person becomes a new member of one organization and that person's background remains unknown regarding his previous loan, then his saving should be returned and his membership should be cancelled.

Case study-7

Resisting attempt to occupy river
Security of life and livelihood

Area: Union- Charbata, Upazila- Subarnachar, District- Noakhali

Background

Noakhali is a coastal district. On one side of the Meghna River, Subarnachar is situated and on the other side is Hatia upazila. On both sides of the river thousands of landless families live in the upazilas. The main source of livelihood for these families are cultivating one seasonal crop in the char's Khasland and also fishing in the river.

Attempt to occupy the river

For the past few years, industrialists from Noakhali and some jotdars have been trying to occupy the river. For this reason, one after another, many false cases have been filed against landless people and most of the landless farmers were accused with false cases.

Misuse of law

The jotdar made a false announcement in the area claiming that they have taken lease of the river. The armed band of the jotdars began intimidating and threatening the farmers. They planned to occupy the river by erecting embankments in the middle of the river. For this purpose, they signed a contract with the armed band and laborers of the adjoining village secretly. However, the landless farmers of the adjoining village came to know about this secret pact and they instantly informed the landless organisation in South Charmajid mouja about it.

Preparation to resist occupation of river

To decide about the course of action of how to resist occupation of the river, a joint meeting was called and a few landless groups from a number of moujas attended. They decided to resist the attempt locally and create pressure from the upazila and the district level government administration. For this purpose, they created a strong public opinion in the area against the illegal occupation of river by organizing gatherings, staging dramas, rendering songs and going from door to door to mobilize support. They also collected signatures. On the 23rd of June, 2013, the landless organisation submitted memorandums to the upazila administration and the water development board. On the basis of the memorandum, on the 27th of June, the water-development board made an investigation in the area. After an on the spot investigation, the assistant engineer of the water board said, "As per law the river belongs to the people. To occupy river or construct embankment in the river is punishable offence according to law. This branch of Meghna River is very important for drainage of water from Noakhali district". He further said, "River is people's asset. This river has not been leased by government. You shall use rivers, canals, open water-bodies etc. You shall protect them. We shall be by your side". On the basis of this official announcement, landless organisations from all the moujas of the char unitedly declared to resist the occupation. They started guarding the river from both sides.

Landless organizations in resisting illegal occupation

On the 5th of July 2013, in the early hours of the morning, the hired band of the jotdars employed nearly 2 hundred laborers to construct the embankment in the river. Upon receiving the news nearly 2 thousands landless males and females barricaded the armed band from all sides. The landless members also organized resistance on the other side of the river bank. As a result, the armed band and the laborers were surrounded by the landless members. After being besieged for nearly 3 hours, the armed band begged forgiveness to the landless members saying, "We are doing this job to earn our living. We are giving our word of honor that in future we will never come to occupy river. We are also poor people. We shall support your movement". The laborers were forced by the landless groups to clean the mud that was piled to construct the embankment and ensure the flow of water.

Result

Nearly 500 landless families were provided with homesteads, agricultural land and opportunity to catch fish in the river. Indirectly nearly 2000 landless families benefited.

Commercial shrimp cultivation has stopped. Agriculture and food security

Area: union- Surkhali, upazila- Botiaghata, Khulna

Background

From the eighties commercial shrimp cultivation started in the South–Eastern districts of Bangladesh. Influential non-local coterie forcibly occupied agricultural land, rivers, canals, and water-bodies to cultivate shrimp commercially for export. As a result, the local farmers and landless families suffered extreme food insecurity and loss of job-opportunities. As a result, many of them left their homestead and agricultural land and migrated to the cities in search of an alternative livelihood.

Forcible occupation of Khasland and cultivation of shrimp

In the monsoon season, people used to irrigate land in Hiragaji through open canals, to provide fresh water to their land in order to cultivate paddy. This was the area’s environmentally friendly production and formed the basis of their economy. This was also the most important source of livelihood for the area’s local people. Monetarily these families were not rich, but they produced enough paddies, seeds for oil, lentils, vegetables and fish to meet their families’ yearly requirements. In 1993, a few influential people from Dumuria upazila hired armed bands and forcibly occupied the Khas water body and started cultivating shrimp. From that time onward, due to an onslaught of saline water, all agricultural activities were stopped. As a result, within a few years, extreme food insecurity was visible in the area. Intimidated and made insecure by the shrimp cultivators some of the families sold their land and left the area.

Landless organization retrieves the Khasland water-body:

Year after year commercial shrimp cultivation continued in Hiragaji Khas water body. Due to threats, false cases and intimidation by the hired armed band, the local people could not organise any protests. Instead the landless organisation started organising protests. Since 2004, the landless group protested against and caused agitation for the commercial shrimp cultivation. They organised meetings, gatherings in local market (haat-bazaar), processions, staged street-dramas, news conference and they submitted memorandums continuously. In order to strengthen the movement, they sought the opinion of all the organised and non-organised local people and formed a committee named “Salt water resistance committee”. This committee led the movement and organised a massive demand from the masses to reclaim the water-body. They collected nearly 2thousands signatures and submitted it to the Water development board demanding the closure of government sluice gates used by the forcible shrimp cultivators. This demand by the landless group was published in the newspaper. As a result, many national level human rights and environment groups supported the cause of the landless people. Being pressured, the water development board decided to investigate the matter regarding the use of and management of the sluice gates. The investigation revealed that the sluice gates were illegally used to inundate the agricultural land with salt water. To address this issue, the water development board filed a case for illegal use of sluice gates by the shrimp cultivators. However, the board did not pursue the case.

The landless group organised an opinion sharing meeting on the 8th of August to assess the situation and make decisions. People's representatives also attended the meeting. The local people demanded instant closure of the sluice gates. On the demand of the masses the elected representative and the landless group jointly closed the gates on the 12th of August, 2013. Shrimp enclosures were also demolished and the open Khas water body was retrieved.

Result

The farmers have established their rights on nearly 70 acres of government Khas water bodies and agricultural land. 272 families are once again cultivating crops in the land. Besides, nearly 500 families have been provided with opportunities to fish in Khas water-body. Also, these families have found food security, job opportunities and an adequate supply of nutrition. As shrimp cultivation has stopped, environmental balance in the area has been restored and people are secure. The Water development board has removed the old sluice gate management committee and nominated landless members to form the new sluice gate management committee. This is a positive step in recognizing and empowering the official landless groups.

Case study-9

Protest against embezzlement of wage Establishment of legitimate wage

Background

In order to provide job opportunities and alleviate poverty, the government has undertaken various types of development activities. But due to corruption and irregularities many poor people, especially women, are unable to avail the advantages of the projects.

Project and irregularities

In Palashbari upazila, to provide job opportunities to the rural masses and to maintain roads in the area, a project has been undertaken with the supervision of the local administrative engineering office (LGED). This project existed for 5 years, from August, 2008 to July, 2013. The two main purpose of this project were firstly to create job opportunities for women and secondly to create independent funds for the laborers. As part of this project, across 9 unions of Palashbari upazila, a total of 270 women worked as laborers. Through the project, each month each female laborer got Tk. 2,700 (\$35 USD) in wages. But the project authority deducted 1,080 taka each month from the wages to add to their independent fund. This fund was then deposited in the bank in the laborers name.

At the end of the project, the laborers went to Sonali bank on the 28th of July, 2013 to withdraw their fund. However, the project management authority had failed to deposit the deducted fund of 1,080 taka for the 3 months of April, May and June, 2013, so some of the laborers' savings were missing.

Protest by landless organization against embezzlement of fund

This incidence was brought to the notice of the landless organisation. To make plans for their course of action, the landless group called a meeting on the 2nd of August, 2013. The meeting was attended by all the landless leaders of the area. To enquire why the fund had not been deposited, on the 5th of August, 2013, about 5 hundred landless male and female members marched to the upazila engineering officer's office. The officer claimed he did not know anything about this incidence and he declined when asked to give any explanation. In reaction to this the landless organisation exclaimed that this was an obvious case of corruption and the officer forced them out of the room. The landless group instantly organised a protest meeting at the Shahid Minar. The protest meeting was attended by reporters, teachers, some elected representatives, rickshaw-van drivers and so on. They all supported the cause of landless group. After the meeting, under the leadership of the landless group, nearly one thousand males and females barricaded the office of the UNO. After nearly 2 hours the Upazilla Executive Officer (UNO) sat with the landless members to listen to their grievances. The women laborers told them that three months' worth of their deducted fund from their monthly wage had not been deposited in the bank account. They demanded that these savings, which belonged to the laborers, had been embezzled. To enquire about the matter, the UNO called and questioned officials connected with the project, bank officials and the upazila engineering community organizer (CO). The officials attempted to justify themselves by saying that the bank had deducted "VAT" for each year and that was why the amount in the accounts was less. However, the bank officials produced all the papers and showed them that the VAT from the laborers' wage had already been deducted as per legal procedure, and in fact the laborers should have received interests on their savings. The bank official produced all the papers and proved that in reality for 3 months, from April to June no money was deposited in the laborers' fund. After receiving all the evidence, the UNO admitted in front of the masses that this was a case of embezzlement. The fund's account was reviewed there and then and it was revealed that for each laborer 1080×3 taka was embezzled. So from a total of 270 laborers, a total of Tk. 478,000 (\$6,208 USD) was siphoned. The UNO informed the masses that the money owed to each laborer would be given by the 7th of August 2013, by cheque. He also said he was sorry on behalf of every one and admitted that there was a weakness and a failure on the part of the project monitoring management authority.

Result

In keeping to his pledge made on the 7th of August 2013, the UNO deposited Tk. 67,000 (\$870 USD) by cheque into the laborers fund. Due to the movements and action taken by the landless groups, resistance against corruption has become stronger in the society. Out of a total of 270 laborers 117 people have bought cows with their money, nineteen of them have opened fixed deposit accounts for 5 years in the bank and seventy eight people have repaid their homestead and paid off their loan. Most of the women have used the money in productive and sustainable activities and so this will definitely advance economic sustainability of women in the society.

Three women established their rights on ancestral properties

Area: District- Comilla, Upazila- Chandina, Municipality- Chandina.

Background

In Comilla district's Chandina municipal area Fatema Begum, a landless member was residing in her ancestral property. She had 3 sisters and 5 brothers. In the same homestead, Fatima used to live with her mother and one of her younger sisters. Although they lived in the same house-hold they lived separate lives. It should be mentioned that Fatima was married in 2002 by her parents but, as she could not get along with her husband, she was divorced in 2005. She did not have any children.

After the divorce she came back to her parent's house and started living there. Even though all her siblings lived in the same household, the five brothers did not look after their mother and their unmarried younger sister and therefore Fatima had to provide for her mother and younger sister.

The five brothers divided their ancestral properties among themselves and were living comfortably. They deprived the three sisters from the ancestral property. This continued for a long time. Very often the brothers made taunting remarks directed to Fatima for living in their father's house; they used to say that female children had no right to live in father's house. Things did not stop there. Fatima was also prohibited to use the tube-well to collect water. Fatima protested and informed the brothers that their sisters were also entitled to ancestral property and that she demanded her share in writing.

Fatima's fight to establish her right on ancestral property

The brothers did not agree to give Fatima her share in writing and so Fatema announced that she, along with her mother and sister, would not move from her ancestral property. Every day she fought on this issue. Fatema decided to end this deprivation and so informed the landless organisation of the matter.

Meeting by landless organization to solve the problem

On the 5th of April, 2013, the landless organisation arranged a meeting. Fatima's five brothers were also asked to attend the discussion. In the meeting the leaders of the landless organisation asked the five brothers to give the sister her share of the property in writing. There was heated discussion and they declined to give her share of the homestead but agreed to give her share of agricultural land. The landless organisation was adamant to only settle for her shares in both the agricultural land and the homestead. The brothers did not agree. Hence, the leaders of the landless organisation made a written complaint to the ward 4 commissioner of Chandina Municipality.

Initiative by municipal authority to solve the problem, 3 sisters got their share of ancestral property

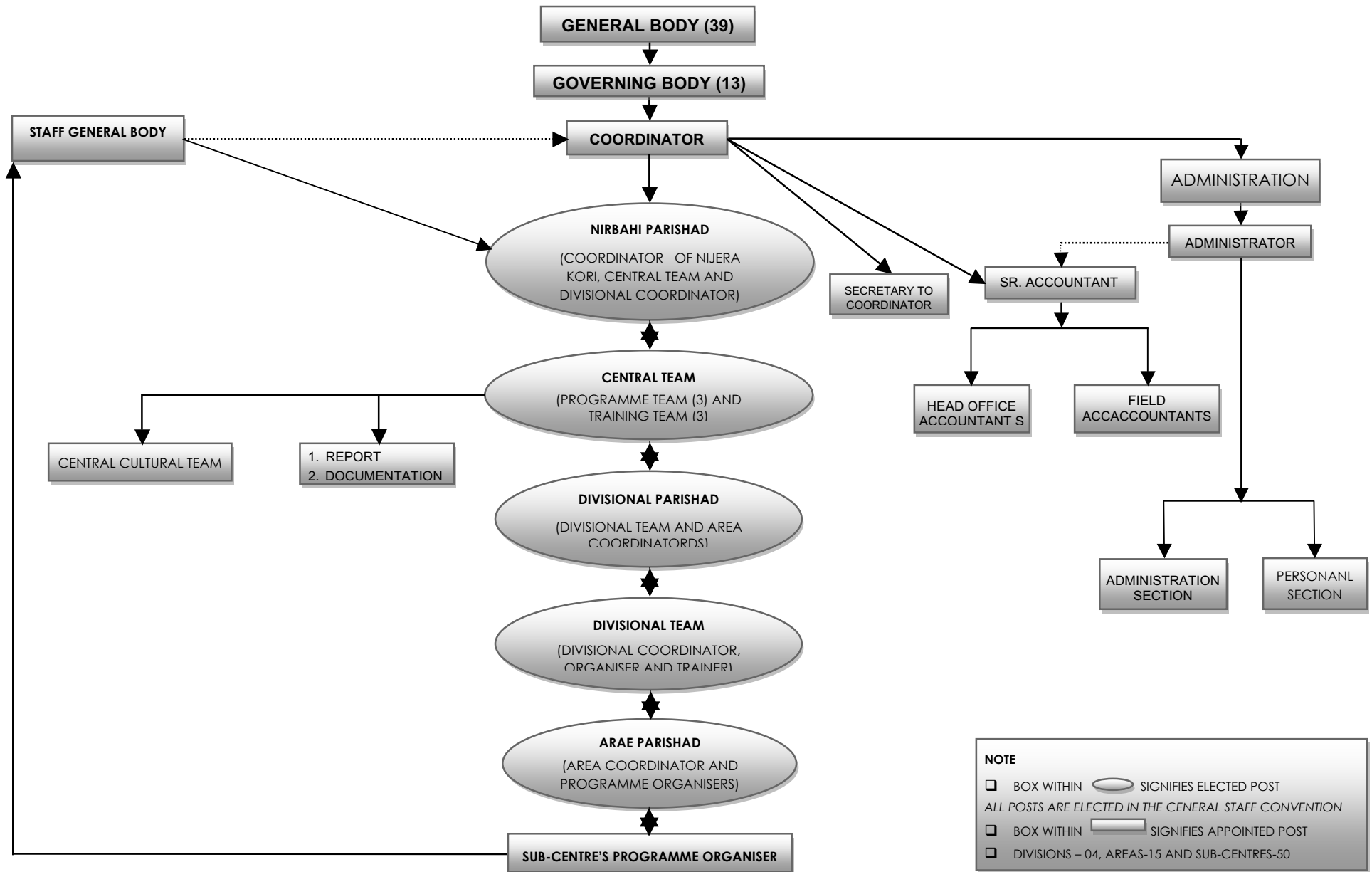
Due to the written complaint, the five brothers were notified in writing by the municipal authority to come to the municipal office on the 17th of April, 2013 for a discussion. On the 17th of April 2013, the meeting was held in the municipal community hall. The brothers were directed by the authority to give 1 and half% each, so a total of 4% of the land from the homestead to the 3 sisters, and 4% each, so a total of 12% of the agricultural land. At this time the landless members, both women and male were present in the Chandina Municipality and they supported the discussion and decision.

Result



As a result of the initiative taken by the landless organisation, the 3 women were able to receive their due share of their ancestral property.

Organogram of Nijera Kori

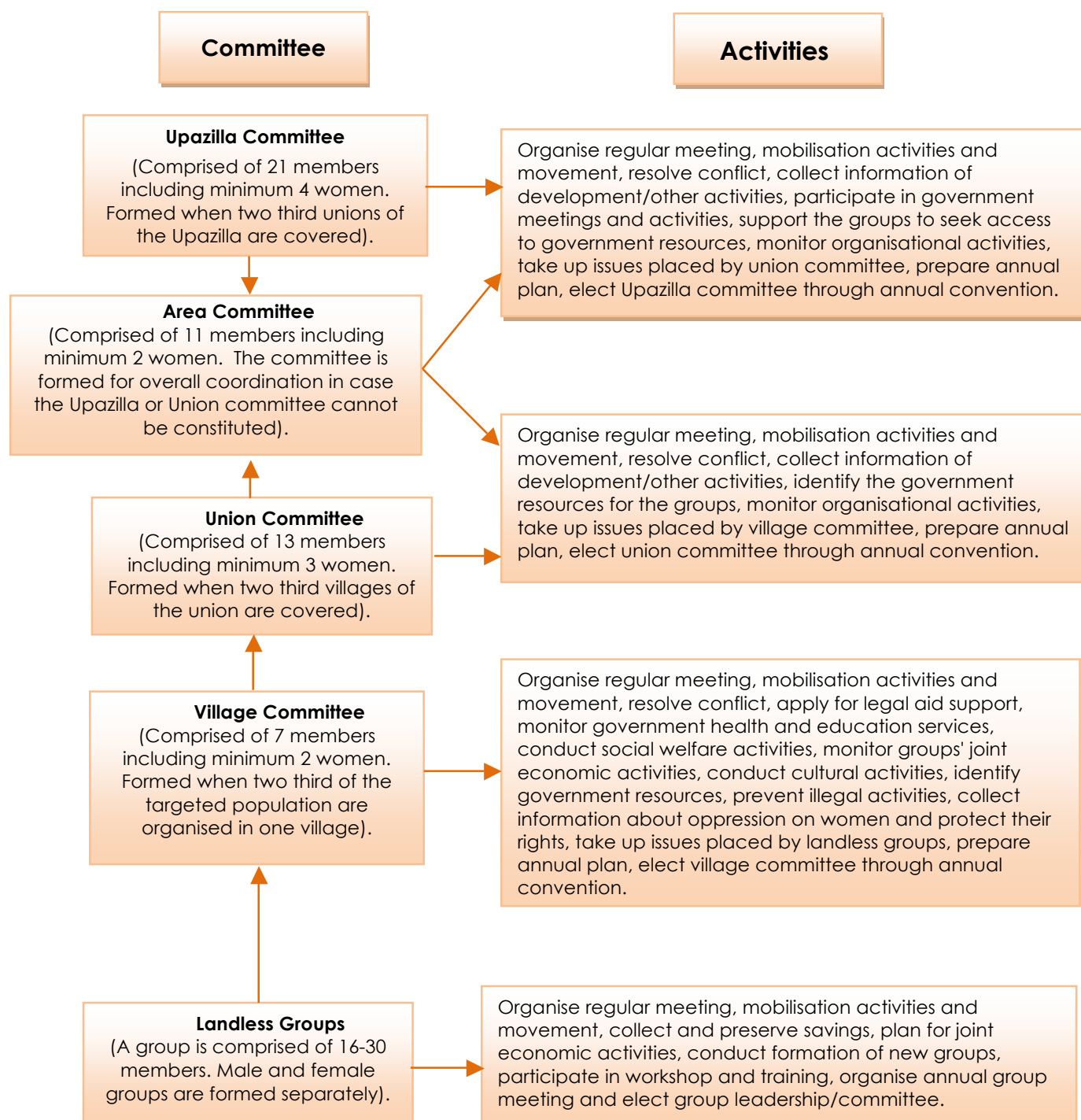
Annex-A



NOTE

- BOX WITHIN  SIGNIFIES ELECTED POST
- ALL POSTS ARE ELECTED IN THE GENERAL STAFF CONVENTION
- BOX WITHIN  SIGNIFIES APPOINTED POST
- DIVISIONS – 04, AREAS-15 AND SUB-CENTRES-50

Groups and Group Coordination Committee Structure



Planning and Monitoring Structure

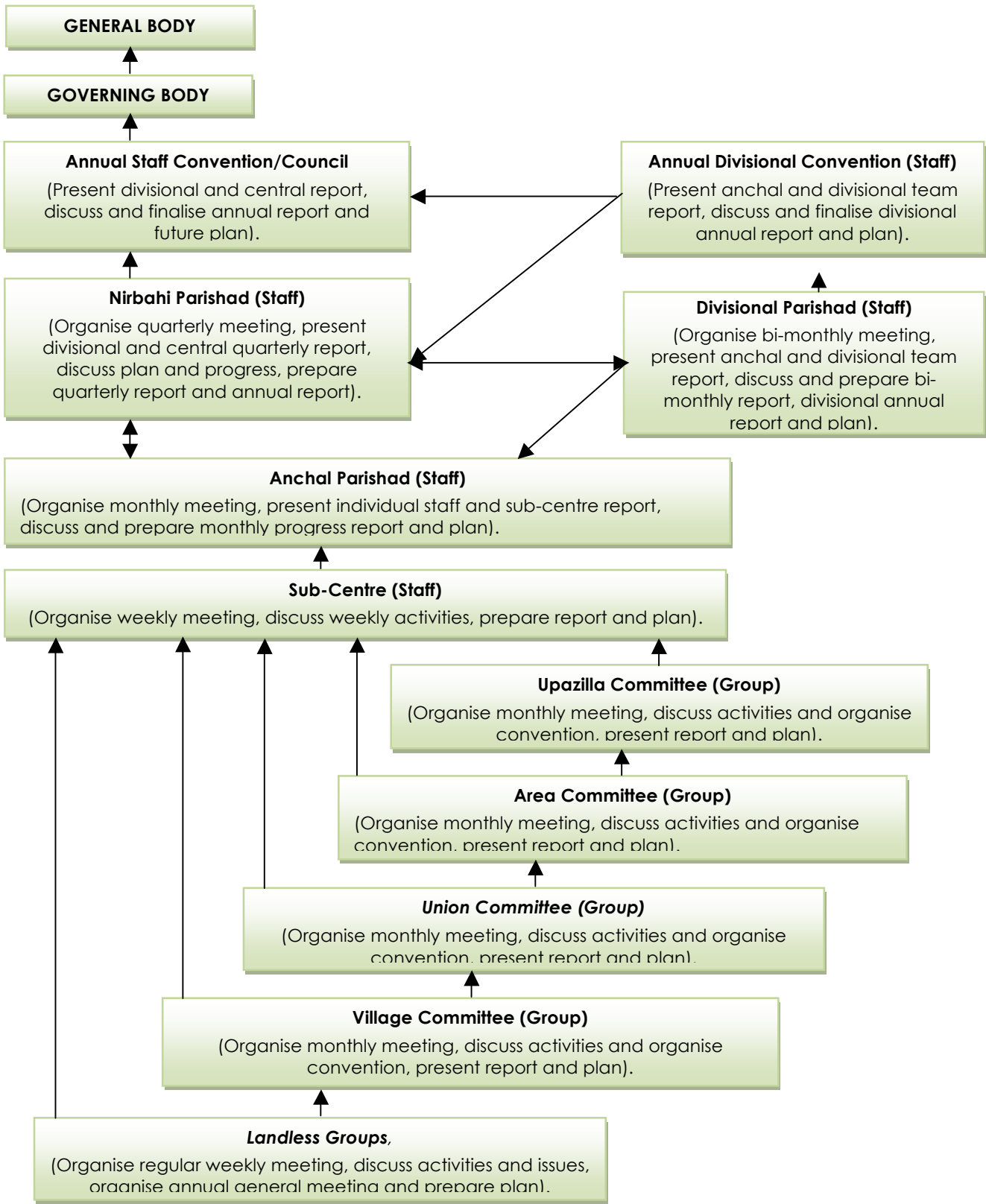


TABLE – 01: Geographical Location of Programmes of Nijera Kori																
Sl. No	Division	District	Upazila	Area	Sub-center	Total up to March 2013		Expansion in 2013-14		Decrease in 2013-14		Total up to March 2014		Village Coverage		
						U	V	U	V	U	V	U	V	Up to March 2013	New 2013-14	Up to March 2014
1	Chittagong	Comilla	Chandina	Comilla	3	24	109	1	0	0	24	110	21	0	21	
			Daudkandi													
			Debidwar													
			Muradnagar													
		Noakhali	Sudharam	Charjabbar	5	9	45	0	0	0	0	9	45	6	0	6
			Companigonj													
			Kabirhat													
Lakshmpur	Ramgoti	Ramgoti	1	6	28	0	0	0	0	6	28	5	0	5		
Chittagong	Sandwip	Sandwip	2	14	28	0	0	0	0	14	28	-	0	0		
Sub total	1	4	9	4	11	53	210	0	1	0	0	53	211	32	0	32
2	Dhaka	Tangail	Tangail Sadar	Tangail	1	11	72	0	0	7	50	4	22	5	0	5
			Madhupur	Madhupur	2	12	127	0	0	0	0	12	127	20	0	20
				Dhanbari												
Sub total	1	1	3	2	3	23	199	0	0	7	50	16	149	25	0	25
3	Khulna	Kushtia	Kumarkhali	Kumarkhali	1	7	51	0	0	0	7	51	14	0	14	
			khoksa													
		Khulna	Paikgacha	Paikgacha	6	18	168	1	3	0	0	19	171	39	2	41
			Dumuria													
			Batiaghata													
Dakope																
Sub total	1	2	6	2	7	25	219	1	3	0	0	26	222	53	2	55
4	Rajshahi	Sirajgonj	Raygonj	Raygonj	2	5	82	0	0	0	5	82	13	0	13	
		Bogra	Bogra Sadar													
		Rangpur	Rangpur Sadar	Rangpur	2	9	81	0	0	0	0	9	81	24	0	24
			Mithapukur													
		Dinajpur	Khanshama	Dinajpur	1	4	22	0	0	0	0	4	22	5	0	5
		Kurigram	Rowmari	Rowmari	1	8	84	0	0	0	0	8	84	21	0	21
			Rajibpur													
		Gaibandha	Saghata	Gaibandha	2	23	195	0	0	7	48	16	147	64	0	64
			Sadullapur													
		Rangpur	Pirgonj													
Natore	Bagatipara	Bagatipara	1	10	170	0	0	0	0	10	170	42	0	42		
	Lalpur															
	Natore Sadar															
Sub total	1	7	13	6	9	59	634	0	0	7	48	52	586	169	0	169
Total	4	14	31	14	30	160	1,262	1	4	14	98	147	1,168	279	2	281

LIST OF GOVERNING BODY MEMBERS 2012-2014

1.	Nurul Islam Khan	Chairman
2.	Latifa Akanda	Vice-Chairman
3.	Khushi Kabir	Secretary
4.	Ira Rahman	Treasurer
5.	Dil Monowora Monu	Asstant Treasurer
6.	Mohammad Shahid Hossain Talukdar	Member
7.	Abdul Majid Mallik	Member
8.	Shaheen Islam	Member
9.	Bashirul Haq	Member
10.	Biren Shome	Member
11.	Shafique uz Zaman	Member
12.	Masuma Khanam	Member
13.	Kazi Madina	Member

RIZERA KORI
RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
ENSURING DEMOCRACY, ACCOUNTABILITY AND RIGHTS FOR THE POOREST
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2014

Particulars	Notes	Amount in Taka 01.04.2013 to 31.03.2014
RECEIPTS:		
Opening Balance		1,986,135
Cash in hand		46,962
Cash at Bank		1,939,174
Grants Receipts	17.00	68,683,353
Other Receipts	18.00	40,210
Development Fund		23,000,000
Advance A/C		64,000
Advance Realized office accommodation	9.00	60,000
Office Advance Realized	9.00	4,000
Other Fund Received:	15.00	5,426,306
		99,200,004
PAYMENTS:		
Salary and allowances	19.00	55,155,211
Training and Workshop	20.00	4,409,212
Seminar, Meeting and conference	21.00	3,139,682
Legal aid and Advocacy	22.00	1,579,579
Solidarity development	23.00	365,559
TA, DA and Conveyance	24.00	3,338,819
Office Accommodation	25.00	4,226,700
Training Center & Sub Center Support:	26.00	8,599,447
Bank charge and Audit fees	27.00	211,439
		81,025,648
Office Advance	9.00	10,311
Other Fund Payment:	15.00	5,003,172
Transfer A/C-Other Project	10.00	1,126,314
Total Payments		87,165,445
Closing Balance:	11.00	12,034,559
Cash in hand		96,703
Cash at Bank		11,937,857
		99,200,004

The annexed notes form an integral part of the Statement of Receipts and Payments.



 Administrator



 Coordinator

This is the Statement of Receipts and Payments referred to in our separate report of even date.

Dhaka
 30 June, 2014


 Khairul Bashir FCA
 Partner
 Aziz Halim Khair Choudhury
 Chartered Accountants

Table – 02: Formation of Landless Group

Description	Up to March 2013			Plan			Achievement			Decrease in 2012-13			Total up to March 2014		
	F	M	T	F	M	T	F	M	T	F	M	T	F	M	T
Rajshahi	2,329	1,946	4,275	47	26	73	42	27	69	217	196	413	2,154	1,777	3,931
Dhaka	563	474	1,037	5	3	8	4	4	8	270	241	511	297	237	534
Chittagong	815	664	1,479	43	36	79	44	32	76	145	82	227	714	614	1,328
Khulna	236	183	419	0	0	0	0	0	0	236	183	419	0	0	0
Total Core	3,943	3,267	7,210	95	65	160	90	63	153	868	702	1,570	3,165	2,628	5,793
ICCO	463	309	772	14	8	22	19	4	23	0	0	0	482	313	795
MJF	991	757	1,748	16	14	30	24	22	46	0	0	0	1,015	779	1,794
CA	869	393	1,262	9	9	18	9	5	14	0	0	0	878	398	1,276
Access	265	133	398	5	3	8	5	5	10	0	0	0	270	138	408
ARP	12	18	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	18	30
Total (NK)	6,543	4,877	11,420	139	99	238	147	99	246	868	702	1,570	5,822	4,274	10,096

Table – 03: Group Member

Description	Up to March 2013			Plan			Achievement			Decrease in 2012-14			Total up to March 2014		
	F	M	T	F	M	T	F	M	T	F	M	T	F	M	T
Rajshahi	47,240	43,300	90,540	938	709	1,647	840	540	1,380	3,956	3,967	7,923	44,124	39,873	83,997
Dhaka	10,436	10,180	20,616	180	180	360	74	81	155	5,368	5,047	10,415	5,142	5,214	10,356
Khulna	8,948	6,262	15,210	0		0			0	8,948	6,262	15,210	0	0	0
Chittagong	15,722	14,513	30,235	780	720	1,500	901	676	1,577	1,775	2,886	4,661	14,848	12,303	27,151
Total Core	82,346	74,255	156,601	1,898	1,609	3,507	1,815	1,297	3,112	20,047	18,162	38,209	64,114	57,390	121,504
ICCO	9,150	6,759	15,909	255	198	453	345	66	411	0	0	0	9,495	6,825	16,320
MJF	19,166	16,661	35,827	420	400	820	476	433	909	0	0	0	19,642	17,094	36,736
CA	12,970	5,831	18,801	180	180	360	156	98	254	0	0	0	13,126	5,929	19,055
Access	5,116	2,602	7,718	96	56	152	79	65	144			0	5,195	2,667	7,862
ARP	240	360	600	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	240	360	600
Total (NK)	128,988	106,468	235,456	2,849	2,443	5,292	2,871	1,959	4,830	20,047	18,162	38,209	111,812	90,265	202,077

TABLE: 04, A-Group Meeting, Attended by Staff, Group Only and Group Annual General Meeting

Description	Plan for Group Meeting			Achievement of landless groups Meeting								
	Attended by Staff and Group			Meeting Attended by Staff			Meeting Initiated by Group			Total by (Group and Staff)		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
Rajshahi	26,440	24,115	50,555	5,741	2,030	7,771	17,071	17,286	34,357	22,812	19,316	42,128
Dhaka	5,879	3,440	9,319	623	249	872	1,119	901	2,020	1,742	1,150	2,892
Chittagong	18,596	10,836	29,432	8,269	3,601	11,870	7,138	5,396	12,534	15,407	8,997	24,404
Total Core	50,915	38,391	89,306	14,633	5,880	20,513	25,328	23,583	48,911	39,961	29,463	69,424
MJF	9,419	7,388	16,807	4,688	3,191	7,879	2,564	2,879	5,443	7,252	6,070	13,322
CA	32,453	21,734	54,187	13,950	6,132	20,082	10,440	9,108	19,548	24,390	15,240	39,630
Access	5,493	2,970	8,463	1,889	674	2,563	2,131	1,683	3,814	4,020	2,357	6,377
ARP	535	655	1,190	299	478	777	200	141	341	499	619	1,118
ICCO	12,046	7,871	19,917	6,497	2761	9,258	2,991	2,091	5,082	9,488	4,852	14,340
Total (NK)	110,861	79,009	189,870	41,956	19,116	61,072	43,654	39,485	83,139	85,610	58,601	144,211

Table: 4, B- Representative and Joint Group meeting and Annual Group Meeting

Description	Representative Meeting		Joint Group Meeting		Plan			Achievement		
	Plan	Achievement	Plan	Achievement	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
Rajshahi	183	205	380	377	1,252	801	2,053	1,096	1,033	2,129
Dhaka	7	26	10	33	140	126	266	101	41	142
Chittagong	142	164	26	59	942	657	1,599	836	534	1,370
Total core	332	395	416	469	2,334	1,584	3,918	2,033	1,608	3,641
MJF	94	104	12	19	786	725	1,511	618	552	1,170
CA	147	143	24	23	1,531	1,222	2,753	1,290	618	1,908
Access	33	37	11	17	232	120	352	185	106	291
ARP	0	0	0	0	12	18	30	12	18	30
ICCO	35	66	66	143	468	316	784	373	220	593
Total NK	641	745	529	671	5,363	3,985	9,348	4,511	3,122	7,633

Table-5: Description of Workshops

Description of workshops	Core						ICCO						CA						Access						ARP						MJF							
	Plan for Participants			Achievement			Plan for Participants			Achievement			Plan for Participants			Achievement			Plan for Participants			Achievement			Plan for Participants			Achievement			Plan for Participants			Achievement				
	W	M	T	W	M	T	W	M	T	W	M	T	W	M	T	W	M	T	W	M	T	W	M	T	W	M	T	W	M	T	W	M	T	W	M	T	W	M
Strategic planning	507	468	975	532	597	1,129	117	108	225	119	111	230	130	120	250	129	132	261	26	24	50	29	22	51	26	24	50	29	23	52	78	72	150	69	92	161		
Climate change & impact on livelihood	156	144	300	167	131	298	39	36	75	41	37	78	65	60	125	61	67	128	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Collective production and management	143	132	275	174	149	323	52	48	100	56	51	107	41	59	100	48	51	99	13	12	25	14	13	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	30	50	36	47	83		
Re-productive health	208	192	400	261	189	450	0	0	0	0	0	0	67	33	100	69	33	102	26	24	50	27	24	51	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Seed bank management	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	26	24	50	29	22	51	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Patriarchy	156	144	300	136	187	323	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Globalisation & impact on livelihood	559	516	1,075	631	469	1,100	26	24	50	27	24	51	52	48	100	56	49	105	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					
Gender	598	552	1,150	654	581	1,235	0	0	0	0	0	0	52	48	100	63	59	122	26	24	50	29	23	52	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					
Food Sovereignty	143	132	275	187	131	318	52	48	100	56	43	99	52	48	100	47	51	98	26	24	50	27	21	48	26	24	50	25	27	52	52	48	100	47	51	98		
Fundamentalism & impact on livelihood	611	564	1,175	579	652	1,231	0	0	0	0	0	0	65	60	125	68	66	134	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Leadership Development	208	192	400	299	180	479	0	0	0	0	0	0	26	24	50	29	25	54	26	24	50	23	28	51	13	12	25	14	12	26	26	24	50	29	24	53		
Leadership Development for women	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	25	50	26	27	53	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Land rights of Minority community	26	24	50	29	48	77	0	0	0	0	0	0	52	48	100	51	46	97	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					
Saline water tolerant agriculture	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	25	50	28	27	55	0	0	0					
Land and Women	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	25	50	29	23	52					
Access and management of Market	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	13	25	12	13	25	0	0	0					
Right to Information	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	26	24	50	29	26	55	0	0	0					
Agricultural and women	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	26	24	50	31	21	52	0	0	0					
Agricultural Rights	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	60	65	125	60	61	121	0	0	0					
Preparatory workshop on Public Audi	20	30	50	31	48	79	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					
Total	3,335	3,090	6,425	3,680	3,362	7,042	286	264	550	299	266	565	602	548	1,150	621	579	1,200	168	157	325	175	158	333	240	235	475	257	232	489	201	199	400	210	237	447		

TABLE-06: Formation of Structural Committee

Description	Total No. of Committee up to March 2013				New Formation of Structural Committee		Decrease in 2012-14		Total No. of Committee up to March 2014			
	Village	Union	Upazilla	Area	Plan Village	Achievement Village	Village	Area	Village	Union	Upazilla	Area
Rajshahi	158	9	1	7	0	0	12	1	146	9	1	6
Dhaka	33	5	1	2	0	0	24	1	9	5	1	1
Khulna			0		0	0	16	3	0	0	0	0
Chittagong	39	2	0	7	0	0	0	0	35	2	0	7
Total Core	230	16	2	16	0	0	52	5	190	16	2	14
MJF	29	1	1	8	0	0	0	0	29	1	1	8
CA	21	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	21	1	0	1
Access	16	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	1	0	0
ARP	8	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	2	0	0
ICCO	35	3	0	6	2	2	0	0	37	2		6
Total (NK)	339	24	3	31	2	2	52	5	301	24	3	29

TABLE- 07: Committee Meeting and Group Convention

Division	Committee Meetings								Group Convention							
	Plan				Achievement				Plan				Achievement			
	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	1,684	114	12	69	1,573	113	12	69	185	16	1	8	138	7	1	6
Dhaka	148	64	12	11	156	55	12	8	28	2	1	1	16	4	1	0
Chittagong	263	12	0	96	246	12	0	96	21	1	0	8	21	1	0	6
Total Core	2,095	190	24	176	1,975	180	24	173	234	19	2	17	175	12	2	12
MJF	276	12	12	63	275	12	10	56	26	1	1	5	23	1	1	5
CA	453	12	0	0	403	12	0	0	27	1	0	1	27	1	0	1
Access	142	12	0	12	156	12	0	12	16	1	0	1	16	1	0	1
ARP	120	18	0	0	120	18	0	0	11	3	0	0	11	3	0	0
ICCO(Khulna)	415	35	0	71	293	31	0	79	28	5	0	4	29	2	0	4
Total (NK)	3,501	279	36	322	3,222	265	34	320	342	30	3	28	281	20	3	23

TABLE- 08: Group Saving

Division	Total up to March 2013			Plan			Achievement			Final Distribution			Total up to March 2014		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
Rajshahi	9,624,822	9,168,115	18,792,937	2,107,013	1,653,629	3,760,642	2,075,627	1,568,578	3,644,205	3,684,339	2,332,332	6,016,671	8,016,110	8,404,361	18,960,616
Dhaka	4,083,554	2,667,488	6,751,042	745,760	558,590	1,304,350	331,902	288,033	619,935	3,908,831	3,841,752	7,750,583	506,625	-886,231	6,831,327
Chittagong	4,330,137	3,608,437	7,938,574	3,301,315	1,991,995	5,293,310	3,199,257	2,024,432	5,223,689	2,786,090	1,571,670	4,357,760	4,743,304	4,061,199	8,804,503
Total Core	18,038,513	15,444,040	33,482,553	6,154,088	4,204,214	10,358,302	5,606,786	3,881,043	9,487,829	10,379,260	7,745,754	18,125,014	13,266,039	11,579,329	34,596,446
MJF	8,341,963	8,469,250	16,811,213	1,213,386	1,241,266	2,454,652	976,661	982,088	1,958,749	596,020	674,950	1,270,970	8,722,604	8,776,388	17,498,992
CA	12,326,502	5,498,836	17,825,338	2,159,070	1,333,030	3,492,100	1,856,617	1,023,935	2,880,552	973,230	160,300	1,133,530	13,209,889	6,362,471	19,572,360
Access	3,081,699	846,059	3,927,758	775,175	409,950	1,185,125	614,240	295,670	909,910	0	0	0	3,695,939	1,141,729	4,837,668
ARP	150,360	604,540	754,900	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	150,360	604,540	754,900
ICCO	3,609,367	2,629,440	6,238,807	498,330	335,282	833,612	574,309	270,010	844,319	555,820	231,400	787,220	3,627,856	2,668,050	6,295,906
Total (NK)	45,548,404	33,492,165	79,040,569	10,800,049	7,523,742	18,323,791	9,628,613	6,452,746	16,081,359	12,504,330	8,812,404	21,316,734	42,672,687	31,132,507	73,805,194

TABLE: 11- Refresher Training and Forum Meeting

Division	Refresher Training								Number of Forum		Forum Meetings	
	Plan				Achievement				Up to March 2013	Up to March 2014	Plan	Achievement
	Number	Participants			Number	Participants						
		Female	Male	Total		Female	Male	Total				
Rajshahi	16	198	200	398	16	201	193	394	16	16	156	149
Dhaka	4	52	48	100	4	56	32	88	5	5	33	26
Khulna	9	118	107	225	14	199	146	345	13	13	121	110
Chittagong	21	280	245	525	26	373	271	644	13	13	126	121
Total (NK)	50	648	600	1248	60	829	642	1471	47	47	436	406

TABLE: 12 Cultural Activities

Description	Number of Cultural Group	Cultural Workshop				Cultural Activity											
		Plan		Achievement		Plan						Achievement					
		N	P	N	P	C.G. Meeting	Cultural Discussion	Drama Performance	D.F./ Padajatra	People Song	Children C.P	C.G. Meeting	Cultural Discussion	Drama	D.F./ Padajatra	People Song	Children C.P
Rajshahi	15	5	128	6	133	163	13	164	0	76	58	162	11	125	0	58	62
Dhaka	5	8	165	7	167	46	4	51	0	40	1	45	5	39	0	20	2
Chittagong	8	11	220	8	163	82	3	95	1	69	2	72	11	89	1	77	5
Total Core	28	24	513	21	463	291	20	310	1	185	61	279	27	253	1	155	69
MJF	5	0	0	0	0	52	5	38	1	57	4	51	3	49	1	57	8
CA	9	0	0	0	0	126	20	65	4	34	11	119	14	70	4	34	9
Access	4	0	0	0	0	48	8	41	2	4	2	43	8	38	2	5	2
ARP	0	0	0	0	0	24	0	22	2	30	0	23	0	22	1	33	0
ICCO	8	1	20	9	175	94	7	71	1	32	15	87	10	71	3	41	19
Total (NK)	54	25	533	30	638	635	60	547	11	342	93	602	62	503	12	325	107

TABLE-13: Collective Economic Activities

Description	Agriculture						Fishery					livestock					Small business/rickshaw van					Total							
	Core	MJF	CA	Access	ARP	ICCO	core	MJF	CA	Access	ICCO	Core	MJF	CA	Access	ICCO	Core	MJF	CA	Access	ICCO	Core	MJF	CA	Access	ARP	ICCO	NK	
Up to March 2013																													
Group	F	497	51	103	17	7	9	61	4	6	0	12	135	79	58	13	4	1,306	452	91	3	3	1,999	586	258	33	7	28	2,911
	M	657	63	55	11	13	17	106	62	7	1	21	230	97	69	10	0	741	696	37	3	20	1,734	918	168	25	13	58	2,916
	T	1,154	114	158	28	20	26	167	66	13	1	33	365	176	127	23	4	2,047	1,148	128	6	23	3,733	1,504	426	58	20	86	5,827
Member	F	10,806	1,021	198	333	126	149	1,206	82	144	0	330	3020	1,584	1,121	222	71	22,864	8389	1681	56	63	37,896	11,076	3,144	611	126	613	53,466
	M	13,437	1,355	1,294	220	239	332	2,357	1,838	222	17	394	4752	2,031	1,616	178	0	14,230	13602	610	92	415	34,776	18,826	3,752	477	239	1141	59,211
	T	24,243	2,376	1,492	553	365	481	3,563	1,920	366	17	724	7,772	3,615	2,737	400	71	37,094	21,991	2,291	148	478	72,672	29,902	6,896	1,088	365	1,754	112,677
Employment	F	970	14	17	89	4	38	385	3	0	0	34	577	50	33	14	2	4,732	184	53	4	4	6,664	251	103	107	4	78	7,207
	M	5,865	37	31	5	5	90	1,628	22	1	1	180	73	81	41	10	0	3,118	236	50	79	42	10,684	376	123	95	5	312	11,595
	T	6,835	51	48	94	9	128	2,013	25	1	1	214	650	131	74	24	2	7,850	420	103	83	46	17,348	627	226	202	9	390	18,802
Quantity (Acres/No)		757.48	67	45	1	44	87.79	539.27	120	7	3	44.73	727	277	119	37	4	198	68	3	0	13	2,222	512	174	41	44	149.52	3,142
Investment in Tk		21,952,314	1,107,398	2,220,988	270,000	507,200	246,000	4,468,841	713,530	165,300	16,000	347,173	44,360,555	1,272,957	1,197,149	294,000	22,500	10,528,915	1302630	775794	30850	127605	41,386,125	4,378,515	4,359,231	610,850	507,200	743278	51,985,199
Increase 13- 2014																													
Group	F	19	0	5	2	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	25	1	2	0	1	67	15	2	1	3	112	17	9	3	0	6	147
	M	19	1	0	1	0	0	8	12	0	0	0	18	3	1	0	0	74	16	0	1	2	119	32	1	2	0	2	156
	T	38	1	5	3	0	1	9	13	0	0	1	43	4	3	0	1	141	31	2	2	5	231	49	10	5	0	8	303
Member	F	330	0	90	39	0	20	20	0	0	0	18	526	20	32	0	25	1,383	301	40	18	64	2,259	341	162	57	0	127	2946
	M	397	20	0	18	0	0	162	356	0	0	0	366	65	20	0	0	1,485	320	0	21	34	2,410	761	20	39	0	34	3264
	T	727	20	90	57	0	20	182	376	0	0	18	892	85	52	0	25	2868	621	40	39	98	4669	1102	182	96	0	161	6210
Employment	F	17	0	2	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	7	1	2	0	0	0	17	6	2	1	5	42	7	6	3	0	5	63
	M	16	1	2	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	6	3	1	0	0	0	62	6	1	1	2	86	10	4	3	0	2	105
	T	33	1	4	4	0	0	3	0	0	0	13	4	3	0	0	0	79	12	3	2	7	128	17	10	6	0	7	168
Quantity (Acres/No)		19.46	0.24	0	0	0	0.8	3.21	0	0	0	1.3	32	2	5	0	1	23	0	0	0	0	78	2.24	5	0	0	3.1	88.01
Investment in Tk		1,613,970	28,070	60,000	196,350	0	599750	223,440	479,950	0	0	6900	730455	56,600	52,000	0	12,000	2,886,775	252320	56380	130900	33000	5,454,640	816940	168380	327250	0	651650	7418860
Decreased																													
Group	F	158	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	51	7	0	0	0	131	0	0	0	0	343	8	0	0	0	0	662
	M	181	1	0	0	0	10	13	0	0	0	75	9	0	0	0	0	161	5	0	0	0	427	28	0	0	0	0	287
	T	339	1	0	0	0	13	14	0	0	0	126	16	0	0	0	0	292	5	0	0	0	770	36	0	0	0	0	949
Member	F	3,097	0	0	0	0	0	56	20	0	0	0	942	123	0	0	0	2,250	0	0	0	0	6,345	143	0	0	0	0	6488
	M	3,481	20	0	0	0	0	189	624	0	0	0	1386	296	0	0	0	2,552	150	0	0	0	7,608	1090	0	0	0	0	8698
	T	6,578	20	0	0	0	0	245	644	0	0	0	2,328	419	0	0	0	4,802	150	0	0	0	13,953	1,233	0	0	0	0	15,186
Employment	F	76	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	45	5	0	0	0	0	149	0	0	0	0	277	5	0	0	0	0	282
	M	131	0	0	0	0	14	0	0	0	0	49	5	0	0	0	0	59	1	0	0	0	253	6	0	0	0	0	259
	T	207	0	0	0	0	21	0	0	0	0	94	10	0	0	0	0	208	1	0	0	0	530	11	0	0	0	0	541
Quantity (Acres/No)		121.72	0.3	0	0	0	0	10.62	0.4	0	0	0	122	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	255	0.7	0	0	0	0	256.04
Investment in Tk		5,064,018	20,650	0	0	0	0	128,795	39200	0	0	0	1,590,687	84,480	0	0	0	1,807,066	212750	0	0	0	8,590,566	357080	0	0	0	0	8947646
up to March 2014																													
Group	F	358	51	108	19	7	10	59	4	6	0	13	109	73	60	13	5	1,256	467	93	4	6	1,782	595	267	36	7	34	2396
	M	495	63	55	12	13	17	104	61	7	1	21	173	91	70	10	0	664	707	37	4	22	1,436	922	169	27	13	60	2785
	T	853	114	163	31	20	27	163	65	13	1	34	282	164	130	23	5	1,920	1,174	130	8	28	3,218	1,517	436	63	20	94	5,181
Member	F	8,039	1,021	288	372	126	169	1,170	82	144	0	348	2,604	1,481	1,153	222	96	21,997	8690	1721	74	127	33,810	11,274	3,306	668	126	740	49,924
	M	10,353	1,355	1,294	238	239	332	2,330	1,570	222	17	394	3,732	1,800	1,636	178	0	13,163	13772	610	113	449	29,578	18,497	3,772	516	239	1,175	53,777
	T	18,392	2,376	1,582	610	365	501	3,500	1,652	366	17	742	6,336	3,281	2,789	400	96	35,160	22,462	2,331	187	576	63,388	29,771	7,078	1,184	365	1,915	103,701
Employment	F	911	14	19	91	4	38	379	3	0	0	34	539	46	35	14	2	4,600	190	55	5	9	6,429	253	109	110	4	83	6,988
	M	5,750	38	33	7	5	90	1,616	22	1	1	180	30	79	42	10	0	3,121	241	51	80	44	10,517	380	127	98	5	314	11,441
	T	6,661	52	52	98	9	128	1,995	25	1	1	214	569	125	77	24	2	7,721	431	106	85	53	16,946	633	236	208	9	397	18,429
Quantity (Acres/No)		655.22	66.94	45	1	44	88.59	531.86	119.6	7	3	46.03	637	279	124	37	5	220	68	3	0	13	2,044	513.54	179	41	44	152.62	2974.24
Investment in Tk		18,502,266	1,114,818	2,280,988	466,350	507,200	845,750	4,563,486	1,154,280	165,300	16,000	354,073	3,575,823	1,245,077	1,249,149	294,000	34,500	11,608,624	1342200	832174	161750	160605	38,250,199						

TABLE: 14- Access to Government Services (Safety net Programme)

Description	Krishi Card			VGF/VGD Allowances			Elder Allowances			Widow Allowances			Other (relief) Allowances			Total Allowances		
	Total Card	Group member received card		Total Card	Group member received card		Total Card	Group member received card		Total Card	Group member received card		Total Card	Group member received card		Total Card	Group member received card	
		Normally by UP	By protest		Normally by UP	By protest		Normally by UP	By protest		Normally by UP	By protest		Normally by U.P	By Protest			
Rajshahi	397	258	139	10,293	4,147	6,146	37	37	0	11	11	0	1,170	196	974	11,908	4,649	7,259
Dhaka	0	0	0	864	750	114	42	41	1	21	21	0	84	51	33	1,011	863	148
Chittagong	485	0	485	3,464	3,395	69	42	35	7	2	1	1	417	216	201	4,410	3,647	763
Total Core	882	258	624	14,621	8,292	6,329	121	113	8	34	33	1	1,671	463	1,208	17,329	9,159	8,170
MJF	128	52	76	4,557	2,138	2,419	1564	1,542	22	168	159	9	0	0	0	6,417	3,891	2,526
CA	153	153	0	1,535	1,535	0	27	27	0	35	35	0	0	0	0	1,750	1,750	0
Access	44	44	0	1,314	1,314	0	6	6	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	1,366	1,366	0
ARP	45	23	22	65	0	65	0	0	0	0	0	0	65	65	0	175	88	87
ICCO	77	46	31	2,124	733	1,391	186	85	101	107	64	43	412	158	254	2,906	1,086	1,820
Total (NK)	1,329	576	753	24,216	14,012	10,204	1,904	1,773	131	346	293	53	2,148	686	1,462	29,943	17,340	12,603

TABLE: 15- Legal Aid Activity

Description	Cases up to March 2013	New Cases	Total Cases	Cases Settled	Result		Cases on Appeal	Remaining Total Cases	Nijera Kori Run Cases	Group Run Cases
					Favour	Against				
Rajshahi	169	15	184	37	36	3	4	151	34	117
Dhaka	136	9	145	6	4	2	0	139	38	101
Chittagong	116	2	118	12	12	0	0	106	20	86
Total Core	421	26	447	55	52	5	4	396	92	304
MJF	209	11	220	27	25	3	1	194	81	112
CA	54	2	56	7	0	0	0	49	10	39
Access	3	1	4	0	0	0	0	4	2	2
ARP	16	0	16	0	0	0	0	16	16	0
ICCO	61	11	72	4	4	0	0	68	52	16
Total (NK)	764	51	815	93	81	8	5	727	253	473

TABLE -16: Level of Group Consciousness

Description	Rajshahi			Dhaka			Khulna			Chittagong			Total Core			MJF			Total NK		
	F	M	T	F	M	T	F	M	T	F	M	T	F	M	T	F	M	T	F	M	T
Secondary Level																					
Up to March'2013	595	508	1103	173	148	321	308	267	575	291	249	540	1,367	1,172	2,539	191	227	418	1,558	1,399	2957
Plan	46	42	88	9	3	12	11	9	20	19	17	36	85	71	156	2	1	3	87	72	159
Achievement	37	31	68	5	5	10	9	3	12	34	25	59	85	64	149	6	8	14	91	72	163
Decrease	45	37	82	61	68	129	44	53	97	0	0	0	150	158	308	0	0	0	150	158	308
Total up to March' 2014	587	502	1,089	117	85	202	273	217	490	325	274	599	1,302	1,078	2,380	197	235	432	1,499	1,313	2,812
Third Level																					
Up to March'2013	116	109	225	10	7	17	50	28	78	35	9	44	211	153	364	21	7	28	232	160	392
Plan	14	12	26	0	0	0	4	2	6	3	4	7	21	18	39	2	2	4	23	20	43
Achievement	12	9	21	0	0	0	4	1	5	6	6	12	22	16	38	2	2	4	24	18	42
Decrease	10	11	21	2	2	4	2	7	9	0	0	0	14	20	34	0	0	0	14	20	34
Total up to March' 2014	118	107	225	8	5	13	52	22	74	41	15	56	219	149	368	23	9	32	242	158	400

TABLE: 17- Various Activities undertaken from Group Saving and Voluntary Services provided by Group Members

Contribution by landless groups	Participation			Contribution				Voluntary Labour			Beneficiary families		
	No. of Group			Support Provided	Within Group (TK)	Outside Group (TK)	Total (TK)	By Group Member			Among Group	Outside of Group	Total
	Female	Male	Total					Female	Male	Total			
Workshops	3,295	2,680	5,975	256	172,026	0	172,026	273	291	564	0	0	0
Refresher Trainings	721	554	1,275	58	34,574	0	34,574	56	45	101	0	0	0
Movement/Struggle	349	319	668	1346	64,931	0	64,931	57	62	119	0	0	0
Village Convention	1,765	1,326	3,091	1,299	129,936	0	129,936	385	567	952	0	0	0
Union Convention	924	674	1,598	18	41,564	0	41,564	93	132	225	0	0	0
Upazila Convention	646	494	1,140	5	90,993	0	90,993	152	255	407	0	0	0
Area Convention	1181	749	1,930	25	84,495	0	84,495	66	93	159	0	0	0
Cultural Programme	1,247	918	2,165	99	136,838	0	136,838	203	271	474	0	0	0
Observance of National/ International Day	3,141	2,496	5,637	284	238,652	0	238,652	417	494	911	0	0	0
Conducting Case	1,398	1,846	3,244	869	1,032,980	0	1,032,980	139	293	432	462	161	623
Assistance to Family of arrested Member	43	38	81	7	33,020	0	33,020	11	38	49	0	0	0
Subtotal (NK) of Organisational activities	14,710	12,094	26,804	4,266	2,060,009	0	2,060,009	1,852	2,541	4,393	462	161	623
Medical Support	1,637	1,411	3,048	1,573	276,831	126,674	403,505	360	847	1207	161	35	196
School Repairing	18	20	38	3	3500	0	3,500	22	50	72	0	0	0
Educational Support	374	325	699	97	44,775	14,055	58,830	26	33	59	31	18	49
Marriage without Dowry	239	167	406	40	32,300	2,800	35,100	85	62	147	30	4	34
Contribution in Marriage	739	665	1,404	150	156,351	40,070	196,421	246	699	945	73	20	93
Bridge Repairing/Construction	171	159	330	39	41,270	0	41,270	66	190	256	2,830	0	2830
Road Repairing/Reconstruction	73	85	158	23	71,940	0	71,940	196	505	701	904	0	904
Dredging of Canal	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	28	50	78	0	0	0
Repairing of House	180	147	327	45	42,385	3,450	45,835	61	65	126	27	23	50
Tree Plantation	194	157	351	381	29,080	0	29,080	13	59	72	85	157	242
Burial and Others	212	126	338	19	106,966	5,000	111,966	45	103	148	118	122	240
Subtotal (NK) of Solidarity Activities	3,838	3,263	7,099	2,371	805,398	192,049	997,447	1,148	2,663	3,811	4,259	379	4638
Grand Total (NK)	18,548	15,357	33,903	6,637	2,865,407	192,049	3,057,456	3,000	5,204	8,204	4,721	540	5,261

TABLE: 18- Group Member in Different Committee

Description	Rajshahi				Dhaka				Khulna				Chittagong			
	No	F	M	T	No	F	M	T	No	F	M	T	No	F	M	T
Elected in School Management Committee'2013	148	72	156	228	7	3	8	11	13	10	13	23	39	40	20	60
Contested candidate in School Committee election '2014	89	30	63	93	47	35	42	77	63	35	52	87	39	68	131	199
Elected in School Management Committee'2014	84	29	66	95	43	33	42	75	59	20	39	59	39	43	65	108
Elected in Market Committee election 2013	34	2	55	57	10	0	16	16	11	2	17	19	7	0	11	11
Contested candidate in Market management Committee 14	34	1	34	35	10	6	4	10	11	5	41	46	7	0	66	66
Elected in Market Committee election 2014	34	3	21	24	10	3	11	14	11	0	28	28	7	0	55	55
Total number of institution & contested candidate	123	31	98	128	57	41	46	87	74	40	93	133	46	68	197	265
Total number of institution & elected candidate	118	32	87	119	53	36	53	89	70	20	67	87	46	43	120	163
Elected in Sluice Gate Management Committee'2013	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	6	6	14	4	20	24
Elected in Sluice Gate Management Committee'2014	1	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	4	10	20	30		6	16	22
Nominated Candidate in Sugarcane Committee'2013	2	0	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nominated Candidate in Sugarcane Committee'2014	2	4	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nominated Health Center Management Committee,2014	11	28	41	69	9	8	4	12	10	14	0	14	8	6	10	16
Nominated Union council Standing Committee,2014	11	5	8	13	9	5	6	11	10	9	3	12	7	14	2	16
Nominated in Low and order situation Committee'2013	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	5	7	0	0	0	0
Nominated Candidate in Low and order Situation Committee'2014	15	19	16	35		0	0	0	3	3	4	7	7	4	7	11
Nominated Candidate in Policing Committee'2014	15	11	11	22	3	4	3	7	8	7	10	10	8	0	13	13
Nominated Candidate in Disaster management Committee'2014	11	15	8	23		0	0	0	7	8	10	18	17	4	23	27
Nominated Project management Committee'2014	15	13	20	33	13	7	14	21	6	0	6	6	11	11	22	33
Nominated Committee on violence against women 2014	12	24	25	49	2	3	2	5	2	3	1	4	5	8	0	8
Nominated women Development Committee 2014	12	9	14	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	10	7	17
Total Nominated Members	96	162	230	392	36	63	82	145	57	67	121	188	85	106	220	326

TABLE: 19-Participation in local shalish

Description		Women against: (<i>dowry, divorce, polygamy, rape, kidnapping, physical assault, fundamentalism indictment</i>)	Illegal Possession of Property from the Landless	Issue of Injustice and oppression	Total (NK)	
Total Shalish of Current Year 2013-14		1,148	362	247	1,757	
Core		860	117	136	1113	
MJF		159	195	67	421	
CA		36	1	4	41	
Access		13	1	4	18	
ICCO		80	48	36	164	
Member attended the Shalish						
Women		6,259	1,730	1,844	9,833	
Male		11,617	3,604	3,370	18,591	
Nature of Participation in Shalish	Shalish at Self-initiative of Landless Leader Nijera Kori	By Women Leader	70	6	24	100
		Jointly by Female and Male Leader	1,015	265	185	1,465
		UP Chairman	78	27	25	130
	Shalish under Joint Leadership of Landless and Village Authority	UP Member	330	103	78	511
		Teacher	165	37	34	236
		Local Matbar	624	123	124	871
		Political Persons	180	50	88	318
Women	Women	864	249	187	1,300	
	Male	2,241	688	600	3,529	
	Total	3,105	937	787	4,829	
Result						
No of settled Shalish		1,011	331	238	1,580	
No of stopped Shalish		137	31	9	177	
No of Court Cases on Stopped Shalish		102	2	3	107	

TABLE: 20- Registration, Lease and Possession of Khas Land and Water

Subject	Khas Land (Acre)							Water Body (Acre)							
	Land Registered		Land Leased		Land Possession		DCR		Water Body Leased		Water Body Owned		Water Body Open		
	No of Member	Amount of Land	No of Member	Amount of Land	No of Member	Amount of Land	No of Group Member	Amount of Land	No of Member	Amount of Land	No of Group Member	Amount of Land	No of Member	Amount of Land	
Up to March 2013	Core	15,137	8,762	4,156	898	37,590	27,606	66	66	1,019	362	10,933	803	36,320	1,559
	MJF	7,133	12,600	1,600	15,190	10,676	15,323	0	0	40	12	4,032	233	4,000	74
Increase in April' 2013- March'2014	Core	34	10	0	0	108	46	0	0	0	0	349	16	0	0
	MJF	50	39	0	0	327	202	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ICCO	31	42.18	0	0	45	33	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	115	91.18	0	0	480	281	0	0	0	0	349	16	0	0
Total March 2014	Core	15,171	8,772	4,156	898	37,698	27,652	66	66	1,019	362	11,282	819	36,320	1,559
	MJF	7,183	12,639	1,600	15,190	11,003	15,525	0	0	40	12	4,032	233	4,000	74
	ICCO	31	42	0	0			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total NK	22,354	21,411	5,756	16,088	48,701	43,177	66	66	1,059	374	15,314	1,052	40,320	1,633	

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		Beneficiary Family	No of Movement against Commercial Shrimp	Won in the Movement against Commercial Shrimp and Quantity of Regained Land			Beneficiary Family	No of Remaining Present Movement	
		No. of Movement	Amount of Land (Acre)			No. of Movement	Amount of Land (Acre)	Amount of Water Bodies (Acre)			
Last Year	109	98	15	103	35	26	52.16	16.32	537	20	
April 2013 to March 2014	Core	102	82	10.48	167	16	10	0	16	304	26
	MJF	0	0	0		0	0	0	0		0
	ICCO	0	0	0		19	13	135	0	191	6
	Total	102	82	10.48	167	35	23	135	16	191	32

TABLE: 22- Issue of Social Movement /Struggle

Issue of Social Movement /Struggle	Issue raised by organisation of women/men	Ongoing movement in 2012-2013	Division wise movement/ struggle in 2012-2013										Total no. of movement in current year	in current year & running for last year total No of movement Total NK	No. of movement won						Ongoing movement till data Total NK
			Raj	Dha	Khu	Chit	Total Core	MJF	CA	ACC	ICCO	Total NK			Core	MJF	CA	ACC	ICCO	Total	
Violence against women:	Women	663	107	32		217	356	9	25	30	46	466	709	1372	356	9	25	30	45	465	1
dowry, divorce, polygamy, rape, physical assault, kidnapping, fundamentalism and religious indictment	Men		23	2	0	137	162	1	19	17	44	243			158	1	15	17	43	234	9
Fundamentalism	Women	32	6	4	0	10	10	1	1	0	0	12	27	59	9	1	1	0	0	11	1
	Men		1	0	0	5	6	1	4	2	2	15			6	1	4	2	1	14	1
Establishment of rights on local resources:	Women	305	6		0	19	25	19	0	0	6	50	164	469	25	19	0	0	5	49	1
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	Men		14	1	0	33	48	24	2	10	30	114			48	24	0	10	20	102	12
Resistance against corruption:	Women	369	28	7	0	46	81	8	2	3	19	113	334	703	79	8	2	3	19	111	2
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.	Men		39	3	0	119	161	7	6		47	221			160	7	6		47	220	1
Movement against others	Women	1,369	147	43	0	282	472	37	28	33	71	641	1234	2603	469	37	28	33	69	636	5
	Men		77	6	0	294	377	33	31	29	123	593			372	33	25	29	111	570	23
Total	Total		1,369	224	49	0	576	849	70	59	62	194			1234	1234	2,603	841	70	53	62

TABLE: 23-A, Opinion Sharing, Dialogue Between Landless Group and Government Authority on Following Issues

Description	Initiative by Govt./Group	Govt. Resource	Commercial shrimp Aquaculture	Food for Education and Work	Local Govt. Corruption	Local Development Activity	Health	Education/stipend	Natural Calamity and Relief	National/International Day	Oppression on Women	Paddy/tree Plantation and Harvesting	False Cases and Harassment	Fundamentalisms	Law and Order situation	Others	Total
Deputy Commissioner	Govt:	11	3	0	1	2	0	0	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	23
	Group	52	6	0	3	4	1	5	4	4	2	0	3	0	0	3	82
Land Administration	Govt:	125	0	0	1	4	1	7	3	2	2	3	10	0	1	6	165
	Group	407	2	1	15	7	0	9	3	1	1	4	8	0	0	38	496
Upazila Administration	Govt:	109	5	8	41	53	26	42	41	66	17	5	52	1	25	15	506
	Group	364	10	28	56	106	33	68	76	136	37	13	85	2	33	58	1,105
Police Administration	Govt:	76	3	0	44	0	0	0	10	13	81	26	178	4	120	15	570
	Group	98	3	0	60	1	5	5	8	38	138	68	254	2	125	50	855
Election Commissioner	EC	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	1	0	1	2	9
	Group	0	0	0	3	2	1	1	1	2	0	0	4	0	2	7	23
Political Party	PP	0	0	2	0	0	0	4	2	0	0	0	2	0	1	2	13
	Group	7	0	2	1	2	0	0	2	1	0	0	3	1	2	0	21
Parliament Member	PM	51	2	4	9	41	5	9	22	17	14	7	37	1	26	6	251
	Group	93	6	6	31	48	7	8	25	34	14	21	23	3	21	21	361
Union	UP	138	7	27	33	119	23	23	88	61	84	21	51	1	22	25	723
Perished	Group	475	12	68	108	218	36	37	147	144	124	34	105	2	45	48	1,603

TABLE: 23-B, Opinion Sharing, Dialogue Between Landless Group and Government Authority on Following Issues

Description	Initiative by Govt. Group	Govt. Resource	Commercial shrimp Aquaculture	Food for Education and Work	Local Govt. Corruption	Local Development Activity	Health	Education/stipend	Relief	National/International Day	Oppression on Women	Plantation and Harvesting	False Cases and Harassment	Fundamentalisms	Law and Order situation	Others	Total
Health Administration	Govt:	1	0	1	1	4	242	2	13	2	7	0	0	0	0	0	273
	Group	1	0	0	0	7	437	11	10	9	2	0	1	0	0	7	485
Press Club	P. Club	26	1	1	15	9	7	8	19	25	26	6	12	1	6	3	165
	Group	41	1	4	16	7	18	3	18	78	41	7	25	1	11	31	302
Bar Council	B.C:	8	2	0	3	2	0	0	2	2	10	0	22	0	2	0	53
	Group	34	3	0	6	5	3	1	0	12	20	14	100	1	7	10	216
Women Organisation	WO:				1	0	3	0	0	9	17	1	3	2	0	3	39
	Group	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	4	18	33	0	5	3	0	12	79
Education Administration	Govt:	0	1	5	0	4	13	215	9	25	1	2					275
	Group	2	0	18	0	3	15	292	14	58	5	2	1	0	0	12	422
Total (NK table 23a+23b)	Govt.	545	24	48	150	238	320	310	210	228	261	71	368	10	204	78	3065
	Group	1,574	43	127	299	410	560	440	312	535	417	163	617	15	246	297	6,050
	Total	2,119	67	175	449	648	880	750	522	763	678	234	985	25	450	375	9,115