

Annual Report
April 2012 to March 2013



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List of Abbreviations:

ALRD	-Association for Land Reform and Development
AC land	-Assistant Commissioner (Land)
ASIA	-Asia Solidarity against Industrial Aquaculture
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's Lawyers Association
CCDB	-Christian Commission for Development in Bangladesh (CCDB)
DD	-Deputy Director
FNB	-Federation of NGOs in Bangladesh
GD	-General Diary
HDRC	-Human Development Research Centre
MP	-Member of Parliament
MPO	-Monthly Payment Order
MJF	-Manusher Jonno Foundation
NGO	-Non Government Organisation
OC	-Officer Incharge
PIL	-Public Interest Litigation
RTI	-Right to Information
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
SANGAT	- South Asian Feminist Network (A feminist activist network)

Glossary

Adivasi	- Indiginous people's
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)
Naripokkhko	- A national NGO
Jotedar	- Powerful land grabbers
Sammilito Samajik Andolon	- A social movement translates to Collective Social Movement

Executive Summary

Since 1980, Nijera Kori has mobilised poor people in rural communities of Bangladesh to empower them to demand their rights. Nijera Kori is unique NGO in Bangladesh as its rights-based approach that focused on social mobilization in contrast to the popular service-delivery based development approach. Since its inception, Nijera Kori works for the disadvantaged, exploited and deprived poor communities in Bangladesh through conscientization, capacity development, advocacy and social mobilisation for their empowerment, equity and social justice.

These goals are achieved through Nijera Kori's foundational commitments to focus on social mobilization that leads through a democratic management structure, value our position against development through-micro credit, work with the most excluded groups to develop autonomous landless organisations. Nijera Kori acts on these principles by building awareness, establishing the norms of gender equality at all levels, capacity building, raise public consciousness and demand their rights. Nijera Kori is currently working in 16 districts, covering 39 upazila, 167 union and 1,329 villages. There are in total 11,420 landless groups that include 235,456 group members where more than half are women and 625,534 individual women, men and children are representing different families.

During the reporting period, the organization has achieved remarkable success in forming new landless groups, engaging new members, and in supporting existing groups in carrying out a range of challenging empowerment activities. Due to the various socio-political and economic disruptions resulting displacement of thousands of members in centres in the activity year. Nijera Kori moving towards its goals both in terms of organizational objectives and results.

The key impacts of Nijera Kori's work in the past year, which are reflected in a range of indicators and achievements discussed in this Annual Report, can be categories under four key outcomes:

1. **Establishing rights of the landless:** Rights of the organised landless have been established in the working areas through strengthened organisational and mobilisation capacities of Nijera Kori in social and economic spheres.
2. **Gender equity:** Greater equity between women and men has been achieved at the family and community levels for landless group members.
3. **Government accountability:** 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.
4. **Pro-poor policy advocacy:** Active participation in local, national, and international advocacy campaigns to promote policy reform on issues central to the work of Nijera Kori and its landless group members.

Establishing Rights of the Landless

Mobilisation

The ultimate goal of Nijera Kori's work in organizing and training landless groups is for them to achieve autonomy in their organization and mobilization activities. To that end, initiatives were made in the empowerment of groups during the reporting year. Recognizing that awareness-building is never static, but a dynamic, continuous, and time-consuming process, Nijera Kori offers ongoing trainings to landless groups based on their perceived needs as well as a commitment to maintaining and advancing their level of conscientization. To that end, groups are promoted from the primary to secondary and tertiary levels through the collective training process, which reflects their level of group consciousness. In the past year, 184 groups graduated from the primary to the secondary level, and 49 groups graduated from the secondary to the tertiary level. This reflects these groups' increased capacity in managing their activities independently from Nijera Kori staff.

In the activity year, the landless organisations organised 1,369 distinct protests. Of these protests, 663 addressed violence against women, 32 resisted fundamentalism, 305 concerned establishing rights to local resources, and 369 addressed local corruption and irregularities.

With increased awareness, the group members are increasingly able to defend their own rights. In cases where their basic rights have been challenged by powerful vested interest groups, landless groups have taken initiative to defend themselves and seek legal recourse. In the reporting year, a total of 100 such cases were settled in court, out of which 97 verdicts were in favour of the landless groups, while the remaining cases are under appeal in higher courts. Additionally, Nijera Kori groups have pushed for a more active role in local legislative bodies, with a total of 677 members being elected to various government bodies (such as school, market committees, sugarcane, slues gate committees etc.), through which they are actively involved in promoting the cause and interests of the poor on the basis of fairness.

In addition to working through formal government and legal systems to promote rights and redress injustices, Nijera Kori members have also taken an active roll in promoting a more equitable balance of power in village salishes (alternative dispute resolution systems). A total of 4,233 landless group members worked as adjudicating members in various village salishes.

Nijera Kori's social mobilisation processes also include the preservation and promotion of the culture of the common people, based on the traditional Bangladeshi social values of secularism, tolerance, and non-violence. Nijera Kori's cultural group organised cultural activities on these themes to promote the preservation of these values. In the reporting year, they have performed 596 dramas and 504 singing performances, in addition to hosting and participating in various cultural functions in their locality. They also organized 9 cultural long marches, all of which had a significant impact, in particular a major festival in Dhaka which generated tremendous response.

In the activity year, two male and two women members received National and Asia Regional Recognition for the movement for resisting violation of rights. The landless members feel that this award has earned them recognition. In addition the members feel that it will encourage men to be more accepting of women's leadership.

Economic Impacts

Both through and In addition to social mobilisation activities, Nijera Kori groups conduct a range of collective economic activities which benefit individual members and their families, through group advocacy, savings, and collective economic activities. These activities improve the livelihoods of members and their families through shared investments and risks, while also serving to develop a sense of community and collective ownership, which sustains and advances Nijera Kori's social mobilisation work more broadly.

Group members have received significant benefits from the joint economic activities organized through Nijera Kori programmes. There was increased number of collective economic activities managed by the groups in which they utilised their own savings. By the end of the year, a total of TK 51,985,199 (\$666,477 USD) was invested from group savings and a total of TK 6,444,795 (\$82,626 USD) was earned as profit from joint economic activities by the groups. These joint economic activities also create job opportunities. An estimated 18,802 employment opportunities were created over a period of 6 months.

In addition to investing group savings in joint economic activities, landless groups also used group savings to fund education for the children of landless group members and other poor families. In part through this savings, landless groups have established 34 primary and lower secondary schools. In 2013, these schools educated 37,222 children.

Nijera Kori's mobilisation activities with regard to *khas* land (common land legally provisioned for distribution among the poor and landless) were particularly successful. Through its activities, a total 302 acres of *khas* lands and water bodies were recovered from vested interest groups and given to 386 Nijera Kori members. This represents strong empirical evidence of achievements in ensuring access to natural resources for the poor and the disadvantaged, thus improving their lives and livelihoods.

Gender Equity

Nijera Kori is committed to promote equality of men and women in Bangladeshi society both through the promotion of gender equity among landless groups as well as in mobilisation gender issues at the local, national, and international levels.

This commitment is particularly reflected in the numbers of women Nijera Kori members who have been elected to leadership positions in the past year. In Nijera Kori committees alone, at the village, union, upazilla, and area levels, 406 women were elected as leaders in various organizational capacities.

In addition to this, 200 female members were elected in local formal and informal committees as result of the initiative of Nijera Kori. Additionally, 1,122 female group members acted as judges in village-level *salishes* (alternative dispute regulation system). Collectively, these figures demonstrate the strong and growing leadership of female members in society.

In the reporting year, Nijera Kori groups were particularly active in mobilising activities concerned with violence against women. Both male and female group members participated actively in these movements. Much of this organizing was centred on ensuring effective legal action for justice in cases of violence against women.

During the activity year, 142 female members performed for the first time in the drama-songs held in public-such as village market and school ground. In addition, 16 female members have joined the cultural group. The participation of female members in the cultural activities is an indication of women's freedom, empowerment and decision making.

Finally, Nijera Kori groups have seen great success in the past year in the economic empowerment of women, both collectively and individually, through three specific mechanisms: group savings, joint economic activities, and increasing women's access to *khas* lands.

Firstly, over the year, female landless groups saved a total of TK 10,607,942 (\$135,999 USD), of which TK 8,065,146 (\$103,399 USD) was distributed among themselves to mitigate personal and financial crises. The collection and management of savings by the women members will further strengthen their management capabilities and help them attain economic empowerment.

Secondly, women's groups also used their collective savings to initiate and invest in joint economic activities, which collectively earned profits of TK 2,613,343 (\$33,504 USD), and created 7,207 job opportunities for female members, resulting in enhanced collective and individual economic security.

Finally, landless groups have worked with commitment to secure women's rights over land and livelihood opportunities, in particular in gaining access to government *khas* lands. In the reporting year as part of the result 6.62 acres of land for 5 female-headed households is being registered, over 27.56 acres of land possesses for 27 female headed households.

Government Accountability

Landless groups have worked tirelessly to hold elected representatives and government officials responsible for ensuring the rights of the poor and marginalized. They did this through actively organizing movements against corruption, for ensuring access to government safety net programs, and for promoting the responsiveness of government officials to the concerns of the poor. This has resulted in, among other things, the recovery of TK 6,438,599 (\$82,546 USD) in misappropriated funds, the inclusion of an additional 74,935 eligible families in various government safety net allowance programmes, and 9,910 direct dialogues between the representatives of landless organizations and government officials.

One of the most significant platforms through which this advocacy has taken place in the past year was through the Right to Information Act, passed by the Bangladesh government in 2009. This legislation has proven to be an enormous asset to the achievement of a variety of different rights and entitlements. In the reporting year, landless groups submitted a total of 57 primary applications to obtain information from various government agencies, and received information from 42 such applications. Additionally, landless group members submitted a total of 15 appeal applications, out of which they received 6 responses. Finally, in the past year, landless group members submitted 9 complaints to the Right to Information Commission, based on their experience with previous application denials. These complaints resulted in 3 hearings, all of which produced rulings in favor of the landless members. The results of these campaigns demonstrate genuine social change created by the landless groups, both in terms of educating marginal communities about their rights and entitlements, as well as exercising these rights to bring about a more just society.

Advocacy

In the past year, perhaps the most encouraging results came from Nijera Kori's advocacy activities. Throughout the year, Nijera Kori was particularly active in national and international advocacy campaigns on causes critical to landless group members and other marginal rural populations. In particular, the organization's advocacy efforts were focused on ending violence against women, working against industrial shrimp cultivation, promoting rights to *khas* land for landless peoples, and promotion and protection of human rights of the disadvantaged and marginalised, including the land rights of Adivasi communities.

Highlights of this advocacy work include:

- National-level conferences and seminars on the right to water, the rights of Adivasi, and the recovery of Hindu lands through the Vest Property Return Act.
- Research and fact-finding activities related to the denial of land rights, resulting in a scholarly journal publication and public awareness campaigns.
- Leadership in international advocacy campaign violence against women.
- Contribution to the United Nations Universal Periodic Review stakeholders report on concerns related to the rights to food and land.
- Participating in legal actions concerning worker safety, agricultural land rights, and shrimp cultivation.
- A total of 19 local and national level press conferences on issues such as violation of human rights, violence against women, land rights, water rights, and other issues.
- At the national level, 1,206 news reports published concerning demands presented by Nijera Kori on various issues relevant to the landless members.

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, NK 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 235,456 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 staff work directly in the field. In addition, 101 support staff works along with the programme staff. The core programme is called “*Ensuring Democracy, Accountability and Rights for the Poorest*”.

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 ancholic 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/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 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 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 as indigenous peoples etc. And in the areas where fundamentalism, human rights abuse and violation against women are 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 51 sub-centres, 16 areas, 4 divisional offices cum training centres located respectively in Tangail (*Gala*), Bogra (*Noongola*), Comilla (*Chandina*) and Khulna (*Maniktala*) (**annex table:1**). The Head Office of Nijera Kori is located in Dhaka.

Table -1: Working areas	
Year	2012-2013
Village	1,329
Union	167
Upazilla	39
District	16
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 staff 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 staff 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 Key results and impact of the activities

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 and 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 18,048,206 (\$231,387 USD) during the reporting year, which significantly added to the amount of group savings. This is 7% more than the last year. The cumulative savings of the group members, at present, stands at TK 79,040,569 (\$1,013,341 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 594 groups (*f-328 and m-266*) have undertaken joint economic activities. The participation of female groups in joint economic activities is 21% higher than last year, which is an indication of increased economic empowerment of female group members. During the reporting year, the landless groups newly invested a total of 7,158,449 taka (\$91,775 USD), from group savings. At present, 5,827 groups (*f-2,911 and m- 2,916*) 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 - table 13).

- 1.1.3 Increased livelihood security of the group members:** The group members have made a profit of TK 6,444,795 from their joint economic activities, which is 41% more than last year. This profit is particularly useful for the poor and landless members and has significantly contributed to increasing their livelihood security. In the activity year, 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 18,802 persons this year. Out of this total number 7,207 were female and 11,595 were male. This represents a 2% increase in 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 16 wage-related movements were organised by the landless groups, which contributed to a daily wage increase of average TK 10 to TK 15 of 2,485 labourers (female 910 and male 1,575), 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 13,242,989 from their savings amongst themselves to use for agricultural farming. The rate of distribution is 31% 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 2,140,800 (\$27,446 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 86% higher than last year. They also spent an additional TK 2,101,812 (\$26,946 USD) for various organisational activities, movements, and legal actions to ensure rights. This spending is 19% higher than the previous year. 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 15 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 52.16 acres of agricultural land and water bodies belonging poor and marginalised farmers from illegal commercial shrimp farming (*details in annex - table 21).*
- 1.5.1 Strong participation of the landless in village salishes (alternative dispute resolution):** In total 4,233 (1,122-female and 3,111-male) group members participated as judges in 1,689 village salishes. The participation of group members as mediators/judges in salishes increased 12% 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, 166 cases of salishes involving criminal offences were stopped. This is 8% less than the previous year. Out of these 122 of these cases were taken to the formal court. It is to be noted that in the present year, 85% 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 37,222 students (*19,436 girls and 17,786 boys*) in schools run by the group members, an increase of 7,185 students (*4,955 girls and 2,230 boys*). Enrolment of students, both girls and boys, is 24% 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 1,369 movements to establish their rights. In 1,248 cases, they were able to secure their demands. The number of successful movements was 31% higher this year than the previous year. The landless groups have raised a range of issues within society, including Adivasi 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*, bazaar 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:** 406 women representatives were elected as leaders in Nijera Kori committees at the village, union, *upazila* and area levels, which is 32% 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 1,108 *salishes* on issues related to violence against women. Out of total, 983 *salishes* ensured justice. This is 30% higher than the previous year. The group members stopped 125 *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 125 *salishes* on criminal cases of violence against women were stopped in order to ensure legal justice for victims through the formal court system. A total of 105 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 Female landless groups' savings improving women's self-sufficiency:** During the activity year, the female members collected a total of TK 10,607,942 (\$135,999 USD) as savings. During the reporting period, female members distributed TK 8,065,146 (\$103,399 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 activity year, 328 female groups initiated joint economic activities with their group savings. This is 21% higher than the previous year. At present, 2,911 female groups are running joint economic activities with their group savings, earning profit of TK 2,613,343 (\$33,504 USD), a 66% 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 7,207 female members as of March 2013. In the reporting period, employment opportunities increased by 353 members. This gradual but consistent increase of employment opportunities has led to the greater economic security of female group members (*details in annex- 13*).
- 2.3.4 Increased access of women members to the registration of khas land:** In the activity year, 5 female-headed families received registration of 6.62 acres of *khas* land in their name, ensuring access of female-headed households to government *khas* lands. 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 female group member's possession over khas land:** A total of 27 female group members successfully established their possession over 27.56 acres of *khas* land during the activity year. This is a 29% increase from the previous 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 1,122 female group members, acted as judges in *salishes*. Female participation increased by 27% this year. Women participated as mediators in issues beyond those concerning women's right, which indicates strong leadership of female 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 8,895 female members played the role of observers in various *salishes* and contributed to ensuring justice to the victims. In total 26,292 members participated as observers, of which 34% were female. Their presence is forcing the mediators to be accountable to the communities & marginalized groups (*details in annex-table 19*).
- 2.4.4 Increased participation of women in various informal and formal local committees:** 200 female members were elected as representatives in various formal and informal institutional committees. 145 women were elected to School Managing Committees and 8 to Bazaar Committees (*details in annex - table 18*).
- 2.4.5 Increased movements organised by male landless group members against violence against women:** In the activity year, landless groups organised 617 successful movements or protests against violence against women, a 46% increase from last year. This indicates a positive change in attitudes amongst the male group members. Some of these movements were organised outside the working areas of Nijera Kori, showing a strong linkage between the groups and the overall community (*details in annex- table 22*).

- 2.5.1 More active role of male group members in stopping violence against women:** Landless groups mobilised in 663 cases on issues of violence against women. Of these movements, 237 (36%) were raised and organised by the male groups. This is a 40% 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:** During the activity year, there was an important increase in collaborative initiatives among the local professional organisations on the issue of violence against women. These associations included local Public Representative, 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 cases related to violence against women, there was greater collaboration with public representatives and human rights organisations, particularly with local UP Chairmen and Ward Members. There were joint initiatives with human rights organisations including ASK, BLAST, BRAC Human Rights and Legal Services Division, ALRD, TIB, BNWLA, Naripakhkho, MJF, Action Aid, BNPS, CCDB, BELA, RIB, Nagorik Uddug, INCIDIN, HDRC, 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.

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 activity year, 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 activity year, the landless peoples' organisations held a total of 369 movements against corruption. 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 khas land:** A total of 240 group members successfully established their possession of 232.53 acres of *khas* land during the activity year (*details in annex -table 20*).
- 3.2.1 More landless people registering khas lands:** 35 families were allotted 34.05 acres of *khas* land. This is an overall achievement in securing shelter and livelihoods for the poor and the disadvantaged (*details in annex- table 20*).
- 3.2.2 Increased inclusion of the landless in the allotment process of Khas lands:** Following persistent protests and movements of the landless peoples, the names of 33 landless families were included in the registration of *khas* lands 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 *khas* lands and has established greater accountability and transparency in the distribution of *khas* lands.
- 3.2.3 Increased access to water bodies for local communities:** As a result of landless movements, 516 families now have access to 16.32 acres of water bodies. 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. This is 32% more than last year in terms of the numbers of families (*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, 103 marginal families were able to recover 15 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 activity year, landless people successfully organised the recovery of TK 3,635,948 (\$46,620 USD) in misappropriated funds from government and non-government development projects, wages and

crop pillage. This is significantly more than the last year (last year 2,041,221). 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 897,611 (11,508 USD) by getting free access to government services through collective movements. This represents an increase from the amount of savings generated last year (137,265).
- 3.4.3 Gradual inclusion of landless peoples in government safety net programmes:** An additional 51,804 individuals (*f*- 30,046 and *m*- 21,757) were included in the activity year in various government safety net programmes. This is 31% more than last year. 12,006 individuals (*f*-6,723 and *m*-5,283) 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, 23,131 families received other government special allowances 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 97 out of a total of 100 settled cases. Furthermore, landless groups filed 77 cases in the activity year, mostly related to violence against women and land-water rights. The landless organisations took the responsibility of conducting 557 of the total 845 cases they were involved in. The cases required a total amount of TK 1,134,095 (\$14,540 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 9,910 dialogues were organised between the representatives of the landless organisations, government officials, and local peer groups to solve various local problems. This represents a 32% increase in such community dialogues being organized through the landless groups since last year. 3,375 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 Increased pressure for effective implementation of “Vested Property Return Act 2011:

Nijera Kori and 8 other like-minded organizations have been fighting for the Vested Property Return Act for a long time. There was a common realization that publicity was crucial in building awareness amongst the masses, in order to effectively implement the “Vested Property Return Act 2011”.

Round table conferences and seminars were organized in each division and important districts. Nijera Kori participated in 2 seminars: on June 9th, 2012 in Chittagong, and on June 23rd, in Khulna. For the effective implementation and monitoring of the rectified vested property law 2011, an ALRD-led secretariat was established, under the supervision of the National Citizen Coordination Cell.

As result on April 2013, in ministerial meeting these demands of the people were assessed and amendment proposal was approved. Like the claimant of property’s appeal time has been revised from 180 days to 300 days.

4.1.2 Formation of fact-finding teams and activities: On November 2012, Dainik Prothom Alo published an article headlined- “Even a Decade after Settlement, Landless People Do Not Own the Land”. On the basis of this report, ALRD, Blast, Nijera Kori, Action Aid and TIB formed a joint investigation team. The information gathered by the investigation team was presented at a press conference held at the national-level on January 22nd, 2013.

4.2.1 Legal action against Kiln in agricultural land: In the Dumuria Upazila of Khulna District, under the leadership of landless groups, locals started a movement to stop the establishment of brick kilns on agricultural land. Since the local government was unable remedy the situation, Nijera Kori filed a written petition with the High Court, stating that brick kilns were being built on agricultural land without the necessary environmental clearance certificate. On January 27th, 2013, in response to said petition, the High Court demanded that the concerned authorities halt construction of the kilns for the next six months, and ordered the deputy commissioner and UNO to ensure this was respected. A rule nisi was also issued upon the concerned authorities and brick kiln owners, giving them four weeks to prove the legality of their activities.

4.2.2 Meeting with water and agricultural ministries on shrimp cultivation: On April 28th, 2012, a follow-up meeting was organized with the Water and Agricultural ministries to discuss case 57-2010 as directed by the high court, filed by Nijera Kori

and BELA pertaining to the forcible cultivation of shrimp by saline inundation of agricultural land.

The ministries requested that everyone abstain from any sort of conflicting activities as per the directive issued by the high court. To uphold the interest of the people, it was said that the relevant case 57-2010 had to be resolved in court.

4.3.1 Round table discussion on right to water: In honour of international water day, a round table discussion entitled “Bangladesh Water Policy 2012 Draft and Constitutional Rights” was held on August 17 2012. Nijera Kori participated in all of the meetings and trainings organized by the Water Right Forum.

4.4.1 Publication of factual review report on land right: “Land grabs and primitive accumulation in deltaic Bangladesh: interactions between neoliberal globalization, state interventions, power relations and peasant resistance”

This essay provides a theoretical and empirical analysis of the interrelationships between land grabs, primitive accumulation and accumulation by dispossession, in the context of capitalist development. Evidence collected from a multi-class peasant formation in Bangladesh indicates that land grabs have been propelled by interactions between neoliberal globalization, state interventions, power relations and peasant resistance. Illegal violence, de-linking of poor peasants from production organization and clientelist relations have all contributed to the problem.

4.4.2 Linkage established at National-International network for prevention of violence against women: According to the United Nation's Human Rights Development Report, one out of three women experiences rape or physical torture in her lifetime. Nijera Kori and the programs it has implemented in Bangladesh play an active role in the worldwide network of mobilization against gender violence.

It should be noted that, in areas where Nijera Kori is active, landless groups have decided to participate in this worldwide awareness program for the prevention of violence against women by starting their signature campaigning activities and promoting public participation at the local level.

4.4.3 Increased pressure for formulation of policy against women's persecution: Several reports were published over the reporting period. In response to the ill treatment of women, which was highlighted by the rapes and murders of two young girls in May, the National Press club organized a countrywide human chain. The participants demanded the arrest and exemplary punishment of the culprits and the cessation of all types of persecution against women. Nearly 200 men and women participated in this human chain, and, in addition to taking legal action, like-minded organizations worked together to draft a policy against women's persecution,

4.4.4 Policy review and dissemination: In 2008, a network of 17 civil society organizations known as the Human Rights Forum (which included Nijera Kori), came together to inform civil society about the current human rights situation. Over the activity year 2013, Bangladesh will conduct its follow-up of UPR and Nijera Kori, along with the Human Rights Forum, is preparing the follow-up of report.

On May 19th and 20th 2013, a human rights forum workshop was held and attended by two Nijera Kori staff members in order to decide the best way to proceed.

Nijera Kori reported on the current situation pertaining to right to food and the distribution of vested property; their input was welcomed by the rest of the panel and was incorporated into the civil society review.

4.4.5 Legal action for safeguarding worker safety: Due to lack of adequate safety measures, a fire erupted on 24 November, 2012, at "Tazrin Fashion Ltd," a garments factory that supplies clothes to Walmart. Furthermore, since the building did not have any escape routes, 137 garment workers died in the blaze. Neither the government nor the factory owners took responsibility for the tragedy and thus both failed to swiftly respond to the situation .

ASK, BLAST, Brac (Human rights and legal assistance) and Nijera Kori jointly filed a Writ Petition (15693/2012) demanding justice for the incident, and demanded action be taken to prevent future tragedies. On November 26th, 2012, the High Court asked the government to explain both **a)** why it should not be directed to prosecute and punish people responsible for the fire and **b)** why it hasn't conducted sufficient efforts in monitoring the safety of garment factories; it requested that the BGMEA submit a list of the garment factories that comply with laws to protect workers, and formed an committee to investigate the prevailing security system. The case is currently pending, and the government and BGMEA have yet to submit any reports.

4.4.6 Participation in South Asia Human Rights Forum and its Activities: As a member, Nijera Kori's coordinator attended the South Asia Human Rights Forum (SAHR) meeting in Sri Lanka that took place from April 29th to May 2nd, 2012. She played an active role in determining the prevalent human rights situation and in planning SAHR's activities.

4.4.7 Increased knowledge based demand of constitutional recognition of Adivasi: During the 2008 national parliament elections, the party in power's election manifesto pledged to ensure equal rights to all bangladeshi citizens and vowed to reinforce the peace pact. Although the Bangladesh Constitution does not explicitly define the status of the Adivasi, they have always been viewed as an important minority. Nevertheless, once elected, the aforementioned government violated their manifesto by denying the existence of Adivasi within Bangladesh as well as before the international forum.

Viewings this situation as a violation of human rights, Nijera Kori, the Bangladesh Adivasi forum, Parbatta Chattgram Anchal Parishad, and ALRD held a seminar on "Adivasi's Land and Human rights" on August 7th, 2012. Among the distinguished guests were present Rashed Khan Menon (MP), Hasanul Haque Inu (MP), Jotirindra Bodhiprio Larma and A.K.M. Mojammel Haque (MP) president, Land Ministry subject sangsadio committee.

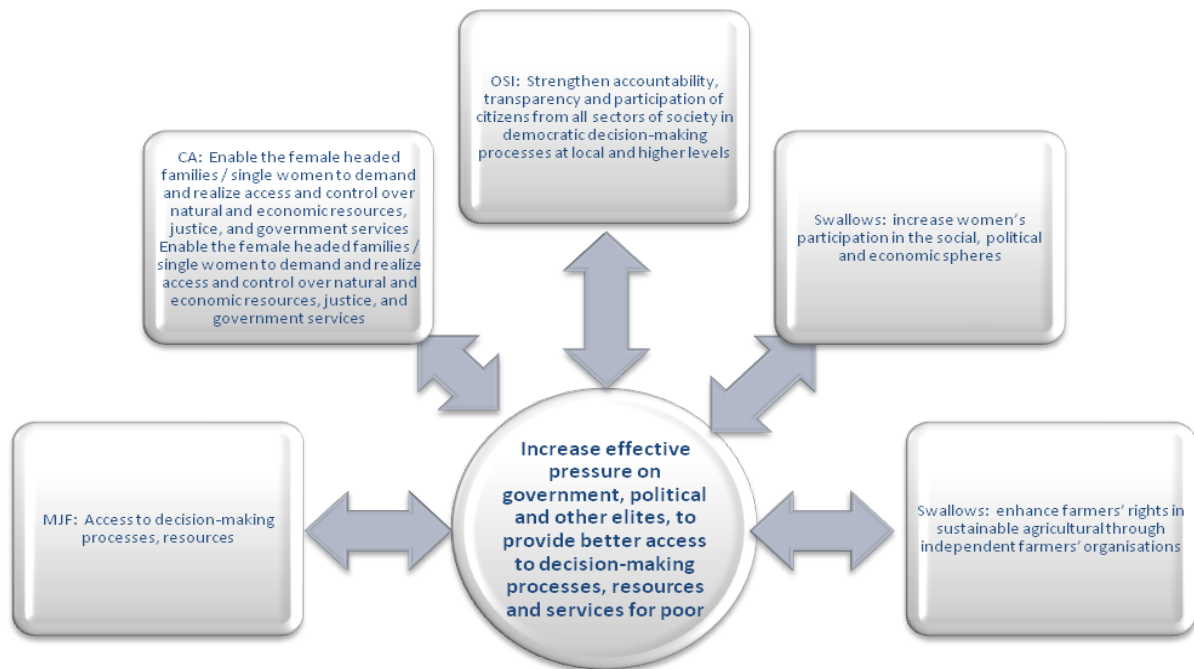
Media interaction: This activity year, a total of 1,206 issue-based movements were publicized in local and national newspapers. The issues brought to light were: commercial shrimp cultivation, salinity of cropland, and agricultural insecurity.

4.5.1 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.

CHAPTER-3

3.1 Social Mobilisation and Organisational Activities

Nijera Kori's Programming Relation and Structure

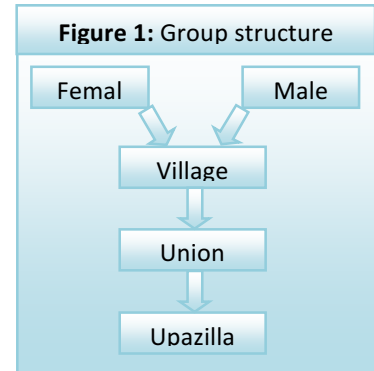


At the center of Nijera Kori's programming is a network of landless groups distributed throughout Nijera Kori's working areas across rural Bangladesh. In addition to being the focal point of Nijera Kori's core programming, these groups both support and are supported by each of Nijera Kori's additional 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 center 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 channeled through our work with individual landless groups throughout our network.

3.2 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.

3.2.1 Formation of landless groups

Achievement

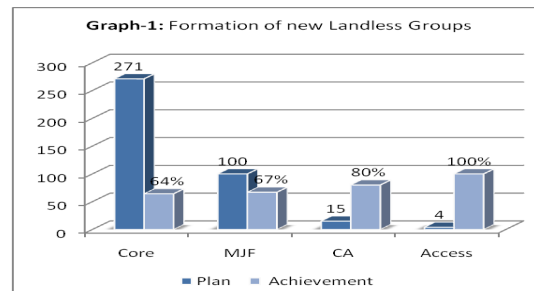
In social mobilization, formation of new landless groups from deprived masses is a very important activity. It is especially important to mobilize women who are not able to realize their potential due to family, patriarchal, religious and social obstructions, so that they can become empowered and demand their rights.



In the activity year, a total of 257 (f-147 and m-110) new landless groups were formed. As per plan, the rate of achievement is 66% (f-74% and m-58%). It may be mentioned that the rate of achievement is 9% less compared to last year.

In the activity year 3 (f-2 and m-1) new Adivasi landless groups have been formed. At present the total numbers of groups are 95 (f-41 and m-54). This initiative is a positive achievement in organizing extremely deprived and unrecognized Adivasi residing in the plains.

Graph-1, as per plan, the achievements of new groups on the basis of projects are being analysed. The rate of achievement in the core program is 64%, MJF 67%, Christian Aid (CA) 80% and access 100%.



In the activity area, due to formation of new group activity, in 1 village and 1 union has been expanded. In addition, 2 villages came under village coverage. (Coverage means when in a village 75% deprived masses become members of landless organization.)

It should also be noted that the formation of a landless group does more than just assist the members. Family members of landless group members, who are not members of the organization themselves, participate indirectly in the activities of landless groups (such as listening to discussion in group meetings, watching cultural programmes, collecting information, participating in protests and movements, and supporting the activities of the landless groups). These activities immerse family members of the landless groups (male, female and children) in awareness building social mobilization activities.

Review of **Table- 2** shows that, as of March 2013 the total landless groups were 11,420 and the members 235,456 persons. These members represent 127,660 families. Based on an average of 4.9 persons per family in Bangladesh, it is estimated that the total number of family members of Nijera Kori's work is 625,534 persons as of March 2012. Source of information, Pocket Statistic Book 2010. The male-female family

Description	Table-2: number of group & members in march 13					
	No. of groups			No. of members		
	F	M	T	F	M	T
Rajshahi	2,329	1,964	4,293	47,240	43,300	89,629
Dhaka	563	474	1,037	10,436	10,180	20,616
Khulna	704	474	1,178	18,098	13,021	31,119
Chittagong	815	664	1,479	15,722	14,513	30,235
Total Core	4,406	3,576	7,982	91,496	81,014	172,510
MJF	991	757	1,748	19,166	16,661	35,827
CA	869	393	1,262	12,970	5,831	18,801
Access	265	133	398	5,116	2,602	7,718
ARP	-	-	-	240	360	600
Total (NK)	6,543	4,877	11,420	128,988	106,468	235,456

members have had the opportunity to enhance their awareness through landless members. As a result, they are able to build the power of the landless organization.

Termination of landless groups

For the past two years, landless groups in Matlab, Chitla, and Gharinda have been underperforming. As a result, in the activity year, these three sub-centers were analysed and assessed in depth in the extended representative and half-yearly staff council. It was revealed that in Matlab sub-centre, people have become scattered due to extensive river erosion; that Chitla is plagued with violence, insecurity, and the black-market (largely because it is near the border) and for these reasons the landless members are unable to conduct their activities regularly; and in Gharinda sub-centre, the building of the Jamuna Bridge's east railway station has made it a rising commercial hub, and most members have migrated after receiving compensation. The staff decided, after discussions with the landless groups in these areas, that activities would be terminated for the groups in this area. The decision affects a total of 354 groups (f-204 and m-150), a total of 7,619 people (f-4,375 and m-3,244). Annex **table 2**, division wise statistic is presented.

Reasons

During the perorating year the rate of achievement is 9% less against the plan. In the last activity year, union parishad/municipal elections were held in some activity areas. Post election situation, political unrest, instability and overall situation made selections of members for new groups difficult. As result additional preparatory time were taken to form new groups. For these reasons the formation of new group is slightly less.

Lessons

It is necessary to make the planning process more realistic. For realistic planning, the SOWT should be used. Also are being encouraged staff and group members to practice in all working areas.

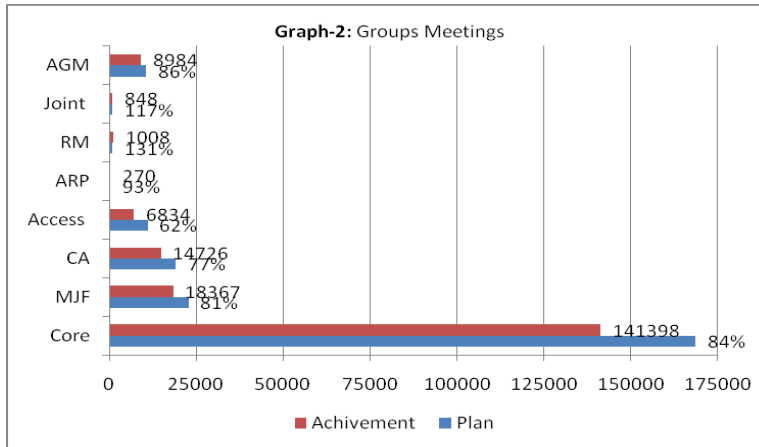
In coverage villages and non-coverage villages activities on members' experience should be ensured. Thus, would be help to strengthened village coverage process. Though issue based project are conducted. But in activity areas coordination and collective strategies of overall Nijera Kori's activities should be monitored duty.

3.3 Group's, Representative and Joint Meetings. (Detail in annex 4.5)

Achievement:

The main means of awareness building and mobilization activities for the landless are meetings, where issues are discussed and analyzed at length. The members endeavor to acquire knowledge by exchanging views and experiences in the meetings. In the meetings the members select the topic of discussion, participate and conduct the meeting, and come to a decision through discussion and argument. They decide who should attend training participate in a shalish and what play what role in the movement. As a result of the meetings the group members gradually become more conscious. In conducting activities they become more responsible and their attendances in meetings become more regular. All these factors make the landless organizations self-sufficient. Their initiative to organize meeting prove their sense of responsibility and self-sufficiency. In annex **table 4**, an analysis shows the rate of implementation of group meetings, as per plan 82% (f-83% and m-81%).

Graph 2, shows that, project based achievement is core 84%, MJF- 81%, CA-77%,



Access- 62%, ARP- 93% and representative 131%, joint group meetings 117% and annual group meetings 86%. It may be mentioned that in the activity year the rate of implementation of group meetings in the presence of staff is 31%. On the other hand, the landless groups, on their own initiative, organized 51% of the meetings.

In addition **graph-2** also shows that, the landless groups organize representatives and joint meetings to maintain unity and solidarity among themselves and to organize issue-based movements in their areas. As per plan the rate of implementation of representative and joint meetings is 131% and 117%. All the landless representatives attend the representative and joint meetings. In these meetings they make assessment of over-all activities, make plans and decide the mode of activities.

Above all, the landless groups organize an annual groups meeting to scrutinize their achievements, strengths and weaknesses. In the activity year, as per plan, the rate of achievement of annual group meeting is 86%. In these meetings the groups make plans for the next year after examining their strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and risks.

It may be mentioned that the habit of monitoring activities, making assessment and planning is indicative of their direct participation. This is a very positive factor. In addition, their gradual self-sufficiency and sustainability for demanding their rights is also a very positive achievement.

Another point for analysis in annual group meeting is the ability of the ordinary members to shoulder responsibility and indulge in examination of one's capability, attributes, accountability, commitment, and pledges together and make necessary judgments. On the basis of assessment of ordinary members, a total of 1,321 persons (f-745 and m-576) were removed from group leadership. Compared to last year change of leadership in groups is 23% more. This shows the leaders are capable of controlling the groups and they are also able to reduce the distance between themselves and the ordinary members. On the other hand, the ordinary members are also increasingly asking questions and demanding accountability. As a result, the tradition of practicing democracy, transparency and accountability have been strengthened in these meetings. This is the definite result of encouraging joint leadership, mobilization and building awareness. This is also a solid step to establish democracy in the society.

Reasons

As per plan the implementation of group meetings are slightly less, but the rate of achievement is more than satisfactory. The reasons for organizing fewer meetings are given below-

First: The number of staff is less than needed to support all the activities. Though new staff have been hired, they are still in the orientation period.

Second: many members were compelled to live out of their activity area for a considerable period in search of livelihood.

Third: Nijera Kori makes the annual activity policy on the basis of the activity plans that the landless groups form in their respective areas, but in the middle of this activity year, all the activities in Matlab, Ghurka and Chitla were stopped.

On the other hand, representative meetings were slightly more than planned. These meetings were organized to decide the mode of activities for conducting movements, to update the members on their return to the activity areas after being absent for considerable time in search of livelihood and to enact strategy. For this reason, as per plan, the implementation of representative and joint meeting is comparatively more.

Lessons

For making group policy it is necessary to assess the strength, weakness, opportunity, risk and participation of the members. This will make the policies more realistic. It is necessary to increase the number of meetings at the initiative of the groups. It is also necessary to strengthen the system of monitoring the topic of discussion and its degree of qualitative assessment. This will expedite the formation of autonomous landless organization.

3.4 Group Conventions & Committee Formation. (Detail in annex 6 & 7)

The group conventions and committee formation serve to define the issues the groups will confront, organize plans to address these issues, and strength joint leadership. In addition, during the group convention, the leaders are responsible for reviewing, critiquing, and learning from the actions they previously took. The participants are also able to critique their leaders, and elect officers they think best serve their needs through a democratic process. Committees are also formed, which play a strong leadership role in their areas and plan activities. On the other hand, the landless leaders also are invited by the local administrations, people's representatives and powerful coterie for shalish to solve various problems.

In the activity year a new village committee was formed. As of March 2013, the total number of committees are-Village-339, Union- 23, Upazilla-3 and Area-33. These committees monitor issues of corruption, injustice, and persecution. The landless group committee also regularly collect information and make it public. This is a very promising endeavour in establishing transparency and accountability in the society.

Analysis of **table-1**, shows, as per plan, implementation of committee meeting at village-98%, union-113%, upazilla-72% and area level-97%. This demonstrates that the committees are taking their responsibilities seriously. Further analysis of **table-1**, shows, in the activity year, as per plan, the rate of group convention is village- 92%, union-92%, Upazilla- 100% and area- 94%.

Description	V	U	UP	A
Plan (Committee Formation)	6	-	-	-
Achievement	1	-	-	-
Plan (Convention)	379	24	3	33
Achievement	350	22	3	31
Percentage	92%	92%	100%	94%
Plan (Committee Meeting)	3,984	226	36	406
Achievement	3,898	256	26	393
Percentage	98%	113%	72%	97%

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

Analysis of **table-2**, shows that, a positive trend in recent years is that landless women leaders are being accepted and respected by society. This is a great stride in enhancing women's status and establishing empowerment of women. In the activity

Committee	Last year	Candidates Contested			Elected Women	%
		F	M	T		
Village	232	303	299	602	279	46
Union	21	41	53	157	34	22
Upazilla	5	11	13	28	8	29
Area	49	84	89	173	77	45
Total	307	471	489	960	406	42

year, in the open seat elections (open means to both women and men) the number of women who elected was 32% more than last year (last year-307). Considering that Bangladesh is a male dominated society the acceptance of women's leadership is a positive change.

Similarly, the Adivasi men and women, who are among the most marginalized in Bangladesh, are being elected by the landless to represent them in committees. In the activity year a total of 22 (f-9 and m-13) Adivasi members have been elected in various positions in the landless committees which is 22% more. This shows recognition and empowerment of the Adivasi.

Reasons

In forming new committees, the landless groups and Nijera Kori have formulated new condition (defined in box 5) through discussion and analysis. Due to failure fulfilling the conditions, formation of new committee was less than plan. The numbers were partly less than plan because 17 village, and 4 Area level committees were shut down in 3 activity areas, Matlab, Gharinda and Chitla. Another reason for low number of group

conventions is that some committees organize conventions in April, and thus were not been included in this year's report.

Lesson

It is necessary to uphold the joint leadership of men and women in the committees. Though new committees were formed; the activities and the role of old committees are being strengthened. In decision making process differences of opinion and accountability is helping to solidify the foundation of joint leadership.

3.5 Group savings and bank account (Detail in index table - 8, 9 and 17)

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

An analysis of the annexure **table-8**, shows that the landless groups deposited TK 18,048,206 (\$231,387 USD) (*f-10,607,942 and m-7,440,264*) as group savings in the working year. In comparison to plan, the rate of achievement was 62%.

Some groups decided to distribute the group savings fund equally between all members; a total of TK 13,242,989 (\$169,782 USD) was shared among the members (*f-8,065,146 and m- 5,177,843*) in the working year to face temporary economic crisis. The rate of savings distribution amongst members was 31% higher in comparison to that in the previous year.

This proves that the members are becoming better at collectively facing economic crises through group savings, such as unemployment or agriculture problems. As a result, the reliance on traditional credit (*mahajani rin*) and micro credit from a credit lending NGO is gradually declining. Similarly, the landless groups are undertaking joint economic activities with the money from group savings rather than needing to rely on credit. This is a positive indicator of the landless members' economic empowerment.

An analysis of the annexure **table-17** shows that the landless groups spent TK. 2,101,812 (\$26,946 USD) from the group savings to conduct general activities of Nijera Kori, including workshops, refresher trainings, issue based movements, group conventions, cultural activities, observation of special days, and litigations. It proves the financial partnership of the landless groups in the overall programme planning of Nijera Kori. The groups spent TK. 1,767,636 (\$22,662 USD) in implementing the organisational activities last year (2011-12), which means the economic partnerships between the groups and Nijera Kori increased by 19% in the working year.

The landless groups also undertook a number of small but necessary development projects and welfare activities with their group savings. They spent a total of TK 2,140,800 (\$27,446 USD) in different activities, such as repairing schools and roads, digging and cleaning canals and ponds, offering assistance for education and medical treatment, and providing expenses for arranging marriages without dowry. Last year the

expenditure for similar development and welfare activities was TK. 820,574 (\$10,520 USD) which means landless group contribution increased by 161% in the working year.

Spending money from group savings or participation of the landless groups in implementing programmes is an important indicator of the participatory nature of the groups. An analysis of the total money spent from the group savings in the working year reveals that the landless groups spent 50% of the total amount of money in implementing organisational activities and 50% of the total amount in development and welfare activities. This trend of participation of landless groups is evidence of the members' growing sense of belonging to and ownership of organisational activities.

In addition, it shows that the landless groups are more responsible in implementing overall programmes. This active and reciprocal trend of participation in the conscientisation and mobilisation activities proves the collective ownership of the landless groups, Nijera Kori and other partner organisations.

An analysis of the annexure **table-9** shows that the landless groups opened 64 more bank accounts in the working year (*f-49 and m-15*) for more accurate preservation of the groups savings. Analysis of the opening of new bank accounts in the working year shows that the women's groups opened more bank accounts than the men's groups. This highlights that women's groups are more responsible than men's groups in implementing group activities in accordance with the group principles. It should be noted that the number of total bank accounts opened by the landless groups as of March 2013 was 3,862 (*f- 2,578 and m-1,284*).

Reasons

The discrepancy between the income and expenditure of the poor are increasing day by day owing to the exorbitant price hikes of every day essentials and food items. As a result, the amount of everyday expenditure in the landless families has increased. This is why most of the landless groups reduced the amount of their savings in comparison to the previous years. As such, there was a difference between the amount of savings drawn and deposited, and the amount predicted in the plan.

The small farmers and share cropper members of the landless groups were able to buy seed, fertilizer and other necessary agricultural tools at a fair price in the working year as a result of government intervention. As such, the extra expenses in the farming season—and the amount of the savings to be distributed—increased in comparison to the previous years.

The rate of opening bank accounts was 25% less in the working year compared to that last year. In some instances, the distance of the banks from the working areas was relatively greater. In other instances, the bank officials expressed their lack of interest to open accounts with joint signatures for modest amounts of money. Moreover, the landless groups were bound to pay a higher amount of service charge than the rate of interest or profit obtained against the deposited amount of money this year.

On the other hand, a total of 160 (*f-114 and m-46*) who have bank accounts were not counted in the statistics this year because Nijera Kori has stopped activities in their areas.

Lessons

Considering the present economic realities, it is necessary to reduce the amount of savings and fix the amount by taking consensus of the group. It is also crucial to discourage institutional credit or dependency on professional lenders (*Mohajan*). At present, in general, for conducting organisational activities, the landless groups spend more than they save. It is necessary to reduce this added expenditure incurred by the landless groups. With the increase of service charge of commercial banks, the landless groups have become less inclined to open bank accounts. Under the circumstances, it is necessary to encourage them to open bank accounts, or viable alternatives, to keep their savings safe and encourage them to use it properly.

3.6 Joint economic activities (Detail in index-12)

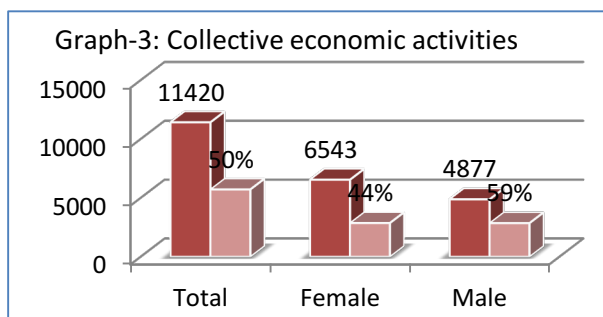
The main purpose of group savings is to generate group economic activities and there by encourage member mind-set and collective perception of life. With this purpose in mind the landless organization conduct collective economic activities such as cultivation of agricultural khas land, water bodies,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

Achievement

By running joint economic activities, the members develop close relationship among themselves and they are inspired to take joint economic initiatives. They develop their collective decision making skills through joint economic activities because together they make the management decisions and decide how to distribute the profits.

The landless members do not engage in the activities to earn an enormous profit, rather they work together to sustain their livelihoods. In addition, they try to start environmentally friendly projects in order to help the environment. Normally the poor people take loans to start any activity, but the landless are able to finance their activities through group savings, thus alleviating the need to pay fees and interest. This is a very positive start in becoming economically self sufficient.

In the annex **table 13**, the index shows that in the activity year a total of 594 (f-328 and m-266) new joint economic activities were started, 22% more than last year. The total profit from joint economic activities by the current 5,827 groups (f-2,911 and m-2,916) engaged in joint economic activities is TK. 51,985,199 (\$666,477 USD). In addition, the



joint economic activities provided job opportunities for a total of 18,802 landless members (f-7,207 and m-11,595) for around six month.

Analysis of **graph-3 shows**, that 51% (f-44%, m-60%) of the landless groups engaged in joint economic activities. Currently, economic activities of 309 groups (f-135, m-174) are not functioning.

The joint economic activities do not only help the landless themselves. The profits are shared with member's family which ensures food security, nutrition, and economic solvency.

In addition, families of landless members often benefit from the crops produced through agricultural projects. In the activity year, the lease and crop sharing agreements of some groups expired, and they could not renew them because the demand was greater than the situation waiting for a cattle. In were stopped Hence, 309 (f-activities



the supply. They decided to rectify by selling cattle, but they are still good time to purchase their initial addition, in the activity year, activities in Matlab, Gharinda and Chitla. 135 and m-174) joint economic ceased in the middle of the year.

Lesson

It is necessary to renew the lease and crop sharing agreements of land and water bodies ahead of the expiry date. Encouragement should be given to cultivate large scale khas land and water-bodies. This will strengthen their occupation right on the land and water-bodies. When the group savings is small the landless should undertake small joint activities. For this reason it is necessary to organize experience sharing tours and focus the success of joint economic activities to the members.

Box-1

Progress in Ensuring Nutrition and Food through Joint Fish Farming.

District- Naokhali, upazila-Subarnachor.

Uncertain Living in Saline Water

In the midst of a huge char there is a tiny island named Charbaghya. Saline water used to flow in this island. In the 1980s a few landless families started settlement here, risking their lives. Year after year they constructed

temporary embankments and made the char land cultivable. When they finally cultivated crops in this land they could not enjoy their harvest because an armed band of jotdars forcibly seized their crops. The landless people lived in the midst of extreme uncertainty regarding nutrition, education and medical treatment only hoping that some day in future their desire for prosperous life would come true.

Landless Groups Form

Also during the 1980s, the landless people began to form landless organizations. Through discussions they tried to understand their common situation, deprivation and demands. During this time a polder was constructed in charbaghya. (Polder means building a settlement by conducting embankment around it). Through the 1990s infrastructure for embankment, sluice gate, road, and drainage for water were build. Afterwards, the landless made settlements on these common lands, known as Khas land, in the name of the landless organization. This is the first instance of joint ownership of Khasland by a landless group.

The Landless Samity Faces Food and Nutrition Challenge

Today, cultivation of crops once a year is one of the main livelihoods of the landless in this area. In producing crops the landless people rely on their indigenous methods. To reduce salinity they cultivated during monsoon, soon after the rain washed the saline water. At the same time each groups started cultivation of fish in their ponds. The landless groups also cultivate fish with their group savings. They do not use commercial fish feed and insecticide, and cultivated native fish. As a result their yield is less than in commercial endeavors, But the water in the pond is pure. Each family is also raising cattle and poultry.

The Landless Earn Extra Money by Fishing During Non-Agricultural Season in the Year

During monsoon paddy is grown in the char areas. Paddy is the main source of food security for the landless families. By selling the paddy they buy other daily necessities. As such they are unable to save money by cultivating paddy. To solve this problem they decided to catch fish in their ponds once a year. During non-agricultural season, that is from December to March each year they decided to catch fish in their ponds. For every yield the members divided the fish among themselves each taking 3 kg. The remaining fish were sold in the market. It is to be mention that, before collective fish farming the canals, water-bodies and ponds used to remain dry. Though fish was available in the market but the landless farmers could not afford it.

As a result, they suffered from lack of nutrition. Now, these landless families can eat vegetables every day in the month, fish at least 7days in a month and eggs and milk some times. This has made a remarkable change in their nutrition.

Security of Food and Nutrition by Alternative Earning

A total of 30 landless groups comprising 896 members were involved in the fish cultivation. In the activity year fish was caught from the ponds four times. Each pond, on average, produced 650 kg of fish- hence production from 30 ponds (650kg*30ponds) was 19,500 kgs fish was divided among 30 landless groups each times. Each family received on average more than around 22kgs which ensured family nutrition.

In addition, the groups sold 9,450 kgs of fish in the market. The price of this fish in the market was 1,417,500 (\$18.173 USD) takas (9,450kg*TK.150). Expenditure for fish cultivation was 400,500 taka. Net profit was 1,017,000 taka (\$13,038 USD). Each family received an extra approx 1,135 taka(\$15 USD). After fulfilling the need of the family, each family earned 5,000 taka (\$64USD) by selling vegetable, cattle, poultry, eggs and milk. In addition, joint fish cultivation has provided 178 members jobs round the year. Above all, each family is earning alternative income in the year worth 9,435 taka, (\$121 USD)

3.7 Landless group workshops

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.

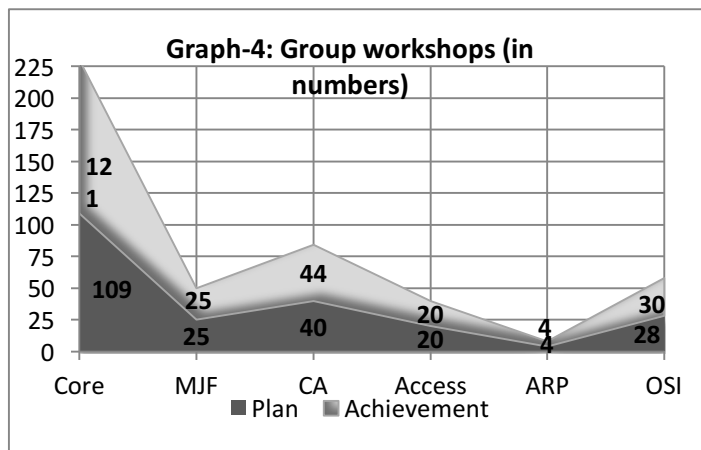
Usually 25-30 landless members take part in the workshops. These workshops are mostly funded by groups own funds.

Landless group workshops

Achievement

Over the course of this activity year, emphasis has been put on subject-based workshops aimed at the implementation of issue-based planning. Through participation in the workshops, the landless members conducted elaborate and in depth analysis that allowed them to identify risks, decide a mode of action and clarify the types of issues they face and their probable causes. As a result, the landless members have gained analytical experience, and have strengthened their ability to establish continuity in the logical steps aimed at resolving their issues. Of the 226 workshops to be organized over the course of this activity year, 244 were successfully planned and carried out, the rate of achievement is thus of the order of 108%.

The project-based plan and subsequent analysis are provided in graph-3. In the activity year the rate of project based implementation is core-111%, MJF-100%, Christian Aid-110%, Access-100%, ARP-100% and OSI-107%. It must be noted that total participation of landless members in the workshops numbered at 5,984 (f-3,203 and m- 2,781). As per plan the rate of participation is 103%.



Over the course of this activity year, the landless members explored the rationale of local issues by analyzing in what way these same issues impacted their lives. The deprivation of rights of which they are victims became clear to them through their increased understanding of organizational, legal and international treaties. As a result, they grew more vocal, proficient and bold in demanding their rights.

The workshop participants were also able to elaborate a strategic plan after determining their requirements, which consists of a very positive achievement. Furthermore, members who participated in the workshops attended various group meetings afterwards, where they discussed the experiences with their fellow group members. As a result, a huge number of members received issue-based knowledge, thus gained experience and proficiency, lessons which will no doubt have a long lasting and enduring impact on society.

Reasons

The sub-centers prepared issue-based qualitative plans, due to the landless members' need for adequate training in regard to the specific issues they face. Due to insufficient funding, the number of trainings organized failed to meet the required needs. It is for this reason that attempts were made to fulfill the initial requirements through field-level work-

shops and thus explains the number of workshop implementations outnumbered what had initially been planned.

Lesson

Despite the inability to reach the number of trainings needed, continuity in raising awareness and strengthening mobilization was nonetheless ensured. Subject-based workshops conducted at the field level have played an important role in implementing strategic planning. Through participation in the workshops, members were able to identify their shortcomings, analyze their capabilities, measure risk and determine a strategy to diminish it. All these skills are crucial for rights claiming, achieving self-sufficiency and strengthening mobilization.

3.8 Group consciousness level (Detail in index 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 group formation are time-consuming and continuous processes. The process of awareness building is dependent on local, national and global realities and changes. Awareness building is a process which is always changing; sometimes awareness increases and sometimes it decreases. Awareness-building cannot be static and cannot be taken for granted.

Analysis of **table- 16** shows that in the activity year, 184 landless groups (*f- 108 and m- 76*) were upgraded from the primary to secondary level. As per plan, the rate of achievement of groups was 90% – female groups 98% and male group 81%. Similarly, the number of promotions of groups from secondary level to third level was 49 (*f-25 and m- 24*). As per plan, the rate of achievement was 89%.

Notably, numerical analysis shows that equal numbers of female-male groups have been promoted to the third level. This is a very positive aspect of awareness-building of both male/female groups. It may be mentioned that compared to last year, the rate of achievement increased by 7%.

Reasons

A group usually gets promoted to the next level when a majority of its members develop the same level of awareness. In most cases, however, a majority of the members reside outside their activity areas for a great part of the year for livelihood purposes. For this reason, all the members cannot attend the group meetings regularly and are unable to participate in organisational activities. As a result, all the members are not in a position to attain the same level of awareness.

It may be mentioned that the number of groups promoted to third level is lower than those promoted to the second level. The conditions for promotion to third level are usually more theoretical than practical. With changes in national and global scenarios, it becomes necessary for the members to become more proficient at attaining and evaluating information. However, this is a continuous and time-consuming process. As

mentioned earlier, for practical reasons, many members are involved in multiple occupations, and some of them are compelled to remain outside their activity areas for a greater part of the year. As such, due to mental anxiety, stress and uncertainty, the poor landless members are unable to attain the expected level of awareness. However, the landless members' faith and pledge in the groups, their participation, awareness, and strategic proficiency is gradually increasing.

Lessons

It is necessary to uphold the continuous processes of awareness-building, execution of activities and improvement of capabilities. On the basis of past experience, in this activity year, subject-based workshops were prioritised in order to maintain the continuity of awareness-building process at field-levels. It is necessary to make awareness programs more effective for eligible groups that are identified according to criteria of consciousness level in the beginning of the activity year. In particular, when the absent members return to their activity areas, joint meetings and issue-based workshops should be organised to make the trainings consistent and more dynamic.

Box 4: Level of Group Consciousness
Primary Level
<p>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.</p> <p><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></p>
Secondary level
<p>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 group members at this level learn from an evaluation of the various activities. The members raise awareness amongst the various professional groups in the society by holding discussions. The group also sees to the participation of its members throughout the village.</p> <p><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 group culture.</i></p>
Tertiary Level
<p>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.</p> <p><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></p>

CHAPTER-4

Female

Male

Advanced (joint) 4 days

Awareness raising and capacity building process

Higher selection 5 days

4.1 Training activities (Details in annex- 10)

Female

Male

Trainings activities

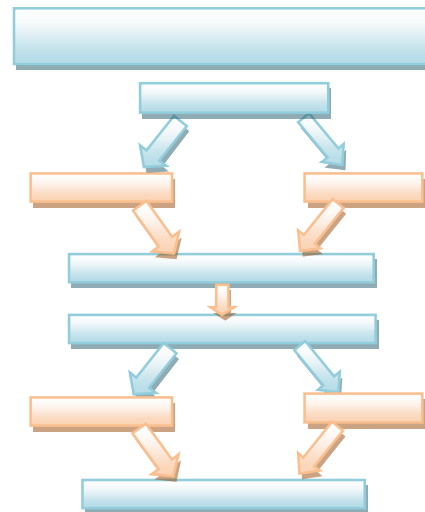
Higher (joint) 6 days

Objective 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.



Group training (Detail in index-10)

Training is an important factor and a very effective medium when it comes to awareness-building activities. Training capacities were discussed over the course of the present activity year in order to tailor it to specific local issues. Intentional emphasis was attributed to this issue in order for the participants of the trainings to be able to reduce the impact these local issues have on their lives; hence, the participants gained analytical experience, which constitutes a crucial aspect of the awareness-building process. As a result, the members were better able to identify local problems/issues and determine the proper course of action during training sessions, and their experience and proficiency was thus further given a needed boost at field-level group meetings, where participants discussed said trainings and related experiences with other members. This has contributed in making them more inquisitive and better able at making queries pertaining to a variety of matters, a positive sign for the furthering and strengthening of awareness-building and mobilization activities.

During group meetings, trained members brought an analytical component to the discussions and thus acted as initiators of a more profound dialogue. In addition, the role of trained members was note worthy in underlining the area's specific problems,

identifying their causes, deciding on a course of action and showcasing public opinion. Aspects that all contribute in revealing the positive impacts of said trainings.

Index-10, analysis of this index shows this activity year’s plan to organize a total of 85 trainings; 93 were implemented. It was planned that 2,315 members would participate, and a total of 2,310 (f-1,168 and m-1,142) members participated.

Description	Core		CA		MJF		OSI		Access		Total	
	P	A	P	A	P	A	P	A	P	A	P	A
Core (Fundamental training)												
Basic	672	679	150	146	224	222	-	-	4	4	1,050	1,051
Advanced	115	116	46	45	64	64	-	-	-	-	225	225
Higher selection	93	94	-	-	32	32	-	-	-	-	125	126
Other issue based training	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Land law and management	100	99	-	-	25	25	-	-	-	-	125	124
Land and women	-	-	-	-	50	50	-	-	-	-	50	50
Citizen rights and constitutional guarantees	9	8	-	-	16	16	-	-	-	-	25	24
Leadership development	40	39	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40	39
Reproductive health right	-	-	50	48	-	-	-	-	-	-	50	48
Khasland distribution policy and procedure	-	-	-	-	75	75	-	-	-	-	75	75
Gender	-	-	34	34	16	16	-	-	50	50	100	100
Women development policy	-	-	25	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	25
Right to information Act.	18	18	-	-	32	32	300	296	-	-	350	346
Participatory planning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	25	25	25
Participatory monitoring and evaluation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	27	25	27
Cultural (basic)	40	39	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40	39
Total	1,056	1,062	305	298	550	548	300	296	104	106	2,315	2,310

P-plan and A- Achievement

In the **table 3**, analysis reveals the number of participants according to project are- Core-101%, MJF- 100%, Christian Aid- 98%, Access- 102% and OSI- 99%. It must be noted that trainings on “Land and Women” and “Khas land settlement policy and process”, were organized solely in MJF activity areas. On the other hand, “Reproductive health care” and “Women development policy” trainings were organized in Christian Aid activity areas. The “Participatory adoption of planning” and “participatory monitoring” method trainings were held in Access activity areas.

Over the course of the present activity year, another positive evolution consists of an increased female to male ratio in the participation in joint trainings; more women participated compared to men (f- 52% and m-48%). The participation of women in these trainings was very minimal in previous years: this increase goes to show that the subject-based awareness of women is gaining momentum, and will effectively contribute in increasing their capacity in voicing demands and claiming their fundamental rights.



Above all, in the activity year the members spent a total of 7,569 person-days (f- 2,828

and m-3,741). Besides the days allocated for training, an additional 2,310 days were spent commuting to and from the training venues. Spontaneous participation of landless members in these trainings during working days show case their commitment and determination in advancing the cause of landless organization.

Reason

In the present activity year the amount of trainings surpassed what had been planned. There are three main reasons to explain why additional trainings were organized.

Firstly, two additional trainings were organized due to newly introduced Access activities at field-level over the course of the present activity year. *Secondly*, project activities on "Single women – women headed families" issues were also newly introduced and resulted in the organization of 3 additional trainings at field-level on this particular issue.

Thirdly, OSI project implementation had a 7-day fixed schedule for each of training. Last year, a 7-day long training on the "Right to information Act" was organized. A selection of previously trained members discussed their experiences at field-level and this resulted in a demand from the members for supplementary training on this particular subject. Hence, due to high demand from the members, Nijera Kori strategically planned for 7-day trainings, reserving said days for training on the "Right to information Act" in order for more members to be able to participate, which also contributed to augmenting the number of reasons compared to what had been planned.

It must be mentioned that in these projects' proposed trainings, third-yearly April 2010 to March 2013 activities were not included. More importantly, in previous years the participation of women in issue/subject-based trainings was comparatively less important. As of last year, shortcomings in building male/female equality-based awareness were noted. Hence, more attention was given to ensuring women's attendance during the present activity year, and this effectively resulted in higher female participation.

Lesson

To ensure post-training field-level effectiveness, it is necessary to conduct follow-ups on a more regular basis. It is important that the members be provided with new information, additional strategy for analysis and further updating methods. In addition, previously trained members' role in monitoring and collecting qualitative information should be given greater importance.

4.2 Follow up of training activities. (Details 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 follow-up trainings, the trained members gain more experience by analysing their own lived experience in relation to the broader socio-political context. They discuss local issues by applying the theoretical knowledge gained during the trainings. As a result, there is a noticeable increase in the level of awareness among the members. In addition, all the members analyse issues and decide on strategies based on their experience on the ground. This makes the activities of the trained members more dynamic.

Analysis of **table-4**, shows that in the activity year, 65 trainings had follow-up sessions, which is 111% of the planned activities. A total of 1,469 landless group members participated in the follow-up activities. In addition, 505 forum meetings were held, representing 93% of the planned activities. At present 47 forums have been established within the landless groups.

Division	Table-4-Refresher Trainings			
	Plan		Achievement	
	No	Participants	No	Participants
Rajshahi	15	380	15	381
Dhaka	5	125	4	96
Khulna	11	275	14	345
Chittagong	22	550	26	647
Total (NK)	53	1,330	59	1,469

Lessons

It is necessary to give more emphasis to follow-up activities among members who have completed subject-based trainings. Follow-up activities should also be planned for members who received trainings in the past. This will allow these members to update their knowledge of national and global socio-political processes. In addition, it will reduce the gap in awareness and analysis between the newly trained members and the members who had been trained previously.

4.3 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 on 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 in the weekly sub-centre, monthly regional, bi-monthly divisional meetings and quarterly executive meetings; **2)** ensure continuous collection of new information and tools and sharing these materials with the staff at the sub-centre level; **3)** organising various cultural trainings and workshops; **4)** enabling the staff to participate as observers in all training sessions in order to gain further experience; and **5)** reviewing the lessons and specific initiative at the annual staff convention of Nijera Kori.

Achievement

Consistent discussion topics are determined in the beginning of the year 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 culture of debate and analytical

discussions of these schoolings, the staff are able to enhance their knowledge as well as their analytical skills.

Four separate divisional cell meetings were held separately in four divisions in order to develop the skills of the cell members in conducting trainings. In addition, one organisational and one training cell meeting were held at the central level. A strategy of participatory workshops was adopted in terms of conducting cell meetings.

Two, trainings were held with the newly-appointed staff at the basic level. A total of 70 (f-26 and m-44) persons participated.

As per plan, two training of the trainers (ToT) were organised. Nijera Kori's central organising cell, training cell, divisional trainer and organiser, participated in the training. A total of 39 (f-17 and m-22) persons participated. During the ToT, trainers were trained to use role play to explain different issues related to the different issue based training as well as other strategic skills to effectively conduct trainings.

In the activity year, there was a plan to hold 4 trainings for staff on Right to Information Act and held 4 trainings. A total of 99 persons (f-45 and m-54) participated in the trainings. These trainings were attended by representatives of central training and organising cell, members of central cultural team, and divisional presidents from 16 areas who are responsible for coordination all the responsibilities. In addition, the reporting cell and senior staff of watch committees were also present. As the trainings were held successively, it was possible to generate the same level of insight and experience about the RIT law among the staff from the field, division and centre. That means a clear vision has been created about field-level activity, monitoring and coordination regarding the RTI Act and its mode of application.

One workshop was organised on monitoring and financial management with the participation of all elected representative staff. Through the process of enhancing management, monitoring experiences and skills. Some staff attended trainings organised by other organisations mainly land and water rights. On the other hand 3 staff also participated workshops on Rights Based Approach and Logical Framework analysis.

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 one book-one writer as the ultimate truth. The employees 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-wise workshops. Moreover, the strategy to ensure the participation of Nijera Kori staff in the trainings of fellow-spirited organisations might be undertaken.

4.4 Cultural Activities (Details in annex 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 order to conduct definite activities the landless groups identify the main problems and issues in their activity area that need to be addressed. After identifying the problem, the landless cultural group decides what activities they can do to address the necessary issues. The issues selected this year were: women persecution, rights of women, democracy, transparency-accountability, constitutional rights, Adivasi rights and constitutional recognition, indigenous agriculture and seeds, and right to information. The cultural group conducted activities to create awareness in the above mentioned issues and also to generate public opinion for organizing movement to establish rights. More cultural activities were organized by the cultural group in this activity year than last year in order to generate more support for the landless' causes.

In **table-5**, shows that in the activity year, in Chittagong division's Rangamati area, one new cultural group was organized. Currently there are 63 cultural groups. The rate of cultural group activity is: meeting 98%, discussion 99%, staging of dramas 139%, drama festival-long march 100%, and rendition of songs 108%.

Description	P	A	%
Meetings of cultural group	763	744	98
Cultural discussion	108	107	99
Drama performance	428	596	139
Padajatra/Drama festival	9	9	100
People's song session	467	504	108
Cultural function by children	78	107	137

(P=Plan, A=Achievement)

In the activity year the landless cultural group has composed a total of 111 new dramas. The subject matters of the dramas were education and health. In addition, in the activity year the children cultural groups, comprised of the children of landless members, stage 107 dramas, which is 57% more than the last year. Gradually the children cultural group is becoming strong and popular in all the activity areas. This will make the new generation aware of the lessons and aims of the landless organizations.

It may be mentioned that in the activity year the cultural group had plans to organize 33 one day long drama-based workshops at the field level. This year, 28 were organized- that is 85% of plan. In addition 3 seven day long workshops were organized with the participation of landless cultural groups and Nijera Kori staff.

A total of 77 persons participated (Nijera Kori staff-10, f-21 and m-46). While conducting the workshops Nijera Kori's staff and members of landless cultural group composed 17 new dramas. Further, in the activity year, 142 female members performed for the first time in the drama-songs held in public-such as local market (haat-bazar) and school ground. In addition, 16 female members have joined the cultural group. The participation of female members in the cultural activities is an indication of women's freedom, empowerment and decision making.

The landless groups observe national and international days, such as International Mother Language Day (21 February), International Women's Day (8 March), Independence Day (26 March), International Labor Day (1 May), Rokeya Day (May 9) and, Liberation Day (16 December). Other important days that are observed by the cultural groups are Shahid Kachmoti Day (14 April), Shahid Zoynal Day, to honour two landless members were killed in khas land movement by the grabbers, (3 November), and Shahid Karunamoyee Day (to honor the person killed in a movement against commercial shrimp cultivation by an armed band of the shrimp cultivators (7 November). These days are observed in the activity areas by laying wreaths and holding rallies, discussion, gatherings and cultural activities. It may be mentioned that in some areas the groups observed these days jointly with the local club, school/college.



Reasons

Cultural activities became necessary to create public opinion for the movement. Hence, as per plan, more dramas and rendition of songs were organized. As a result of 7 days long cultural workshop the need for organizing 1 day long drama based workshop has been fulfilled. Therefore, as per plan the implementation of field-level cultural workshops is less. It should be mentioned that two cultural groups were dropped from plan as three activity areas-Matlab, Ghurka and Chitla - were not included.

Lessons

From the very beginning of the activity year cultural activities became focused on specific issues and problems, and this strategy should be continued. It is necessary to conduct simultaneously organisational and cultural activities together. In addition, the cultural activities of the children and adolescents of members should be encouraged.

Box-5:

Cultural Group Members Grow From Drama

Area: Upazila- Tangail sadar, District: Tangail, Dhaka division

Preparation

Through a joint meeting the village committees made a plan to organize a two-day cultural long march on 16 and 17 November. They decided the most pressing issues in their area were so these were the issues they decided to address. The village committee made arrangement for the lodging of cultural group members for the night. They were lodged in various schools and food was arranged by donation from the local landless members.

Activity

On 16 November 2012, a flag was hoisted by Hajiron Begum, Shibpur landless committee member and the cultural long march was inaugurated. The inauguration ceremony was attended by Gala union parishad chairman, representatives of professional groups, and thousands of men and women. After the ceremony they started the march from Shibpur school ground with banners and festoons visiting village after village. Whenever they came across haat, bazars, or open school ground they stopped the rally and sang and beat drums. When people gathered they started discussion and staged dramas and sang songs. The dramas were about women's right, communalism and combined resistance, democracy and accountability. At every place an average of 700 males and females gathered. It may be mentioned that the presence of students from school and colleges increased from last year.

Example of Pledge: Salma Begum, age-26, village-Akur Takur

Salma Begum joined the landless group two years ago. For the first time, self confident Salma performed in the drama. During the two- day long cultural march Salma performed repeatedly. After the concluding drama Salma said, "now I have learnt to consider myself as a human being. We must have a place in the society. But the society doesn't want that. We shall fight. We will establish our rights by fighting. We have to stand up, we must wake up, this is our only goal."

CHAPTER-5

5. Empowerment support initiative

5.1 Legal aid activities (Detail in index-15)

Achievement

Analysis of **table-6**, shows that, in the activity year 77 new legal cases were filed (landless group as petitioner-44 landless group as defendant-33). This is 20% more than last year. In addition, this year 100 cases were resolved, a 30% increase over last year. Of the 100 cases, 97 had verdicts in favour of the groups, a 35% increase over last year. The landless have appealed in the three cases where the verdict went against them. Similarly, nineteen cases where the landless were successful have been appealed by their opponent.

It is important to note that the landless were successful in all of the cases they brought regarding Violence against Women, indicating that when women are properly supported the justice system can be sensitive to their needs.

Characteristics of cases	New cases	Resolved cases			
		T	I	Ag	A
Total	77	100	97	3	22
Criminal	33	32	30	2	12
Groups of the plaintiffs	13	11	10	2	2
Groups of the accused	20	21	20	-	10
Civil	15	20	19	1	5
Groups of the plaintiffs	7	13	12	1	1
Groups of the accused	8	7	7	-	4
Violence against Women	29	48	48	-	5
Groups of the plaintiffs	24	25	25	-	-
Groups of the accused	5	23	23	-	5

T= Total, I = in favor, Ag= Against and A= Appeal

Box -6: Characteristics of the cases

The cases have been categorised in three broad categories- criminal, civil and violence against women.

Criminal cases total- 384

Abduction-13, Terrorism-50, physical violence-75, counterfeit documents-9, dacoity-21, extortion-15, threat of murder/intimidation -58, deceit-5, looting of paddy-42, violence relating to occupation of khasland-96.

Cases relating to Violence Against Women total- 239

Physical persecution-44, abortion due to persecution-4, demand for fathering the child-7, rape-22, child rape-17, rape and murder-14, murder of women-22, women trafficking-3, dowry-38, divorce-13, demand for maintenance-36, polygomy-17, child marriage-2.

Civil cases total- 222

Khasland-108, Boya's claim-8, DCR-5, Khas water body-27, shrimp gher-18, own land-56.

accused. In the current year the landless group spent TK. 1,134,095 (\$14,540 USD) from their savings to support legal cases. In most cases the well-wisher lawyers took less than their usual rate from the landless members. This demonstrates the landless group's commitment to justice. The prevalence of false cases is especially important in light of the fact that the landless were conducted in 845 cases this year, more than they have ever experienced before. Nijera Kori is currently providing legal assistance for 288 cases that were not able to obtain lawyers through other means. Detail in **box-6** types of case.

It may be mentioned that in the activity year, in many criminal cases (criminal cases are relating to ownership right to land, water-bodies) through the jotder coterie lost, yet they made appeal in most cases. But in the activity year the jotder filed more civil cases. Their motive was to establish ownership right on land and water-bodies.

Reasons

The time for national assembly election is nearing. Already the powerful political parties are trying to generate votes. Many seek the vote of the landless, but to obtain the vote, they have to pass strict scrutiny by the groups themselves.

Hence considering this aspect there is less number of filed cases by jotder and powerful coterie against the landless members. On the other hand, the government takes initiative to settle the pending cases from 2011 quickly. In this situation the combined monitoring by the landless group and the lawyers show that compared to last year, this year more cases were settled.

Lessons

Next year the number of cases should be increased. There is a possibility to involving more staff in law-suits. The process of monitoring cases needs to be more regular and strengthened.

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 landless 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 completely by the endeavours and management of the landless organisations.

Box-7:

Actual position of the Educational Institution

Out of 30 primary schools set up by the landless organisation, 18 have been registered, 6 have received temporary sanction from the Deputy Director's Office, 3 schools have received government sanction for teaching and 3 are run by the landless groups; of the 4 junior high schools, registration of 2 schools is complete.

Table- 7, also shows that the number of students increased to 37,222 (Girl students- 19,436 and Boy students- 17,786) this year. The rate of increase in the number of female

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

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 year, 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 working year. 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 activity year.



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 Livestock vaccination activities

Due to the inefficiency of government officials engaged in the livestock sector, the ordinary people in remote char areas are deprived of any benefits provided by the government. Nevertheless, the group members have started vaccination and treatment of their livestock on their own initiatives in two remote activity areas in upazilla sadar, Paikgacha and Charjabbar. Additionally, to encourage the group members to rear livestock by indigenous methods, a pilot training course was offered in Nongola. In this training, the Nijera Kori staff worked in liaison with upazila sadar, and collected and administered medicine and vaccinations.

Analysis of **table-8**, reveals that around 41,500 livestock were vaccinated in the working year, which is 311% higher than the previous year. In addition, treatments were provided to around 1,137 livestock which is 28% higher than last year.

Table 8: Livestock vaccination	
Description	Achievement
Vaccination	41,500
Treatment	1,137

Around 8,700 families benefited from this programme in the working year. As a result, the total number of beneficiary families increased by five percent over last year. It should be noted that the landless organisations have begun taking responsibilities of communicating with the Upazilla livestock authorities to collect vaccinations on their own. This is a positive indicator of achieving self-reliance in conducting programmes.

5.4 Watch committee and Its activities

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. Finally, the unions under the jurisdiction of the watch committee's area are shown in **Box-8**.

Activities

SL	Box-8- Areas/Location of Watch Committees
1	Paiska Union- Dhaka Division, Tangail district, Dhanbari Upazila- Dhanbari area;
2	Sahas Union- Khulna Division, Khulna District, Dumuria Upazila- Paikgacha area;
3	Char Jubelee Union- Chittagong Division, Noakhali District, Subarna Char Upazila- Char Jabbar area;
4	Saghata Union- Rajshahi division, Gaibandha District, Saghata Upazila- Gaibandha area.
5	Mahammad Union- Chittagong Division, Comilla District, Daudkhandi Upazila- Comilla area;

Six follow-up workshops were arranged for the members of the six sub-committees. The sub-committees regularly monitor and conduct the required activities for information collection on the relevant topics. Later they determine their course of action on the basis of information available from the monthly meetings. The sub-committees also guide the programmes undertaken by the leaders of the landless union committees. Important results of the monitoring committees are analysed below.

Achievement (only in watch committee areas)

During the activity year 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 680 cards. Later, the concerned authorities were obliged to issue and distribute the cards in the names of 620 members by probing into irregularities and collective demands.
- b)** The sub-committees communicated with the LGED Department to ensure safe drinking water in the char (shoal land) regions. As a result, the government installed twelve new tube wells in the char areas for safe drinking water.
- c)** The sub-committees, in addition, identified irregularities though regular monitoring of two bridge installation work. As a result, the LGED formed an inquiry into the work. Later on, the sub-committees compelled the construction firm to construct the bridge according to the original design of the project.

Accessibility to natural resources (land, agricultural and water)

- a)** The landless members built two Seed Bank to ensure the preservation and use of indigenous seeds. Members of these stores number 40 eight types of seeds are being preserved in the stores. On the other hand, around 65 group members preserved seed in their own house, mean seed house. Which encourage built the Seed Bank.
- b)** Twenty five families understood the possession title of the khasland as settled.

Education

- a)** A total number of 22 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 seven schools. The sub-committee members exerted pressure upon the school management committees collectively to stop those irregularities. As result, 1,950 students getting above mention government support.
- c)** Members of the sub-committees communicated with the LGED Department to fill up the low level school field. Later the government allotted four tons of wheat to fill up the fields of five schools. Committee members completed the development work of filling up the field and leveling it high in four school fields.
- d)** According to the government rule a total of 7 schools were not assemble and hoisted flag. As a result of collective pressure the school practiced.

Fundamentalism

- a)** The committees have successfully stopped activities of 11 Talim kendros (informal Islamic Teaching centres) as conducted in different areas.
- b)** A total of 25 landless members' families stopped paddy contribution.

Health

- a)** The committees successfully prevented 22 women from using Norplant as a contraceptive method,
- b)** Around 41 landless families installed and used health friendly latrines,

- c) 13 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 165 tube wells was ensured. Of the total number of tube wells, use of total 15 arsenic contaminated tube wells was stopped.

Gender

- a) A total number of 11 child marriages were prevented by exerting collective pressure.
- b) Giving and taking of dowry were stopped in 19 marriages by exerting collective pressure.
- c) Approximately 17 percent landless members were made careful in terms of ensuring health, medical treatment and nutrition of women.

5.5 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.

5.5.1 Summary of application analysis see table below

Table-7: RTI applications							
Description	No. of RTI Applications		Total	Information Received		Total	Rejected by Concerned Authorities
	April-12 to March-13	Pending Application		April-12 to March-13	From Pending Application		
Primary applications	57	7	64	35	7	42	-
Appeal applications	15	-	15	6	-	6	-
Complain application	9	-	9	3	-	3	6

- a) Members of the landless group submitted a total of 57 primary applications to obtain information in the reporting period. A total of 7 primary applications were pending in the administrative process. Therefore, in reporting period, the total number of primary applications was 64. During the reporting period- the landless group members received information from 42 applications.
- 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-A, an case study on hearing)*
- d) A total of 6 complaints were rejected by the Information Commission.

Box-9

Effective use of RTI information

Right to Information Act Reduces Corruption and Protects Poor Widows

Ali Ahmad, (41) village Charlaxmi no. 8 Clark Union, Upazila Shubarna Char, District Noakhali

I attended the “Right to Information” training organised by Nijera Kori on February, 2012. I knew about this law before the training, but after the training I grasped its significance. After the training everyone in our activity area jointly took the initiative to apply the law wherever appropriate for issues/problems in the locality.

One of the concerns we had was whether the government’s widow’s allowance was being administered correctly because many widows in the area who should be eligible were not receiving the benefit. We discussed the matter with the landless members in the area and jointly made the decision to use the RTI law to further investigate the matter. The plan was to find out which people were currently receiving the benefit card and determine whether they were eligible for it.

As per plan, we submitted an RTI application seeking the list of names of people entitled to the widow’s allowance activities to the Char Clark’s Union Parishad. Our request was complied with, and we then set to work visiting each household on the list to determine their eligibility.

Through our investigation we detected thirty-five instances of corruption and irregularities in distribution of the benefit cards. For example, some women were receiving the allowance even though their husband was still alive. Similarly, some families earned more income and held more land than people who were eligible for the program. There were also incidents where relatives of the UP president and other UP members received the card despite not being qualified.

We wanted the UP Chairman to correct the irregularities and corruption. We collected nearly 500 signatures on a petition and submitted the evidence to him in written form. Further, we organised a gathering in front of the UP office to reveal the corruption and irregularities to the people. Under pressure, the UP chairman was compelled to admit the corruption charges in front of the people and pledged to cancel the widow benefit cards for those that did not qualify. He also promised to ensure that the widows who were entitled to the benefit would receive it.

Result: The landless organisation prepared a list of 35 widows who were eligible for the widow benefit card and submitted it to the UP Chairman. In July 2012 the UP chairman corrected the list, thus ending the distribution of benefits to the wrongful beneficiaries and starting it for the deserving widows.

5.5.2 Observing the “Right to Information Day”

Under the pilot project, education will be provided to the landless people not only in each piloted Watch Committee areas. But in order to awareness building and strengthening social mobilisation the proposed activities implement in all of Nijera Kori’s programme areas. Simultaneously, activities are going on to build awareness among the landless members about the RTI Act and its use. For the above reasons, Nijera Kori has decided to observe “Right to Information Day” in all its activity areas.



at grass root level

In the project proposal there was no plan to observe Right to Information Day, but Nijera Kori decided to participate because it fit with the main objective of the project: participation of the masses in demanding right to information." In 50 of Nijera Kori's sub-centers in the activity areas (local offices), day-long programmes on the Right to Information Act were observed.

The activities consisted of rallies, discussions, meetings and cultural performances. Banners and festoons were used with Right to Information slogans, including "getting information is not compassion, it is a right" and "to ensure accountability, there is no other alternative than Right to Information".

In each of the programmes at least 300-500 males and females were presents. Participation of school students and elected representatives were noteworthy. In some activity areas the celebration was attended by government officials and elected upazila and union parishad chairman members. This depicts the success of the publicity activities Nijera Kori has launched for the Right to Information Act. Further, it shows that the activities are not just reaching the landless, but members of the community from various professions.

Box:-10

Government's perspective- the reality shows a different view

Upazila-Ramgati (upazila mean sub-district), District-Laxmipur

Ramgati Upazila's landless group organised Right to Information Day. After the rally, the discussion meeting was attended by Upazila executive officer. In the discussion he said, "I thank the landless group and Nijera Kori for organising the day with such a large number of people." He also said that, "for the masses, right to information is a welfare oriented law. By applying this law the people will be able to ensure accountability of the government officials. Especially in sectors like education, health and distribution of khasland it can play a very important role."

After the discussion he specifically mentioned the landless group and said, "You are working to build awareness. You need to gain information on various topics. Please apply to gain more information". Moreover, he addressed the government officials and elected representatives in the meeting and said, "It is the right of every individual to get information, therefore please fulfill your responsibilities in providing information according to their applications. We must remain vigilant to make the Right to Information Act more effective".

at national level

RTI Forum also organized a 'Right to Information Day'. Nijera Kori, as a member of the organisation participated in the activity at the national level. The landless cultural team performed at the information fair stall by rendering people's songs and dramas.

5.5.3 Participation in seminar

On Right to Information Day the RTI forum organised a seminar titled 'People's participation in demanding Right to Information'. The Information Commissioner was present along with Nijera Kori's staff and group members. In the opening remarks of the seminar the landless members noted that "though applications are made to get information, information is not always supplied by the government officers, especially with regard to information about khasland and water bodies".

During the seminar it was discussed that since 2009 applicants have made a total of 104 complaints to the Information Commission when an application for information has been ignored or incorrectly answered, but the Information Commission has accepted only 44 of them. This demonstrates a lack of accountability. The Information Commission must take up people oriented activities to diminish such drawbacks. Since, it is impossible to make the Right to Information Act effective only by organising discussions and seminars.

5.2.4 Participation in right to information fair

In the day-long fair Nijera Kori exposed its principles, policies, manuals, budget, audit reports and all publications to pass their information to the audience. They also screened a documentary film on social hearing at the stalls all day long. After watching the documentary film, the opinion of the audience was positive, including statements such as "The masses are the actual strength to make the Right to Information law effective. Public hearing is the most effective medium to turn the Right to Information law into a movement."

5.5.5 Participation in cultural activities



On day-long Right to Information fair, the landless cultural group participated both in the inaugural and closing ceremonies by rendering people's songs and staging people's dramas. They took the attempt to portray the important features of Right to Information, usage of information, put its method, appeal, making complaints and the usefulness of the law. The audiences present at the functions were taught about the Right to Information Act and were also encouraged to use it.

Box-11

What is meant by Right to Information?

Among the audience was Mizan (54), a tea vendor, who resided in Trishal, Mymensingh. After watching the drama Mizan said that, "I have heard a lot about the Right to Information Act but failed to understand it. Being illiterate, how would I understand? What is meant by Right to Information? How exactly does one get information? After watching the drama, I know how one can be benefited by using the law. The truth is hardly revealed anywhere. Truth does not seem to have any value. Through this drama, the law is now finally clear to me. I feel that I completely understand the issue and have a clear vision."

5.5.6 One Billion Rising- Nijera Kori and landless organization

Background

According to United Nation's human rights development report, 1 woman out of 3 is victim of rape and physical persecution. As per this account the total number of women, who are being persecuted is more than 100 billion.

On the other hand according to the account of police chief office in Bangladesh, every day 40 women are being persecuted in some way or other. In this situation to resist women's persecution "One billion rising" network started worldwide united protest. Total 207 countries are actively conducting activities through this network.

Activities

Nijera Kori is actively participating in “One billion rising- Bangladesh” network. It may be mentioned that in each activity area of Nijera Kori the landless organization is working at grass-root level to create people's awareness and support in resisting women's persecution and hence is participating actively in world-wide endeavor to resist persecution.

As a preparatory activity they are organizing discussions in the landless organisation's group meetings. Discussions in colleges, collecting people's signatures and performing drama and people's song in rural bazar and gatherings are also being conducted.



Main activities on 14th February

In Nijera Kori's main activity area that is in 51 areas the landless organizations organized rallies. In each rally the actual information on women's persecution depicted through banners and festoons and demand against women's persecution was projected. After the rallies discussions were held in area basis 80 places. In the evening in total 5 places big gatherings, discussions and dramas were organized. In these activities total 1, 32,580 persons (f- 86,380 and m- 46,200) participated.

Among the participants besides the landless members children, adolescents, youth, students, teachers, reporters, lawyers, people's representatives, businessmen and people belonging various professions also participated.

Besides, landless organization collected more than 2 lacs signatures. By collecting signatures from huge number of people the real picture of women's persecution was duly projected to the people. This is the feeling of the landless group. Besides, the landless groups think that this enormous dissemination of information and communication will expedite the movement against women's persecution in future and make it stronger.

Box-12:-New initiative, queries by inquisitive people

This is not a voter list or enlistment of names for distribution of relief materials. To collect people's signatures, the landless groups hung white banners in various rural bazars and haats in the activity areas. One such upazila is Bagatipara, Natore. In the zila's Malanchi, Jigri, Laraigacha, Sonapatil and many other bazaars the landless groups hung such banners. This new strategy by the landless groups to collect signatures is being tried for the first time. Hence, people are curious and have many questions. Why should we write? What should we write?

To answer these queries, the landless cultural group stages dramas and renders songs and performs publicity activities. After staging the drama, cultural group organizes discussions. The members explain to the people the objectives of this activity and provide them with information. In the beginning people attend out of curiosity. They also hesitate to give signatures. Dramas, songs and discussions continue.

After a few days these curious people give signatures willingly. It seems that they participate after making assessment of the situation and from a sense of individual responsibility. This response does not terminate in giving only signatures. Gradually thousands of people participate with immense enthusiasm in all the activities like discussions, procession, gatherings, rallies etc. and the common people get involved actively in the activities. Landless member, village Jigri, stated his experience, “We the landless members are not so well informed about women's persecution in our own country and abroad. And the common people in the villages are deprived of any scope to get this information. In the coming year, we will inform the people, make them aware and organize resistance.

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 activity year, the landless organisations organised 1,369 distinct movements. Of these movements, 663 addressed violence against women, 32 resisted fundamentalism, 305 concerned establishing rights to local resources, and 369 addressed local corruption and irregularities.
- **Networking with local activist groups:** The landless organisations were successful in having their demands met on 1,248 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 activity year, the landless organisations held 9,910 meetings concerning local issues with local civic bodies and local government administration in different districts. These opinion-sharing meetings were held 3,375 times at the initiative of the government administration and 6,535 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 activity year a total of, 1,206 news reports were published in 14 local-national newspapers on the demands and movements of the landless on various issues. Among them, 254 were for establishment of rights to *khas* land, 37 for removal of illegal land grabbers, 141 for resisting industrial shrimp cultivation, 9 for establishing land rights of the *adivashi*, and 478 against violation of human rights such as fatwa, hilla marriage, rape, murder of women, and dowry.

A total of 103 reports were published on protests and movements with information provided by the landless people. Additionally, in the activity areas of different news paper published 184 reports independently on various issues of concern to the landless groups.

6.2 National and International level

Issue-1: Subject: Follow-up Universal Periodic Review 2013

In 2006 the United General Assembly established the Human Rights Council which allowed the human rights performance of each 193 member states to be reviewed on a regular basis. The review, which takes place in a four year revolving cycle, consists of a 20-page national report prepared by the Government of the reviewed country, a ten page analysis of the current situation prepared by the Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights (OHCHR), and a ten page summary of information received from relevant civil society actors (prepared by OCHCR). Bangladesh was first reviewed in 2008. A network of 17 civil society organizations, including Nijera Kori, known as the Human Rights Forum, came together to inform the civil society analysis of the current human rights situation. In 2013 Bangladesh is due for its second UPR, and Nijera Kori, with the Human Rights Forum, is again preparing sections of the civil society report. On May 19 and 20 a human rights forum workshop was held, and attended by two people from Nijera Kori, to decide how to best proceed. Nijera Kori took responsibility for reporting on the current situation of realizing the right to food and the distribution of vested property. Their input was welcomed by the rest of the forum and was incorporated into the civil society review.

Issue-2: Vested Property Return Act (amendment) 2011-a law to restore vested property

Background:

After 2 long decades of movements, the government approved vested property amendment law on 11 December, 2011. But this law does not cover all demands of the victims. On the other hand there is genuine concern about the neutrality and effective implementation of the law. For this reason some like organizations have started new strategy and are conducting activities.

Activities

ALRD and Nijera Kori have started activities like vested properties resisting movement; united social movement and joint activities are on going to aware the people about the amendment law. As a part of these activities seminars were organized in each divisions and important districts. Nijera Kori organized a seminar in Khulna division on 23 June, 2012. The information's that were gathered after the seminars on vested property amendment law have given light to some new aspects regarding the law. The definition of vested property must be clarified and made final.

As per the verdict of Supreme Court, on the basis of 23 March 1974 census list vested property list was published as gazette; property outside the list should be declared by the state as free, within 180 days of gazette publication of vested property the time schedule of the claimant must be increased etc. For first settlement of the cases number of the court and appeal court must be increased at district level; as per 1965 law the owner's descendants and their other share holders must be recognized; locally received these demands must be submitted to the law ministry in writing and parliament permanent committee.

The people's demand from all over the Bangladesh has been able to create pressure among the policy makers. Besides, formal and informal discussions were held with the related ministry, parliament committee and policy makers.

Besides, to monitor the vested property amendment law and for its implementation "National citizen's coordinating cell" has been formed. The members of the cell are collecting information from various areas through phone. On the other hand victims are given advice. ALRD secretariat is responsible for coordinating over-all activities.

Result

On April 2013, in ministerial meeting these demands of the people were assessed and amendment proposal was approved. Like the claimant of property's appeal time has been revised from 180 days to 300 days. Decision has been taken to conduct 2 more courts in every district with district judge and session judge for fast settlement of the cases. Instead of appealing in Supreme Court's High court division appeal can be made in District judge court.

Issue-3: Participating in United Protest Demanding Justice

According to a report furnished by "Adhikar" (A Bangladeshi NGO) in the year 2012 alone 805 Bangladeshi women were raped, 822 were persecuted for dowry, and 78 were victims of acid violence. Compared to last year, this is a 13% increase in rape cases, 59% increase in persecution for dowry, and 16% increase in cases of acid violence. In addition, the report states that in 2011, four women were raped by law enforcement and that number tripled to twelve in 2012.

Despite these alarming statistics, no significant movement has developed to resist women's persecution. Rather, a patriarchal society, weak rule of law, administrative irregularities and corruption have collectively added towards exploitation and discrimination against women.

Even more alarming than the statistics themselves is an understanding of what these numbers mean to those who are directly affected. For example, on May 9, 2012, an eleven year old adivasi school girl from Rangamati District Longud upazila was raped, and murdered. Similarly, on May 19, 2012 a seven year old girl in child Sagari Orao in Badalgachi upazila's Mahmuspur village also raped and murdered.

Result

In response to the ill treatment of women, which was highlighted by the rapes and murders of the two young girls in May, a country-wide human chain was organized by Jatio Press club. The participants demanded for the arrest and exemplary punishment of the culprits and the cessation of all types of persecution against women. Nearly 200 female-male participated in this human chain. Also legal action was taken.

Issue-4: Demand for Constitutional Recognition for Preservation of Adivasi Culture

Background and action

Since post liberation war the Adivasi have been organizing movements demanding that they be recognized as Adivasi in the Constitution of Bangladesh rather than placed in the catch-all of "Ethnic Minority Group." After a protracted movement, the government signed the "Parbatto Chottogram Peace Treaty" (Chittagong Hill Tracts Peace Treaty) in 1997, which recognized the rights of Adivasi. Unfortunately, the government has yet to any tangible step to implement the agreement, even though the current government made it part of its election manifesto. Representatives from the GoB have even publically denied both in national and international forums that Adivasis exist in Bangladesh. Further, the GoB refused to sanction the International Day for the World's Indigenous People declared by the United Nations (August 9th), and the Home Minister issued a statement that its observance would be disrespectful to the country's designated month of mourning (August).

In protest to the Government's actions and discriminatory treatment against the Adivasi, Nijera Kori celebrated the UN's declared International Day for the World's Indigenous People in all of its working areas by holding day long programs. In addition, on 7th August, 2012, a seminar titled "Adivasi's Land Rights and Human Rights" was jointly organized by the Bangladesh Adivasi forum, Chittagong Hill Tracts Parishad, ALRD and Nijera Kori. Among the guests were Rashed Khan Menon (MP), Hasanul Haque Innu (MP), Jotirindro Bodhoprio Larma (Chairman of the Hill District Council) and Mojammel Haque (MP). The president of the land ministry related parliament committee was also present, along with representatives from various professional groups.

Result

It is a positive sign that elected representatives, members of professional groups and government officials are showing an interest in the rights of the Adivasi. For example, although the Government announced that the A day is not to be observed, many members of parliament came. This is a positive change to uphold the recognition and right of Adivasi.

Issue-5: Formation of Fact Finding Teams and Activities

Background and action

Very often the newspaper publishes articles on the uncertainty and insecurity of the landless people who reside on on Khas Land. On November 2012 Dainik Prothom Alo published an article with the headline- "Ever a Decade after Settlement the Landless People Do Not Own the Land".

On the basis of this report ALRD, Blast, Nijera Kori, Action Aid and TIB jointly formed an investigation team. From 17 to 20 November, 2012 this investigation team went in person to further investigate the basis of this article.

Short Description of the Event on the Basis of Investigation

In Nilphamari District there are six Upazillas one Upazilla is Domar close to the Indian border. Between the years 1986 and 2002 the government distributed Khasland to landless in various unions of Domar Upazilla. Among these were 157 landless families in Bhograburi union who were allotted a total of 245.45 acres Khasland. Though these 157 families received all the official paperwork from the government they still have not received 75.01 acres of land which is currently being illegally occupied by powerful jotders.

On March 20, 2012, the 157 landless families united to form a "Land Rights Implementing Committee." Under the leadership of this committee, the 157 landless families formed a human chain in Nilphamari sadar demanding ownership of khasland on 30 September, 2012. They also attempted to submit a memorandum to the deputy commissioner, but he refused to accept it and made fun of the male and female landless members who delivered it on behalf of the group because they were wearing torn, dirty, traditional dress (lungi and saree).

After this event, the Deputy Commissioner directed the UNO to make a report. He explained to the investigation team that "it would be very difficult to give possession of the land to the landless. This is because in the past the Deputy Commissioner assigned the land to people who were not the rightful occupants. He suggested that the names of the landless, who were the rightful occupants of the land, be dropped from the list of rightful owners to ensure that the people he put on the land could remain there.

The information gathered by the investigation team was presented at a news conference held at the national-level on 22 January, 2013. In addition, the following demands were made:

1. Without delay the landless farmers should be given possession of the khas land in Domar upazila's Bhograburi union and the administration is responsible for starting the process.
2. As per the constitution, all the citizens of the state, be they rich or poor, should be treated with dignity and all supervisors should ensure that their subordinates are aware of this provision.
3. All allegations of corruption in District, upazila and union land offices should be thoroughly investigated, and when founded, legal action should be taken.
4. One must refrain from harassing and persecuting the landless farmers for demanding their legitimate rights. The administration has to take necessary steps to ensure the protection of the landless.

Issue-6: Legal Action against Kiln in Agricultural Land

Background:

Commercial use of agricultural land is increasing very fast. This is causing great danger to food sovereignty and ecology, especially when brick kilns are built. In Khulna zila the influential people are obtaining the land to build brick kilns by forcibly occupying agricultural land in Dumuria upazila.

Activity

In this situation, under the leadership of landless group, the local people started a movement to stop establishing brick kilns in agricultural land. As a result of their actions, UNO and District administrators personally visited the agricultural land in Dumuria upazilla several times to investigate the allegations made by the landless. After completing their own independent investigation, the administration assured local people that they would stop the brick kilns. Unfortunately, the administration failed to take any action to make good on their promise and stop the brick kilns.

Since the local government was unable to stop the destruction of agricultural land by brick kilns, the landless organization, with the support of Nijera Kori with the legal support from the Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association (BELA), filed a writ petition to the High Court alleging that the six brick kilns were being built on agricultural land in Dumuria upazila without the necessary environmental clearance certificate.

Result

On January 27, 2013, in response to the writ petition the High Court directed the authorities concerned to immediately stop construction of the brick kilns for the next six months and ordered the deputy commissioner and UNO to ensure the order is executed. A rule nisi was also issued upon the concerned authorities and the brick kiln owners to explain within four weeks why the construction of the brick kilns should not be declared illegal.

Issue-7: Legal Action for Safeguarding Worker Safety

Background

Due to lack of adequate safety measures a fire erupted at "Tazrin Fashion Ltd," a garments factory that supplies clothes to Walmart, on 24 November, 2012. Further, since the building did not have any escape routes, 137 garment workers died in the blaze. Neither the government nor the factory owners took responsibility for the tragedy. Neither the government nor the owners responded to the situation swiftly.

Activities

Ain-O-Salish Kendra (ASK), BLAST, Brac (Human rights and legal assistance) and Nijera Kori jointly filed a writ petition (15693/2012) demanding justice for the incident and action to prevent future tragedies. On 26 November 2012 the High Court asked the government to explain both **a)** why it should not be directed to prosecute and punish people responsible for the fire and **b)** why it has done a sufficient job at monitoring the safety of garment factories; requested that the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters' Association to submit a list of what garment factories comply with laws to protect workers; and formed an independent committee to investigate the security system. The case is currently pending, but the government and BGME are yet to submit any reports.

CHAPTER-7

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 activity year, 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 others' 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 activity year. 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 8,979 groups (*f- 5,303 and m-3,676*) participated in the annual group meeting through analysing and evaluating the group activities and developing activity policy for the next year based on last year's experience.
- At village, union, upazilla and area levels, 374 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, 837 joint group meetings and 147 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 activity year 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 activity year, on 17-18 March, 2012 and 27-28 March 2013 two meetings were held with Nijera Kori's partners. Representatives of Christian Aid, E.E.D, Inter Pares, ICCO, The Swallows participated and Manusher Jonno Foundation. In the meeting annual progress report and present status of major activities were discussed. Additionally, the proposed programme and budget were considered. It should be mentioned that, none of the members of Open Society Institute were present.

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 (*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, Upazilla and ancholic 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 28 employees (f-13 and m-15) joined the organisation in the working year. On the other hand, a total number of 46 employees (f-16 and m-30) left the organisation. The total number of staff working in Nijera Kori in March 2012 was 372 (f-122 and m-250). It should be mentioned that 109 employees (f-11 and m-98) are performing their duties as service staff.
- b)** It should be noted that of the total employees, 320 are performing their duties under the auspices of the core programme (f-112 and m-208).
- c)** A total of 52 employees (f-10 and m-42) are performing their duties under the programme as supervised by the project of Manusher Jonno Foundation.

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

During the reporting April 2012- March 2013 Nijera Kori recived financial assistance totalling BDT 71,104,790.64 from different partner organisations. The total amount of the money spent during the working year was BDT 89,404,214.00.

- a)** Nijera Kori (April 2012-March 2013) received financial assistance amounting to BDT 63,459,321.00 from Chritian Aid, EED, ICCO, Inter Pares and The Swallows India-Bangladesh to operate its core programme. The amount of the total money spent during the working year was BDT 89,404,214.00.
- b)** Nijera Kori also recived a total of BDT 5,972,520.00 for operating its project activities from April 2012 to March 2013 from MJF. The total amount of money spent in the working year was BDT 5,295,798.00.
- c)** It should be noted that Nijera Kori recived a total amount of BDT 7,645,470.30 for operating its project activities from April 2012 to March 2013 from OSI. The total amount of money spent in the working year was BDT 7,624,747.00.

Qualitative/impact case studies: A Market established at the initiative of landless: eliminating the middlemen

Village-Darun Mallik, union- Deluti, upazila- Paikgacha, Khulna.

Farmers struggle to sell agricultural production has been destroyed by shrimp cultivation. As a result, the haat-market (A haat is a traditional, indigenous form of marketing in rural Bangladesh whereby people meets for commercial transaction once a week to buy and sell agricultural and artisan products) that used to be a center of trading in agricultural products has become a shrimp transaction center controlled by highly influential and corrupt people. Thanks to leadership of the landless groups, some farmers in the area have been able to recovered land and started traditional agricultural production. Those who wanted to trade their goods, though, are subjected to highly restricted hours that are unfavorable to farmers (*early in the morning*) and the products had to be sold at the prices set by the market (*there was no scope for negotiations*). To make matters worse, the only market is very far away and they are subject to the whims of corrupt middlemen (*Middlemen buy the produce from small farmers at very low prices and resell it at higher prices to people coming to the market*). Out of desperations they started selling their products to peddlers who came to their houses and bought at lower than market price.



New Market- Controlled by Common People.

The landless were committed to get a market where they could get a fair price for their products. In September 2011, they started and finally established a market in August 2013 at the abandoned site of the water development board in Paikgacha upazila's Deluti union and named it Darun Mallik market. A 90 member committee was formed for the management of the market. It is to be noted that, member represents from different villages Landless members volunteered to prepare the area for construction and built an open market with thirty stalls.

There are several characteristics associated with the market that are highly favorable. First, commercial shrimp cultivated on agricultural land are not sold. Second, this market gives priority to the selling of agricultural products, poultry and cattle. Third, both the buyers and the sellers do not have to pay an extra fee. Fourth, the buyers and the sellers can freely haggle to fix the price. Fifth, middlemen are not allowed. Finally, the buyers and sellers can lodge complaints with the market committee which continuously monitors the management and security of the market.

The market is currently a success. The big and small farmers in the locality sell their agricultural produce and many people find it very convenient. Every Monday a weekly traditional market (hat) is held in this market and on the other days the market sells necessities, like vegetables, fish, grains, cloth, tea, biscuits, fruits, and selected medicines. Women are in charge of six of the 30 stalls.



According to the market committee, before the establishment of Darun Mallik market nearly 2,000 farmers were forced to travel to the Baroaria market every week, requiring scarce money to be spent on transportation. The cheapest route was by trawler, which cost 15 taka each way, meaning 30 additional taka had to be spent for each weekly shopping trip. This meant that about 60,000 taka a week was being wasted by farmers having to travel to this market.

Another advantage is that people do not need to pay a fee to attend the market. In the Darun Market the farmers had to pay a fee of 2 taka each time they attended, which meant the 2,000 farmers had to pay an additional 4,000 taka a week.

By creating a new market, under the control of the landless members themselves, they have provided a way for farmers to sell directly to buyers. Farmers get better prices, they don't have to travel long distances to sell their goods and buyers have access to local farmers selling their produce without having to travel to a distant market dominated by middlemen.

Qualitative/impact case studies: B

Woman Starts Business to Support Family

Life of Sultana Begum

Sultana Begum, age 60, is from village- Mazalia, upazila-Majalia, Tangail. She is a member of village no.10's female landless group. Her family consists of two daughters and two sons. She also supports her aging mother.

Right after Sultana's marriage her husband would frequently leave home for no apparent reason. He did not provide for the family on a regular basis. In 1994, her husband left permanently, leaving her to care for their family alone. Although two of her children have gotten married and left the house, they do nothing to support their mother, siblings, or grandmother.

A few years ago Sultana shared her family's dire financial situation with the landless group. The landless group advised her to start a business as a vendor and lent her Tk. 5,000/- with interest, to begin the venture. The capital allowed Sultana to invest in an inventory for her business from the Korotia market, which included items such as bangles, chains, ribbons, creams, and powders.

She tried to sell these items from her house, but few people came. The landless group therefore encouraged her to sell the products at several village markets. She was able to earn about Tk. 3,000/- every month, which was sufficient to pay her children's education expenses and provide for her aging mother.

She faces obstacles

Sultana started facing obstacles in her business. People harassed her and pressured her to stop the business because they thought it was inappropriate for a woman to travel to different villages selling products. She was told she would be ostracized if she failed to stop the business. Religious fundamentalists also tried to arrange a *Shalish* to publically condemn Sultana.

The Landless Support Sultana

The members of the landless group worked with the Union Parishad chairman to stop the *Shalish* against Sultana. Those who called for the condemnation were compelled to publically beg forgiveness in the presence of the Union Parishad chairman.

Result

Sultana is now a regular vendor. Every month she earns around Tk. 6,000/- and her household has become solvent. Despite the hardships she faced, her youngest daughter is currently receiving a college education. Her story demonstrates that single women in Bangladesh are capable of developing business and supporting a family.

Qualitative/impact case studies: C

Conferring Honor on the Landless Members at National Level

It is everybody's movement; hence the honor is for all

Every year Manusher Jonno Foundation gives recognition and confers honor on human rights activist from the remote areas of the country on "International Human Rights Day". The main purpose of the honor is to recognize the activities of the people who are involved in human rights movements so that momentum at grass-root level becomes strong. In the activity year two of Nijera Kori's landless members were among the ten people in Bangladesh to receive the honor. They are Kasimuddin, Upazila- Dhanbari, Tangail and Shafikullah, Upazila- Shuborno chor, Noakhali.

Result:

The landless members feel that this national human rights award has earned them recognition. Their activities have made a mark in the society and they feel inspired.

Qualitative/impact case studies: D

Landless Female Member wins Asia Regional Recognition

From housewife to activist

In the activity year, Asia Rural female coalition honoured 100 female activists who have made an impact on the movement for resisting violation of rights. Nijera Kori's landless member Jamila Begum, upazila- Dhanbari, Tangail and Hafiza Begum, upazila- Rajibpur, Kurigram – applied for the award, and they both received it.

Result:

The recipients have been encouraged by the award and have become even more active in the cause. In addition, the members feel that it will encourage men to be more accepting of women's leadership.

Jomila Khatun: from Victim to Activist



Jomila Khatun's Early Years

Ibsingarpur village, Dhanbari upazila, Tangail. This is Jomila's parental home. At the age of three her father died. Her family consisted of her mother, 4 sisters and 1 brother. Her education, shelter, food, and security was in jeopardy because of their poverty. Hence, they were compelled to take refuge in her maternal grandfather's house in Sharishabari district. Due to poverty they could not stay there for long. Then they went their to maternal uncle's house in Rangpur district. There poverty also prevented them from staying long. Then they came back to their parental home. Jomila's mother worked sometimes full-time and sometimes part-time as an agricultural labour in various houses. Somedays Jomila had a full meal and somedays she went hungry. She never had an opportunity to study,

but received some religion lessons in Maktab.

Early Marriage

When Jomila was only 13 years old she was forced into a marriage. Despite tremendous hardship and poverty, Jomila's mother had to give dowry during her daughter's wedding. Her husband's name was Golap Hossain, an agricultural labour. Jomila quickly had 1 daughter and 3 sons. Poverty prevented her from educating her daughter. In a joint family Jomila's husband was the only earning member. The family was plagued by l poverty. Jomila never found any opportunity to express her opinion, and was rebuked if she spoke even a few words. Desperate for help, Jomila met with a few members of a landless group. Her husband's younger brother would often beat Jomila for these meetings. She endured the persecution silently. She had no means of protesting.

Landless Member

Despite the abuse, Jomila joined Koira landless group meetings. At first she was an ordinary member, but after some time she began to participate in the discussions. At one point her questions became the main subject of the discussion. She stated that, "I am an activist for organizing movement. My work is to organize movement against injustice".

Human Rights Leader

Today Jomila is a people's leader and a movement's activist. For nearly twenty years Jomila has been organizing movements on issues of corruption, irregularities, women persecution, violation of human rights, and rights to own assets. Under the leadership of Jomila many issues such as rights of women, constitutional rights against women's persecution, human rights, democracy and accountability have been successfully established. Today after this protracted struggle to establish justice Jomila is human rights leader at upazila level. She can arouse thousands deprived of people to demand their rights.

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 officials.

Case study-1

Education: Inequality and Corruption even in Fundamental Rights

Area: Village: Kachuaghat, Upazilla: Saghata, District: Gaibandha

Background

To ensure education for all, a stipend for primary students was initiated by the Government in 2002 and launched in 2004. Each student is eligible to receive 100 taka a month. The upazila primary education officers are responsible for overseeing the initiative.

Irregularity in giving stipends

In Gaibandha District's Sagata upazila's Kachuahat government primary school, 450 students were entitled to receive stipends. The students were rightfully getting quarterly payment of Tk. 300. On 17 July 2012, however, the students received only 170 taka, 130 less than what they were rightfully due. The students and their parents refused to take the reduce stipends and contacted the kachuahat landless village committee. The landless leaders then approached the headmaster and enquired why less money was paid. The teachers in the school, however, denied any irregularity and corruption. In addition, they also insulted the landless group members.

In this situation the landless village committee worked to united the parents and start protest against corruption and irregularities. The landless group organized a meeting in the school ground and motivated the parents not to accept anything less than the fully payment of the stipend-money. In response, the teachers stopped giving the stipend money and ordered the leaders of landless groups to vacate the school ground. They threatened that a case would be filed against them if they refused to leave. As a strategy the landless leaders, students and parents left the place without accepting stipends.

Combined protest against corruption and irregularity

To decide the course of action against corruption and irregularity, the education watch sub-committee and other representatives of landless groups organized a representative meeting on 21 July 2012. They decided to prepare a memorandum that was submitted to the upazilla education officer on 23 July 2012 with nearly one thousand signatures. After submitting the memorandum a meeting was held in the upazilla ground. The landless demanded administrative actions against corruption. In this situation the teachers and school management committee admitted the prevalence of corruption and irregularity, and then suggested to organize a meeting to settle the matter. In the meantime, in light of the memorandum, the upazilla education officer came to investigate the matter. After talking with the parents and students he was certain there were acts of corruption. In this situation a proposal was given to hold a discussion on 24 July in the presence of every one.

Accountability in front of the people

On 24 July 2012, an open discussion was held in kachuahat government primary school ground. Nearly 500 men and women attended the meeting, including the Upazila education officer, leaders and members of the stipend management committee, people's representatives, local elites, and leaders and members of the landless organization. The students, parents, and landless members made queries about corruption, irregularities and threats. The landless members gave evidence of the allegations. The teachers and members of the committee answered in front of the people. In the presence of the people corruption was proved. On the basis of all the evidence, the headmaster of the Kachuakati primary school admitted the corruption and irregularity in stipend projects and pledged to return the money to the students. In addition, he sought forgiveness for the harassment and threats. The Upazilla education officer directed the teachers and the school management committee to ensure transparency in the future.

Results

Due to the movement of landless groups 450 students of Kachuahat government primary school received Tk. 300 each (450x300)=1,35,000 Tk. (One lac and thirty five thousands taka). This is a positive achievement of the practice of accountability in the area.

Men and Women Strike to Demand Jobs and Legitimate Wages

Area: Village-Noai, Union-Deluti, Upazila-Paikgacha, District-Khulna

The Poor Work Hard to Survive

In Khulna District's Paikgacha upazila's Noai village, nearly 90 percent of the population is poor. Men and women are compelled to work as day laborers for long hours. It should be noted that the conditions of the laborers are not good. Women tend to work in dirty saline water sorting shrimp which men usually do not. In addition women also perform agricultural work such as sowing, cutting and threshing paddy, and harvesting winter vegetables. Men tend to plough the fields with tractors, sow the seeds, cut the paddy, and catch fish.

Daily necessities of life, especially food items, have become very costly causing food insecurity and uncertainty among millions of people. According to the information of Bangladesh Statistics Bureau 1998 to 2013, the rate of inflation is 6.59%, but the wages of men and women in the area have only increased by 80 taka over the past three years. If the agricultural laborers demand an increase in wages the owners make excuses as to why it cannot be given. As a result, the day laborer's families have been forced to reduce their daily intake of food.

United Demand to Increase Wage

The landless organizations made preparation to organize a movement before the season for cutting paddy started. In the beginning of the cutting season, the landless group demanded the laborers receive 18 kgs of rice for cutting and threshing 100 kilograms of paddy, an increase of 4 kgs of rice. The big farmers declared that they would stick to current rate of 14 kgs of rice for fixed 100 Kilograms of paddy.

To generate public opinion in favor of the demand for higher wages the landless groups organized weekly meetings. In Noai village they decided that this year they would not work unless they are paid 18 kilograms of rice for every 100 kilograms of paddy. The decision of the landless organizations was conveyed to the owners in explicit terms.

The owners responded by hiring day labourers from other villages to cut the paddy. The leaders of the landless organizations discussed the need to unite for fair wages with the labourers from the adjacent villages. They agreed to join the strike. In addition, the members of landless group submitted a memorandum to Paikgacha UNO demanding a raise in wage. The landless groups also cultivated huge support for their demands by organizing meetings, gatherings, processions, and dramas in various villages. As a result, many agricultural laborers in several villages also demanded higher wages.

An Agreement is Struck

In this situation, the owners decided to discuss the matter with all the laborers. The landless group sat for discussion with the owners on 4th January 2013. Nearly a thousand male and female laborers were present and watched the proceedings. The parties began to negotiate the price for cutting and threshing the paddy. Eventually they agreed on paying 16 Kilograms of rice for cutting and threshing 100 Kgs of paddy.

The Impact Spreads:

Gradually another twelve villages became involved in the movement. The laborers from that villages declared that they would not cut and thresh paddy until they were paid 16 kilograms of rice for cutting and threshing 100 Kgs of paddy, and backed their demands with a strike. The owners were compelled to pay this wage to them as well.

Results:

Due to the movement for cutting and threshing rice, 960 day labourers in the area (f-420 and m- 540) are now getting 16 kgs of rice for every 100 kilograms of paddy. This is the equivalent of about 40 taka per day, and will allow each labourer to stock food in their house for five months, improving food security in the area by about two months.

Case study-4

Resistance to Hilla Marriage

Area: Village- Tatera, union-Barera, Upazila- Chandina, District - Comilla

Background

About 27 years ago Monu Mia's son Manik Mia from Tatera village in Barera union located in Chandina upazila married Firoza Begum. Firoza was from Bhamarkandi village, in Chandina upazila's Majjoyar union. Their marriage was arranged by their families.

Soon after the wedding Manik and his family started to physically abuse Firoza. Within two years a son was born, and the amount of torture Firoza experienced increased. In their third year of marriage she found the torture unbearable and decided to seek divorce in the formal court. After her divorce, Firoza returned to her father's house in Bhamarkandi village with her son.

Manik quickly remarried to a woman named Jahanara Khatun, daughter of late Razzak Ali Bhuiya from Minsar village in Burichang upazila. They had two sons Sohel and Jewel. He moved to Saudi Arabia for work and was there when his second wife died in 2007.

Manik returned to Bangladesh in 2008. His son from his marriage with Firoza had grown up and demanded his ancestral property from his father. Manik received his son warmly and built him a house on his ancestral land. In 2009 Manik returned to Saudi Arabia and Akter started living in the home that was built for him by his father with his mother, Firoza. In 2011 Firoza joined a landless group in the area.

Second Marriage Proposal

In July of 2012 Manik returned home. He and Firoza would sometimes see each other and would exchange a few words in a friendly manner. After a little while he decided to propose remarriage to her, and she accepted.

Imam of the Mosque Objects

People in the village came to know about the second marriage proposal and reported the matter to the Imam of the mosque. The Imam objected, citing the necessity of a hilla marriage, a religious rule that a couple cannot remarry unless the woman has an intermediary marriage that was consummated with another man. This practice was deemed illegal by the High Court twenty-five years ago. Still, the Imam issued a fatwa demanding that a hilla marriage occur before Firoza and Manik could be remarried.

Landless Organization Resists Fatwa

Firoza and Manik discussed the fatwa for a hilla marriage with the members of the landless village committee, who in turn organized a representative meeting on 5th July, 2012 to decide a strategy.

Box-13

Fatwa

Fatwa is a matter of the Muslim religion and provides legal decisions on different issues relating to Muslim life on the basis of injunctions and guidance of the Holy Quran and the Sunnah or Hadith.

Hilla

Hilla is an injunction given in religion that if after divorce a couple wishes to reunite in marriage, the woman must consummate a marriage with a man other than her husband, and after voluntarily divorce by that man, will the couple allowed to remarry. As per Bangladesh Muslim Family Law Ordinance prevalent now, hilla is not legal.

In the representative meeting the leaders of the landless group opined that the fatwa in support of hilla marriage was unconstitutional and should not occur.

Opinion and People's Judgment

On 9th July, 2012 the landless group made arrangements for a public opinion and judgment. The meeting was attended by local union parishad's chairman and members, local elite, lawyers and 500 members of the landless groups. The Imam was also compelled to attend the meeting. In the meeting the Imam again shared that according to Sharia law a hilla marriage must be performed before a couple can be remarried. The landless leaders then showed him a copy of High Court's verdict prohibiting hilla marriage and demanded immediate withdrawal of the fatwa. To apply extra pressure, the landless also asked the community to protest against the Imam and not donate to his mosque unless he withdrew the fatwa.

Result

The Imam agreed to recall the fatwa for a hilla marriage and Firoza and Manik were married by a Kazi that day. The landless also learned how powerful the law, including judgments from the High Court, were in helping them to fight against the physical abuse of her husband.

Case study-5

Adivasi project, they are deprived: Protest for legitimate demand

Area: Upazila- Lalpur, District - Natore.

Tradition of Poor Treatment of Adivasi

Bangladesh is a diverse country: its people have diverse origins, language, and culture. The indigenous people of Bangladesh, known collectively as Adivasi, have largely maintained and protected their unique traditions and culture for generations. They have also faced a lot of discrimination and have had little opportunity for economic or educational advancement.

Government Tries to Assist Adivasi

In recent years the government has initiated development projects to assist the Adivasi. More specifically the Prime Minister's Special Affairs Division (SAD) grants financial assistance for social development every financial year to Upazila's where large number of Adivasis lives.

The Adivasis in Lalpur Upazila are Denied Government Assistance

Lalpur is one of the upazillas that receives government funds to assist the Adivasi living there. The money intended for the Adivasi's, however, has not gone to them because a corrupt committee comprised entirely of non-Adivasis prevented the funds from going to the intended purpose. In the past the landless have repeatedly tried to expose the corruption and have a new committee appointed, but the opposition has been too powerful and influential for them to defeat.

Upazila and Development Project

For a long time in Natore District a member of adivasi nationals were living side by side with the Bangalee. In the Lalpur Upazilla there are five Adivasi communities living in six villages.

Each year fund is granted from PM's (Parliament member) Special Affairs Division (SAD) for development activities for the Adivasis. But the local; influential people formed a committee with only representatives of only Bangali community. In connivance with the administration the partial committee members was enjoying all the benefits of this development project's fund.

In the 2012-13 financial year the government granted 15, 22,000/- (fifteen lacs twenty two thousand taka) to Lalpur upazila for a cattle farm as an income generation project for the Adivasi. Like with other years, the committee of non-Adivasis' charged with appropriating the funds prevented them from being used for their intended purpose.

The Landless Demand Proper Appropriation of Funds:

In response to the misappropriation of the cattle farm fund the landless group collected proof of the corruption in the committee. The landless presented the information publically through organizing protest, processions and gathering in the haats and bazaars, demanding the suspension of the committee and rightful distribution of granted fund. The strength of their argument allowed them to generate strong public support for their cause.

On 9th October the landless organized a meeting with leaders from both the Adivasi and Bengalee communities. At the meeting the landless decided that on 17th October, 2012, it would organize a procession to the UNO's (Upazilla Executive Officer) office demanding disbandment of the previous committee and formation of a new committee with representatives from Adivasi communities, and just distribution of the government grant. Both of the Bengalee and Adivasi around 200 people came to show their support and process to the UNOs office. When they arrived they submitted a memorandum that outlined their demands.

Local Government Responds Positively to the Landless

The UNO read their grievances and pledged that a new, representative committee would be formed and the funds would be correctly distributed. He asked the landless organization to provide a list of names of Adivasi who should serve as representatives on the new committee.

The UNO directed the development project's granted fund be deposited in a bank account established for the newly appointed committee. In December 2012 a meeting was held in the office of the UNO. The UNO presided and officials and representatives from the landless and Adivasi communities were present. It was decided that in Shibpur Adivasi village, all the Adivasis would jointly establish a cattle farm. At a later meeting the UNO officially approved the appointment of the 17 Adivasi's selected by the landless to serve on the representatives committee. The representatives are from six villages. Each appointment is for two years.

Decisions on How to Run the Joint Farm are Made

A five member management committee was also formed in the meeting, which included local Adivasi representatives, the Upazila livestock officer and the rural development officer. This committee would run the joint farm and perform overall monitoring of the development project. It was also decided that 75% of the profit would be distributed among the Adivasi families residing in the Upazila, 10% would be kept in the joint bank account of the committee to be used as a revolving fund, and 15% would be use for running the farm. It was also decided that 20 cattle would be bought for the farm, which was already being constructed. Two people from the Adivasi community were hired to run the farm full-time.

Result:

For the first time, 250 Adivasis families living in Lalpur District have benefited from the government fund. Further, they feel confident that the newly formed committee will ensure just treatment in the future.

Case study-6

Forcible Shrimp Cultivation in Open Agricultural Marsh Land: Life and Livelihood of Six Thousands Families become Uncertain

Area: Village-Nokathi, upazila-Dumuria, District-Khulna

Background

In the 1980s commercial shrimp cultivation started in the northern coastal areas of Bangladesh. The land to cultivate the shrimp was forcefully taken by the elite from poor farmers who used the land for agriculture. In order to cultivate shrimp, the land must be flooded with saline water, which also destroys the soil in adjacent areas. As a result, people had a more difficult time cultivating crops and rearing livestock, thus negatively affecting their livelihood and making their food supply insecure. In 2009, the Soil Resources Development Institute conducted research which revealed that between 1973 and 2009 the salinity of soil in the area increased by 26.7%.

Open Marshy Land: Right of Success for Everyone:

In Khulna zila's Dumuria upazila's Shahas union there is an open marsh land in Borobeel. Nearly 600 families have been living on about 1,500 acres of marsh land there for a long time. They earn their livelihood through agriculture in the dry season and rearing fish during the monsoon.

Violation of People's Right to Access

The shrimp cultivators took a lease of the area from some influential agricultural land owners, and used hired goons to force the inhabitants off. The land was flooded with saline, thus destroying the ability to farm or raise animals in the area.

Movement against Forcible Grabbing:

After seven long years of struggle and movements by landless organizations, Borobeel was recovered from forcible occupation in 2011. Under the leadership of the landless organization the local people have started cultivating paddy, sesame, jute and vegetables as a means of their livelihood. The ultra-poor masses have found work in the agricultural land.

During the activity year the shrimp cultivators returned to Boro beel and again tried to forcibly evict the landless from the land. They even attempted to inundate Boro beel with saline water by breaking the embankment with the assistance of hired goons and support of influential politicians.

The landless groups organized powerful and extensive movements against these actions. The people from eight villages organized a representative meeting to plan the strategy for movement. They decided that on 25th January, 2012 they would hold a procession and submit a memorandum. When the day arrived thousands of people, led by landless groups, processed and submitted a memorandum with signatures to the water development board's chairman.

After receiving the memorandum the chairman promised to investigate the matter and take administrative action. Afterwards, the water development board's assistant engineer went in person to investigate the attempt to inundate Boro beel by breaking the embankment. After the investigation he pledged to take necessary action against the attempt. But later the water development board did not take any action against this inundation with salt water.

[Movement against Forcible Farming of Shrimp in Agricultural Land, People Want to go Back to Agricultural Farming.](#)

The shrimp cultivators were angered by the actions of the landless group and started intimidating and harassing the leaders. On 14th February, 2012, the members of the landless groups assembled in Nokathi bazaar to observe "One Billion Rising" world-wide activities against women's persecution. Suddenly the landless members were attacked by shrimp cultivators and their armed band.

In this situation, the landless groups organized a protest meeting on 21st February in Nokathi market. It was attended by nearly 10,000 people. Although the armed band of shrimp cultivators tried to obstruct the meeting, they failed due to spontaneous resistance of the people. In the meeting the participants chanted slogans against shrimp cultivation in agricultural land. After the meeting, thousands of people pledged with folded fists to resist cultivation of shrimp in Boro beel.

[Resisting Inundation with Saline Water by Breaking Embankment](#)

Despite extensive movements the shrimp cultivators still attempted to inundate Boro beel with saline water. On 24th February, 2012, nearly 50 armed goons of the shrimp cultivators broke the embankments which kept saline water off the agricultural lands. With the spread of the news the landless members led the local people to gather at the site of the breach, but the landless members saw that the hired goons of the shrimp cultivators stood guard with arms.

To avoid casualties, they informed in the Policy station of the illegal activities. On the demand of the landless people the police arrested the armed band. In this situation, in the presence of the police officers, the landless members repaired the embankment.

But that night the armed goons again broke the embankment. The landless members held a representative meeting that night and made preparations to repair the breach. Thousands of people from eight villages also came to help with repairs and to stand guard

[Result:](#)

Due to the movement of landless organization commercial shrimp cultivation has stopped and the shrimp farm owners have left the area, with their goons. Hence, 6,000 people from the eight surrounding villages have recovered to agricultural land and started crop production. In addition, the people of Boro beel are making arrangement to start farming again.

A struggle for information, an inspiration for the marginalized

The complaint hearing by Right to information commission

Introduction

Mostafa Qari

Although information is said to be available to all, obstacles still exist when the poor and marginalized in Bangladesh try to obtain basic information. Despite all of the obstacles, there are individuals who possess the determination to realize their right to information. This case study highlights the story of one such individual who, with the support of Nijera Kori and the landless, was able to access information that was previously withheld from him.

The Right to Information (RTI) Act, 2009 was implemented to establish accountability and transparency in society, specifically to safeguard people's right to information. Although the act has great potential, the bureaucracy behind the procedure is a big impediment for its effective implementation. Mostafa Qari's case, detailed below, depicts the hardships of acquiring information through the RTI Act.

On the 20th of February 2012, Mohammed Mostafa Qari, on behalf of the landless, requested a copy of the final list of khas lands, for the years 2000 to 2011 of the village of Chorjoboli Union's and Chormohiuddin Mouja. The information was demanded through the application form, following the primary procedures of the RTI Act.



The stakeholders involved

Mostafa Qari, the complainant, has been the leader of the landless group of the mouja Chor mohiuddin and Chor Bagga and was selected by the landless to file the application on behalf of the group. When Qari went to submit the application he was accompanied by Nijera Kori officials and three other individuals whose applications have been rejected by the information officer- Amena Begum, Didarul and Dulaluddin. Mohammed Kamrul Ahsan Talukder, the defendant, is the Assistant Commissioner (AC) land of Shubarnochor, Noakhali.

Background

When changes in the flow of the river lead to emergence of land in regions like Noakhali, it takes seasons of harvests to make it cultivable. During that period, landless groups commonly take control of the infertile land and work on it, until it gradually blooms into a fertile and liveable land. Unfortunately, powerful people from the district cities tend to grab the land as soon as it is cultivable, either through bribing government officials or making fake documents.

Mostafa Qari and his landless group faced a similar situation. They therefore wanted to investigate the validity of the documents that powerful city dwellers presented them with that indicated that they needed. With assistance from the local Nijera Kori staffs, Kari and his group members collectively decided to request a copy of the final list of landowners in the meeting minutes for the 2000 to 2011 arrangement committee resolutions. The information was to be acquired through an application as set out in the RTI Act.

The application was addressed to Kamrul Ahsan Talukder, who was responsible for the dissemination of the information. The information officer, however, rejected the application without any valid justification. Qari, on behalf of the landless group, although disheartened by the rejection, decided to send an appeal application to a senior officer, the current Deputy Commissioner (DC).

Their appeal application, however, went un-answered, even after the statutorily designated time period for a response expired. However, Qari and his group members did not give up, they took the case to the final level of appeal provided in the RTI application: a complain application.

The Information Commission of Bangladesh responded to the complaint application within 75 days through a notice, where the information commission stated it had arranged for a hearing where both parties were to be present.

The complaint hearing

The first reply from the administration was finally made in response to the third application called the 'complain application'. They received the response on the 18th of September 2012 and the complaint hearing was announced. Both the parties were requested to be present in the Agargaon information commission office in Dhaka, at room 322, in a notice sent earlier. Their presence was assured by a phone call made to both parties the night before the scheduled meeting.



Mostafa Qari along with the landless group members travelled all the way from Noakhali to Dhaka to attend the hearing. Being the first official to have rejected the initial application, the Assistant Commissioner (land), Kamrul Ahsan Talukder was also specified to attend the hearing, in order to justify his rejection of the application.

Before entering room 322 at the information commission office, the complainant, Mustafa Qari and the defendant, Kamrul Ahsan Talukder, had to put their signatures on a form to confirm their presence.

The other complainants from Noakhali along with Nijera Kori officials accompanied Qari to the information office. When they tried to enter the hearing room in order to act as witnesses to Qari's complain, their entry was denied. In response they collectively declared that they were fellow complainants and were intricately involved with Mostafa Qari's case, hence, they have the right to accompany Qari at the hearing. After the declaration, they were finally allowed to accompany Qari at the hearing

The following information officers were present to carry out the hearing:

1. The chief information commissioner, M.A Taher
2. Professor Sadeqa Halim, Information Commissioner
3. Nurun Nahar, Sub-director (research publication and training)
4. Other Officials from RTI Commission

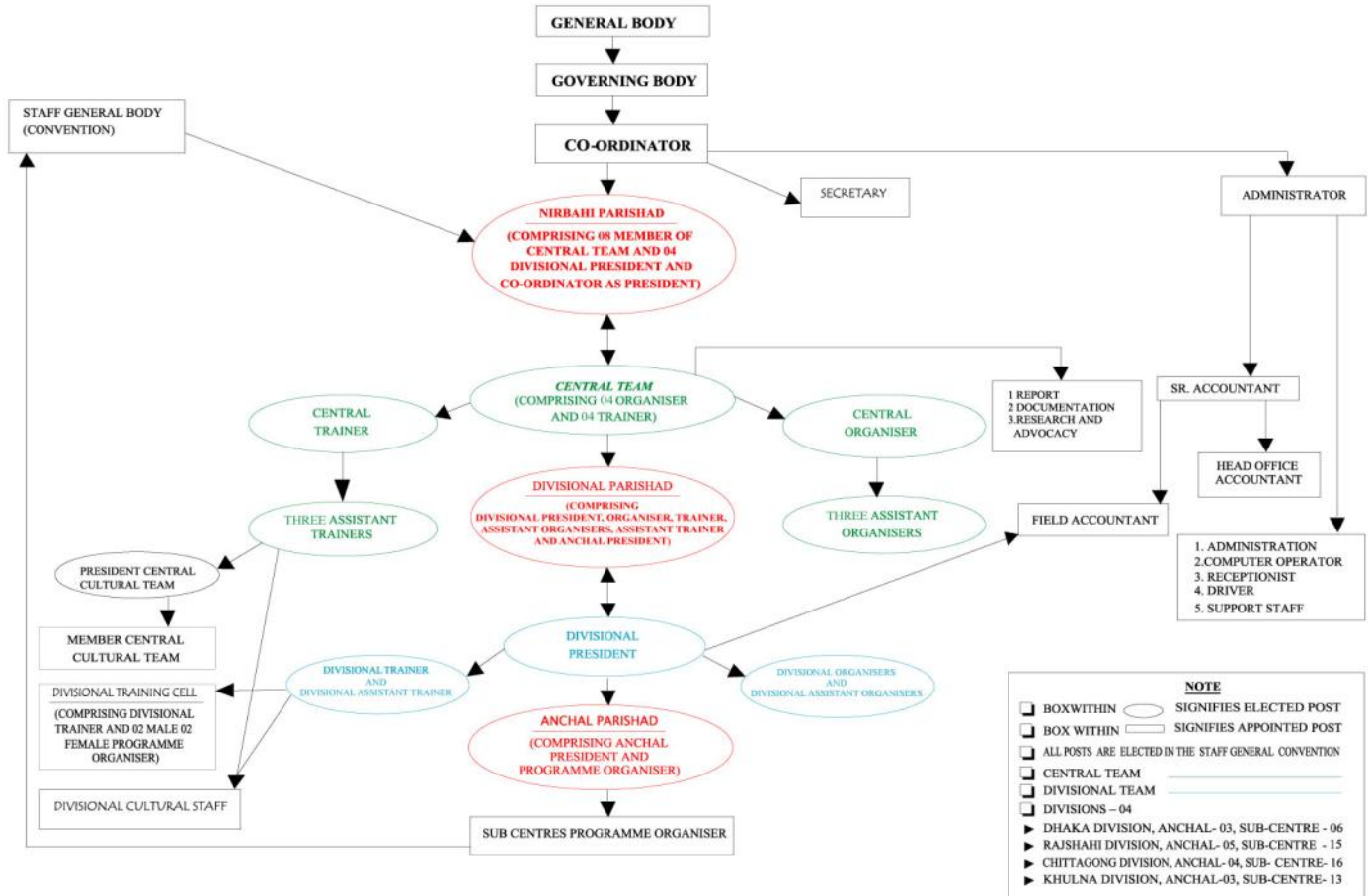
At 11:30 in the morning, complainant Mustafa Qari (complaint no. 46/12) and the AC (land) Kamrul Ahsan Talukder, were called to the hearing room and were told to sit next to each other. After completing the formalities, Mustafa Qari was told to present his complaint. In his testimony, he presented evidence that the information officers, both the AC land and the DC, had been ignoring Mustafa Qari's request for a copy of the final list of landowners. Further, he asserted that instead of disregarding or denying the application, the officers did not assist Kari with finding another channel by which to obtain the information.

After Qari's testimony, the AC (land) was told to deliver his explanation. Kamrul Ahsan Talukder, AC (land) said that he did not have enough information to provide to Mustafa Qari. When he was questioned why the available information was not provided to Qari, Talukder said that he had sent some information through a letter by post but it probably failed to reach Qari. When the interrogating information officers asked why Qari was not informed over the phone, Kamrul Ahsan Talukder failed to provide an answer.

Result

In the verdict, it was declared that the copies of the resolutions had to be provided and the equivalent payments for the information would have to be made within 5 working days i.e. by the 1st of October 2012. As a result of judgment Mostafa Qari get information.

ORGANOGRAM OF NIJERA KORI

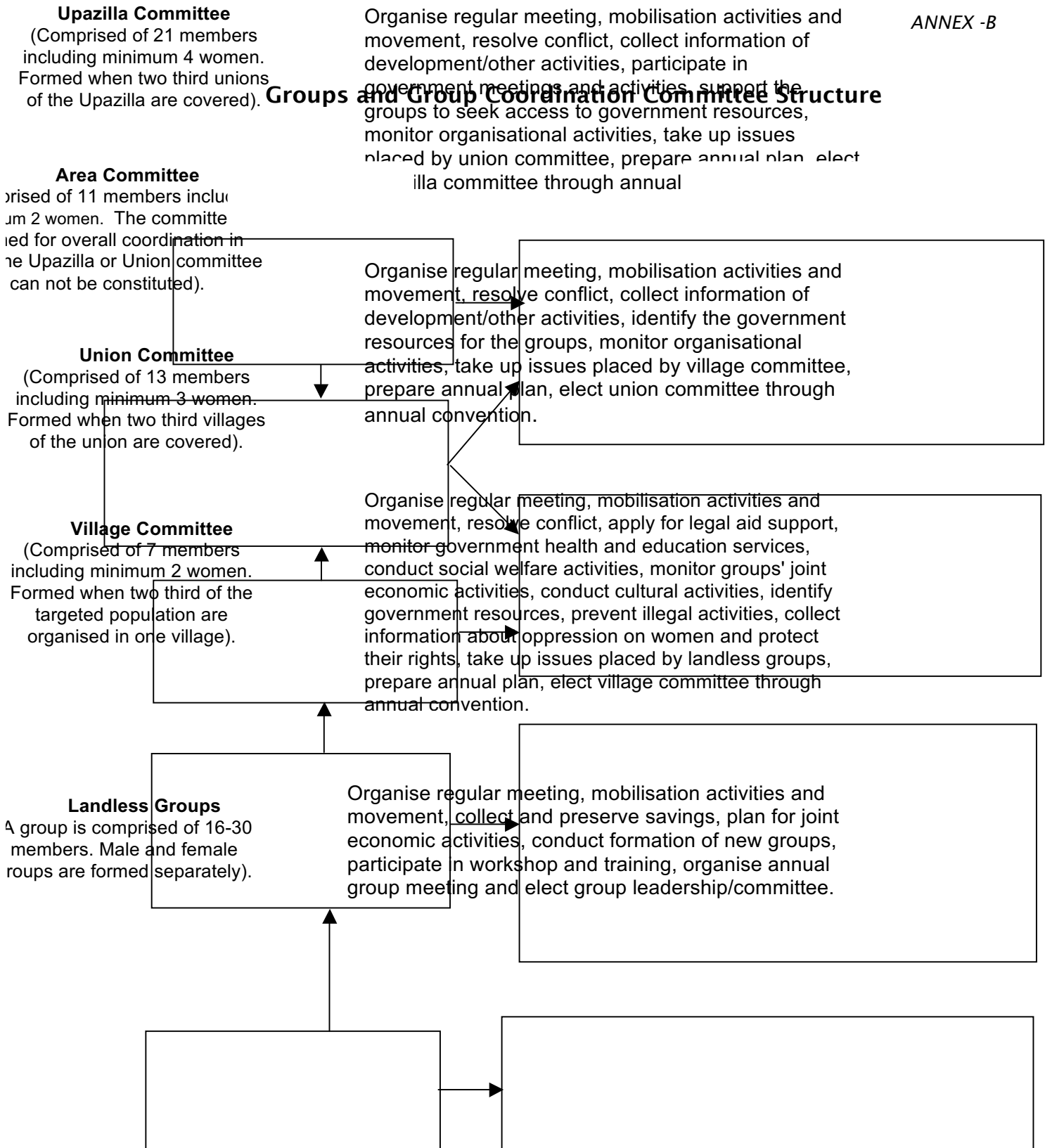


Committee

Activities

ANNEX -B

Groups and Group Coordination Committee Structure



GENERAL BODY

GOVERNING BODY

Planning and Monitoring Structure

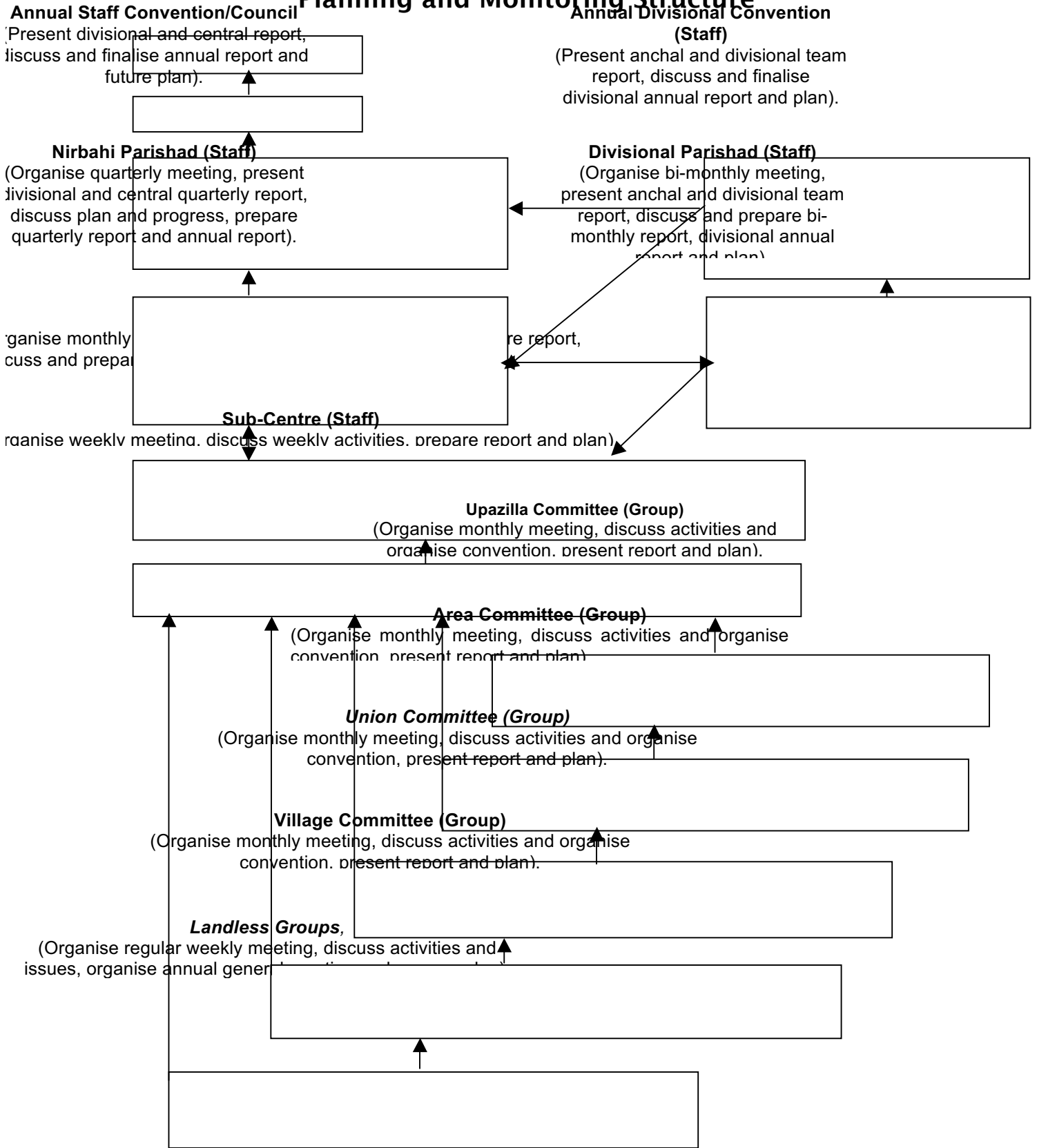


TABLE – 01: Geographical Location of Programmes of Nijera Kori

Sl. No	Division	District	Upazila	Area	Sub-center	Total up to March 2012		Expansion in 2012-13		Total up to March 2013		Village Coverage		
						Union	Village	Union	Village	Union	Village	Up to March 2012	New 2012-13	Up to March 2013
1	Chittagong	Comilla	Chandina	Comilla	5	22	110	-		22	110	21	-	21
			Daudkandi											
			Debidwar											
			Muradnagar											
		Noakhali	Sudharam	Charjabbar	5	9	45	-	-	9	45	6	-	6
			Companiononj											
			Kabirhat											
Lakshmipur	Ramgoti	Ramgoti	3	6	28	-	-	6	28	3	2	5		
Chittagong	Sandwip	Sandwip	4	14	28			14	28	-	-	-		
Sub total	1	4	10	4	17	51	211			51	211	30	2	32
2	Dhaka	Tangail	Mirzapur	Tangail	3	10	72	1		11	72	23	-	23
			Delduar											
			Tangail Sadar											
		Madhupur	Madhupur	2	12	127	-	-	12	127	20	-	20	
		Dhanbari	Sribardi	1	3	24	-	-	3	24	1	-	1	
Sub total	1	2	6	3	6	25	223	1		26	223	44	-	44
3	Khulna	Kushtia	Kumarkhali	Kumarkhali	2	7	51	-	-	7	51	14	-	14
			khoksa											
		Meherpur	Meherpur Sadar	Gangni	3	6	42	-	-	6	42	16	-	16
			Gangni											
		Khulna	Paikgacha	Paikgacha	9	18	168	-		18	168	39	-	39
			Dumuria											
Batiaghata														
Dakope														
Sub total	1	3	8	3	14	31	261			31	261	69		69
4	Rajshahi	Sirajgonj	Raygonj	Raygonj	2	5	82	-	-	5	82	13	-	13
		Bogra	Bogra Sadar	Rangpur	2	9	81	-		9	81	24	-	24
		Rangpur	Rangpur Sadar	Rangpur	2	9	81	-		9	81	24	-	24
			Mithapukur											
		Dinajpur	Khanshama	Dinajpur	1	4	22	-	-	4	22	5	-	5
		Kurigram	Rowmari	Rowmari	2	8	84	-	-	8	84	21	-	21
			Rajibpur											
		Gaibandha	Palashbari	Gaibandha	4	23	194	-	1	23	195	73	-	73
			Saghata											
			Sadullapur											
	Gobindagonj													
Rangpur	Pirgonj													
Natore	Bagatipara	Bagatipara	3	10	170	-		10	170	42	-	42		
	Lalpur													
	Natore Sadar													
Sub total	1	7	39	6	14	59	633	-	1	59	634	178	-	178
Total	4	16	40	16	51	166	1,328	1	1	167	1,329	321	2	323

ANNEX - E

LIST OF GOVERNING BODY MEMBERS 2010-2012

01.	Nurul Islam Khan	- Chairman
02.	Latifa Akanda	- Vice-Chairman
03.	Khushi Kabir	- Secretary
04.	Ira Rahman	- Treasurer
05.	Dil Monowora Monu	- Asstant Treasurer
06.	Syeda Jamil Akhter	- Member
07.	Mohammad Shahid Hossain Talukdar	- Member
08.	Abdul Majid Mallik	- Member
09.	Shaheen Islam	- Member
10	Bashirul Haq	- Member
11.	Biren Shom	- Member
12.	Shafique uz Zaman	- Member
13.	Masuma Khanam	- Member

Annex-F, Statistical Programme Achievement Table Number 2 to 23

TABLE – 02 (Group Formation)

Description	Up to March 2012			Plan			Achievement			Decrease in 2012-13			Total up to March 2013		
	F	M	T	F	M	T	F	M	T	F	M	T	F	M	T
Rajshahi	2,280	1,930	4,210	63	51	114	44	34	78	-	-	-	2,329	1,964	4,293
Dhaka	590	502	1,092	11	17	28	6	6	12	33	34	67	563	474	1,037
Khulna	709	492	1,201	25	28	53	18	11	29	23	29	52	704	474	1,178
Chittagong	930	729	1,659	44	36	80	33	22	55	148	87	235	815	664	1,479
Total Core	4,509	3,653	8,162	140	131	271	101	73	174	204	150	354	4,406	3,576	7,982
Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF)	957	724	1,681	46	54	100	34	33	67	-	-	-	991	757	1,748
Christian Aid (CA)	860	390	1,250	11	4	15	9	3	12	-	-	-	869	393	1,262
Access	262	132	394	3	1	4	3	1	4	-	-	-	265	133	398
Agriculture Right Programme (ARP)	12	18	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	18	30
Total (NK)	6,600	4,917	11,517	200	190	390	147	110	257	204	150	354	6,543	4,877	11,420

TABLE – 03 (Group Member)

Description	Up to March 2012			Plan			Achievement			Decrease in 2012-13			Total up to March 2013		
	F	M	T	F	M	T	F	M	T	F	M	T	F	M	T
Rajshahi	46,329	42,651	88,980	1,244	714	1,958	911	469	1,560	-	-	-	47,240	43,300	90,540
Dhaka	11,175	10,843	22,018	285	278	563	158	123	281	897	786	1,683	10,436	10,180	20,616
Khulna	18,202	13,341	31,543	432	402	834	383	241	624	487	561	1,048	18,098	13,021	31,119
Chittagong	17,961	15,964	33,925	658	440	1,098	752	446	1,198	2,991	1,897	4,888	15,722	14,513	30,235
Total Core	93,667	82,799	176,466	2,619	1,834	4,453	2,204	1,459	3,663	4,375	3,244	7,619	91,496	81,014	172,510
MJF	18,477	16,004	34,481	828	972	1,800	689	657	1,346	-	-	-	19,166	16,661	35,827
CA	12,816	5,777	18,593	198	72	270	154	54	208	-	-	-	12,970	5,831	18,801
Access	5,063	2,584	7,647	53	18	71	53	18	71	-	-	-	5,116	2,602	7,718
ARP	240	360	600	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	240	360	600
Total (NK)	130,263	107,524	237,787	3,698	2,896	6,594	3,100	2,188	5,288	4,375	3,244	7,619	128,988	106,468	235,456

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

Description	Plan for Group Meeting						Achievement						Annual Group Meeting					
	Attended by Staff and Group			Group Meeting Attended By Staff			Group Meeting Initiated By Group			Total By (Group and Staff)			Plan			Achievement		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
Rajshahi	51,079	43,526	94,605	14,549	5,613	20,162	30,789	33,351	64,139	45,338	38,964	84,301	2,155	1,737	3,892	1,910	1,546	3,456
Dhaka	12,401	10,021	22,427	2,290	1,190	3,480	3,296	4,050	7,346	5,586	5,240	10,826	325	264	589	205	142	347
Khulna	17,597	11,783	29,380	10,323	4,370	14,693	5,251	4,842	10,093	15,574	9,212	24,786	802	506	1,308	726	407	1,133
Chittagong	14,529	7,805	22,334	9,618	3,308	12,926	4,813	3,746	8,559	14,431	7,054	21,485	955	646	1,601	859	563	1,422
Core	95,606	73,135	168,746	36,780	14,481	51,261	44,149	45,989	90,138	80,929	60,470	141,399	4,237	3,153	7,390	3,700	2,658	6,358
MJF	12,419	10,280	22,699	6,332	4,245	10,577	3,995	3,795	7,790	10,327	8,040	18,367	1012	846	1,858	924	692	1,616
CA	11,550	7,493	19,043	3,976	1,386	5,362	5,072	4,292	9,364	9,048	5,678	14,726	497	273	770	424	217	641
Access	6,655	4,298	10,953	1,643	544	2,187	2,569	2,077	4,646	4,212	2,621	6,834	281	134	415	235	118	353
ARP	128	162	290	36	54	90	72	108	180	108	162	270	10	14	24	6	10	16
Total (NK)	126,358	95,368	221,726	48,767	20,710	69,477	55,857	56,261	112,118	104,624	76,971	181,596	6,037	4,420	10,457	5,289	3,695	8,984

TABLE: 04, B- Representative and Joint Group meeting

Description	Representative Meeting		Joint Group Meeting	
	Plan	Achievement	Plan	Achievement
Rajshahi	259	270	557	568
Dhaka	49	77	20	32
Khulna	47	155	93	161
Chittagong	156	194	2	15
Total Core	511	696	672	776
MJF	152	178	14	27
CA	70	87	23	27
Access	32	45	15	18
ARP	2	2	0	0
Total (NK)	767	1,008	724	848

TABLE: 05-Issue Based Workshop Group Level

SI No.	Issue Based Workshops for Group members	Plan							Achievement							
		Core	MJF	CA	Access	ARP	OSI	Total	Core	MJF	CA	Access	ARP	OSI	Total	
	Total workshops	109	25	40	20	4	28	226	121	25	44	20	4	30	244	
	Total participants	F	1,563	331	528	256	49	275	3,002	1,605	332	640	270	47	309	3,203
		M	1,487	294	472	244	51	265	2,813	1,414	293	484	235	53	302	2,781
		T	3050	625	1,000	500	100	540	5,815	3,019	625	1,124	505	100	611	5,984
1	Workshop on fundamentalism and its impact	19	-	4	5	-	-	28	18	-	4	5	-	-	27	
	Participants	F	236	-	53	65	-	-	354	226	-	56	78	-	-	360
		M	239	-	47	60	-	-	346	197	-	44	52	-	-	293
		T	475	-	100	125	-	-	700	423	-	100	130	-	-	653
2	Workshop on gender	12	-	3	6	-	-	21	11	-	4	6	-	-	21	
	Participants	F	150	-	39	78	-	-	267	144	-	57	73	-	-	274
		M	150	-	36	72	-	-	258	130	-	46	77	-	-	253
		T	300	-	75	150	-	-	525	274	-	103	150	-	-	527
3	Workshop on reproductive health right	10	-	4	-	-	-	14	13	-	4	-	-	-	17	
	Participants	F	167	-	64	-	-	-	231	193	-	58	-	-	-	251
		M	83	-	36	-	-	-	119	129	-	33	-	-	-	162
		T	250	-	100	-	-	-	350	322	-	91	-	-	-	413
4	Workshop on leadership development	11	8	3	2	-	-	24	10	8	2	2	-	-	22	
	Participants	F	137	110	39	24	-	-	310	134	105	28	27	-	-	294
		M	138	90	36	26	-	-	290	124	95	29	23	-	-	271
		T	275	200	75	50	-	-	600	258	200	57	50	-	-	565
5	Workshop on strategic planning and collective decision making	31	-	8	1	1	-	41	42	-	9	1	1	-	53	
	Participants	F	553	-	101	13	12	-	679	562	-	120	13	13	-	708
		M	547	-	99	12	13	-	671	500	-	105	12	12	-	629
		T	1,100	-	200	25	25	-	1350	1,062	-	225	25	25	-	1337
6	Workshop on adibasi and land rights	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	
	Participants	F	12	-	-	-	-	-	12	14	-	-	-	-	-	14
		M	13	-	-	-	-	-	13	14	-	-	-	-	-	14
		T	25	-	-	-	-	-	25	28	-	-	-	-	-	28
7	Workshop on globalisation and sustainable development	10	-	5	-	-	-	15	11	-	4	-	-	-	15	
	Participants	F	122	-	64	-	-	-	186	141	-	55	-	-	-	196
		M	128	-	61	-	-	-	189	136	-	46	-	-	-	182
		T	250	-	125	-	-	-	375	277	-	101	-	-	-	378

8	Workshop on food sovereignty		10	9	3	2	-	-	24	11	9	7	2	-	-	29
	Participants	F	125	117	41	24	-	-	307	144	117	100	27	-	-	388
		M	125	108	34	26	-	-	293	130	108	75	23	-	-	336
		T	250	225	75	50	-	-	600	274	225	175	50	-	-	724
9	Workshop on right and access to information		-	-	-	4	1	10	15	-	-	-	4	1	12	17
	Participants	F	-	-	-	52	12	130	194	-	-	-	52	11	187	250
		M	-	-	-	48	13	120	181	-	-	-	48	14	160	222
		T	-	-	-	100	25	250	375	-	-	-	100	25	347	472
10	Workshop on land and woman		-	8	-	-	-	-	8	-	8	-	-	-	-	8
	Participants	F	-	104	-	-	-	-	104	-	110	-	-	-	-	110
		M	-	96	-	-	-	-	96	-	90	-	-	-	-	90
		T	-	200	-	-	-	-	200	-	200	-	-	-	-	200
11	Workshop on joint economic activities		4	-	3	-	-	-	7	3	-	3	-	-	-	6
	Participants	F	51	-	38	-	-	-	89	36	-	46	-	-	-	82
		M	49	-	37	-	-	-	86	40	-	29	-	-	-	69
		T	100	-	75	-	-	-	175	76	-	75	-	-	-	151
12	Workshop on Climate change		1	-	7	-	-	-	8	1	-	7	-	-	-	8
	Participants	F	10	-	89	-	-	-	99	11	-	120	-	-	-	131
		M	15	-	86	-	-	-	101	14	-	77	-	-	-	91
		T	25	-	175	-	-	-	200	25	-	197	-	-	-	222
13	Workshop on organic manur		-	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
	Participants	F	-	-	-	-	25	-	25	-	-	-	-	23	-	23
		M	-	-	-	-	25	-	25	-	-	-	-	27	-	27
		T	-	-	-	-	50	-	50	-	-	-	-	50	-	50
14	Workshop for Watch committee members on RTI		-	-	-	-	-	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	6	6
	Participants	F	-	-	-	-	-	60	60	-	-	-	-	-	56	56
		M	-	-	-	-	-	60	60	-	-	-	-	-	57	57
		T	-	-	-	-	-	120	120	-	-	-	-	-	113	113
15	Follow-up workshop for Watch committee members on RTI		-	-	-	-	-	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	7	7
	Participants	F	-	-	-	-	-	25	25	-	-	-	-	-	24	24
		M	-	-	-	-	-	25	25	-	-	-	-	-	22	22
		T	-	-	-	-	-	50	50	-	-	-	-	-	46	46
16	Preparatori workshop for public audit with watch committee		-	-	-	-	-	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	5	5
	Participants	F	-	-	-	-	-	60	60	-	-	-	-	-	42	42
		M	-	-	-	-	-	60	60	-	-	-	-	-	63	63
		T	-	-	-	-	-	120	120	-	-	-	-	-	105	105

TABLE-06- Formation of Structural Committee

Description	Total No. of Committee up to March 2012				New Formation of Structural Committee		Decrease in 2012-13		Total No. of Committee up to March 2013			
	Village	Union	Upazilla	Area	Plan	Achievement	Village	Area	Upazilla	Union	Upazilla	Area
Rajshahi	158	9	1	7	2	0	-	-	158	9	1	7
Dhaka	40	5	1	3	1	0	7	1	33	5	1	2
Khulna	53	2	0	11	2	1	6	2	48	2	-	9
Chittagong	30	2	0	7	1	0	4	1	26	2	-	6
Total Core	281	18	2	28	6	1	-	-	265	18	2	24
MJF	29	1	1	8	-	-	-	-	29	1	1	8
CA	21	1	0	1	-	0	-	-	21	1	-	1
Access	16	1	0	0	-	0	-	-	16	1	-	-
ARP	8	2	0	0	-	0	-	-	8	2	-	-
Total (NK)	355	23	3	37	6	1	17	4	339	23	3	33

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	1,874	76	12	85	1,902	103	12	85	194	11	1	7	177	9	1	6
Dhaka	404	44	12	33	382	46	10	31	35	5	1	2	30	3	1	2
Khulna	596	32	0	117	553	32	0	114	55	3	1	10	55	3	1	10
Chittagong	311	24	0	63	321	24	0	60	30	2	0	5	26	4	0	5
Total Core	3,185	176	24	298	3,158	205	22	290	314	21	3	24	288	19	3	23
MJF	336	12	12	84	330	12	4	80	28	1	1	7	28	1	1	6
CA	247	23	-	24	219	21	-	23	21	1	-	2	18	1	-	2
Access	192	12	-	-	167	12	-	-	16	1	-	-	16	1	-	-
ARP	24	6	-	-	24	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total (NK)	3,984	229	36	406	3,898	256	26	393	379	24	4	33	350	22	4	31

TABLE: 08 - Group Saving

Division	Total up to March 2012			Plan			Achievement			Distribution			Total up to March 2013		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
Rajshahi	8,436,537	7,979,357	16,415,894	2,672,055	2,079,739	4,751,794	2,495,898	2,001,347	4,497,245	1,307,613	812,589	2,120,202	9,624,822	9,168,115	18,792,937
Dhaka	3,605,746	2,663,524	6,269,270	1,176,513	9,963,319	11,139,832	902,965	798,529	1,701,494	425,157	794,565	1,219,722	4,083,554	2,667,488	6,751,042
Khulna	4,155,838	2,388,085	6,543,923	1,426,876	1,011,138	2,438,014	1,396,879	890,325	2,287,204	1,943,350	648,970	2,592,320	3,609,367	2,629,440	6,238,807
Chittagong	5,028,105	3,978,997	9,007,102	1,730,170	1,180,460	2,910,630	1,694,205	1,149,055	2,843,260	2,392,173	1,519,615	3,911,788	4,330,137	3,608,437	7,938,574
Total Core	21,226,226	17,009,963	38,236,189	7,005,614	14,234,656	21,240,270	6,489,947	4,839,256	11,329,203	6,068,293	3,775,739	9,844,032	21,647,880	18,073,480	39,721,360
MJF	6,818,717	7,764,557	14,583,274	2,741,055	2,081,666	4,822,721	2,410,246	1,703,643	4,113,889	887,000	998,950	1,885,950	8,341,963	8,469,250	16,811,213
CA	11,850,933	5,107,740	16,958,673	1,544,069	773,467	2,317,536	1,363,512	713,620	2,077,132	887,943	322,524	1,210,467	12,326,502	5,498,836	17,825,338
Access	2,962,732	748,284	3,711,016	386,017	177,069	563,086	340,877	178,405	519,282	221,910	80,630	302,540	3,081,699	846,059	3,927,758
ARP	147,000	599,200	746,200	3,900	5,850	9,750	3,360	5,340	8,700	-	-	-	150,360	604,540	754,900
Total (NK)	43,005,608	31,229,744	74,235,352	11,680,655	17,272,708	28,953,363	10,607,942	7,440,264	18,048,206	8,065,146	5,177,843	13,242,989	45,548,404	33,492,165	79,040,569

TABLE: 09- Bank Account and Position of Group Saving

Description	Bank Account										Position of Group Saving					
	Up to March 2012			Increases in 2012-13			Decrease			Total up to March 2013			Total up to March 2013			
	F	M	T	F	M	T	F	M	T	F	M	T	Bank	Cash	Investment	Total
Rajshahi	675	388	1063	17	3	20				692	391	1,083	802,822	700,000	12,990,115	15,692,937
Dhaka	369	279	648	-	1	1	17	12	29	352	268	620	2,625,828	260,244	2,390,863	5,276,935
Khulna	498	161	659	-	4	4	1	0	1	497	165	662	2,043,441	2,676,900	1,318,466	6,038,807
Chittagong	452	180	632	13	2	15	96	34	130	369	148	517	7,425,371	178,601	3,108,709	10,712,681
Total Core	1,994	1,008	3,002	30	10	40	114	46	160	1,910	972	2,882	12,897,462	3,815,745	19,808,153	37,721,360
MJF	131	188	319	-	-	-	-	-	-	131	188	319	478,840	11,953,858	4,378,515	16,811,213
CA	453	95	548	14	4	18	-	-	-	467	99	566	3,481,278	4,287,387	12,056,673	19,825,338
Access	62	20	82	5	1	6	-	-	-	67	21	88	788,863	1,285,553	1,853,342	3,927,758
ARP	3	4	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	4	7	81,480	470,821	202,599	754,900
Total (NK)	2,643	1,315	3,958	49	15	64	114	46	160	2,578	1,284	3,862	17,727,923	21,813,364	38,299,282	79,040,569

TABLE: 10- Training Activities

Description	Gender	No of training	Core		CA		MJF		OSI		Access		Total	
			Plan	Implementation	Plan	Implementation	Plan	Implementation	Plan	Implementation	Plan	Implementation	Plan	Implementation
Basic	F	20	295	298	75	74	128	128	-	-	2	2	500	502
	M	22	377	381	75	72	96	94	-	-	2	2	550	549
	T	42	672	679	150	146	224	222	-	-	4	4	1,050	1,051
Advance	F	-	60	57	22	22	32	37	-	-	-	-	114	116
	M	-	55	59	24	23	32	27	-	-	-	-	111	109
	T	9	115	116	46	45	64	64	-	-	-	-	225	225
Higher Selection	F	3	59	61	-	-	16	16	-	-	-	-	75	77
	M	2	34	33	-	-	16	16	-	-	-	-	50	49
	T	5	93	94	-	-	32	32	-	-	-	-	125	126
Land Law	F	-	49	51	-	-	13	13	-	-	-	-	62	64
	M	-	51	48	-	-	12	12	-	-	-	-	63	60
	T	5	100	99	-	-	25	25	-	-	-	-	125	124
Land and Women	F	-	-	-	-	-	26	27	-	-	-	-	26	27
	M	-	-	-	-	-	24	23	-	-	-	-	24	23
	T	2	-	-	-	-	50	50	-	-	-	-	50	50
Citizen Right and Constitutional Right	F	-	5	4	-	-	8	9	-	-	-	-	13	13
	M	-	4	4	-	-	8	7	-	-	-	-	12	11
	T	1	9	8	-	-	16	16	-	-	-	-	25	24
Leadership Development	F	-	5	6	-	-	8	10	-	-	-	-	13	16
	M	-	4	3	-	-	8	6	-	-	-	-	12	9
	T	1	9	9	-	-	16	16	-	-	-	-	25	25
Khasland Distribution Policy and Procedure	F	-	-	-	-	-	39	42	-	-	-	-	39	42
	M	-	-	-	-	-	36	33	-	-	-	-	36	33
	T	3	-	-	-	-	75	75	-	-	-	-	75	75
Reproductive Health	F	-	-	-	38	37	-	-	-	-	-	-	38	37
	M	-	-	-	12	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	11
	T	2	-	-	50	48	-	-	-	-	-	-	50	48
Gender	F	-	-	-	18	18	8	8	-	-	25	27	51	53
	M	-	-	-	16	16	8	8	-	-	25	23	49	47
	T	4	-	-	34	34	16	16	-	-	50	50	100	100
Women Development Policy	F	-	-	-	13	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	13
	M	-	-	-	12	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	12
	T	1	-	-	25	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	25
Right to Information	F	-	10	8	-	-	16	16	150	139	-	-	176	163
	M	-	8	10	-	-	16	16	150	157	-	-	174	183
	T	14	18	18	-	-	32	32	300	296	-	-	350	346
Participatory Planning	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	18	13	18
	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	7	12	7
	T	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	25	25	25
Participatory Monitoring	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	15	13	15
	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	12	12	12
	T	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	27	25	27
Cultural Basic	F	-	15	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	12
	M	-	25	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	27
	T	2	40	39	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40	39
Total	F	23	498	497	166	164	294	306	150	139	53	62	1,161	1,168
	M	24	558	565	139	134	256	242	150	157	51	44	1,154	1,142
	T	93	1,056	1,062	305	298	550	548	300	296	104	106	2,315	2,310

TABLE: 11- Refresher Training and Forum Meeting

Division	Refresher Training				Number of Forum		Forum Meetings	
	Plan		Achievement		Up to March 2012	Up to March 2013	Plan	Achievement
	Number	Participants	Number	Participants				
Rajshahi	15	380	15	381	16	16	181	176
Dhaka	5	125	4	96	5	5	56	50
Khulna	11	275	14	345	13	13	161	150
Chittagong	22	550	26	647	13	13	144	129
Total (NK)	53	1,330	59	1,469	47	47	542	505

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	22	9	180	5	110	260	35	110	1	99	44	258	29	131	1	117	51
Dhaka	15	7	140	7	140	143	29	94	0	78	12	128	25	72	0	74	19
Khulna	17	9	180	9	180	218	18	104	1	76	9	214	14	100	1	93	13
Chittagong	5	5	75	5	75	73	13	80	1	129	10	73	11	100	1	142	12
Core	59	30	575	26	505	694	95	388	3	382	75	673	79	403	3	426	95
MJF	6	2	30	2	30	69	10	12	2	85	3	71	8	33	2	78	12
CA	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	10	4	0	0	-	19	47	3	-	-
Access	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	24	1	-	-
ARP	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
OSI	-	3	70	3	67	-	0	18	-	-	-	-	-	88	-	-	-
Total (NK)	65	35	675	31	602	763	108	428	9	467	78	744	107	596	9	504	107

TABLE-13: Collective Economic Activities

Description		Agriculture					Fishery				Livestock				Rickshaw/Van			Shallow				Small Business				Total				
Up to March 2012		Core	MJF	CA	Access	ARP	Core	MJF	CA	Access	Core	MJF	CA	Access	Core	MJF	CA	Core	Core	MJF	CA	Access	Core	MJF	CA	Access	ARP	NK		
Group	F	525	39	99	14	7	68	4	3	-	144	67	54	13	11	1	-	1	1,229	356	83	-	1,978	467	239	27	7	2,718		
	M	676	59	54	11	13	134	60	7	1	240	98	70	10	60	38	2	3	690	564	30	4	1,803	819	163	26	13	2,824		
	T	1,201	98	153	25	20	202	64	10	1	384	165	124	23	71	39	2	4	1,919	920	113	4	3,781	1,286	402	53	20	5,542		
Member	F	11,300	763	116	276	126	1,441	82	64	-	3,228	1,325	1,015	222	181	20	-	18	21,375	6,479	1,524	-	37,543	8,669	2,719	498	126	49,555		
	M	13,703	1,287	1,276	220	239	2,886	1,798	212	17	4,971	2,039	1,623	178	1,026	815	51	62	13,371	10,902	475	92	36,019	16,841	3,637	507	239	57,243		
	T	25,018	2,050	1,392	496	365	4,327	1,880	276	17	8,199	3,364	2,638	400	1,207	835	51	80	34,746	17,381	1,999	92	73,577	25,510	6,356	1,005	365	106,798		
Employment	F	969	10	14	87	4	414	3	-	-	571	44	31	14	4	-	-	4	4,715	148	47	-	6,677	205	92	101	4	7,079		
	M	5,875	42	29	5	5	1,794	20	-	1	87	79	47	10	191	51	-	4	2,924	155	49	79	10,875	347	125	95	5	11,447		
	T	6,797	52	43	92	9	2,208	23	-	1	658	123	78	24	195	51	-	8	7,639	303	96	79	17,525	552	217	196	9	18,526		
Quantity (Acre/No)		1,001	61	37	1	44	574	119	5	3	740	259	122	22	147	55	2	4	49	0	0	0	2,514	494	166	26	44	3,244		
Investment in Tk		21,997,621	954,798	2,135,064	224,745	507,200	4,889,514	648,930	119,000	16,000	4,432,790	1,143,507	1,181,539	283,800	271,206	340,650	19,073	40,700	9,641,923	173,520	690,021	31,500	41,273,763	3,261,305	4,144,697	556,045	507,200	49,743,010		
Increase 12- 2013																														
Group	F	19	14	7	3	-	5	-	3	-	20	15	6	1	-	-	-	-	128	96	8	3	172	125	24	7	-	328		
	M	28	14	1	-	-	6	2	2	-	21	8	7	1	4	5	1	-	68	92	6	-	127	121	17	1	-	266		
	T	47	28	8	3	-	11	2	5	-	41	23	13	2	4	5	1	-	196	188	14	3	299	246	41	8	-	594		
Member	F	416	290	139	57	-	95	-	80	-	367	321	146	30	-	-	-	-	2,416	1,910	157	56	3,294	2,521	522	143	-	6,480		
	M	569	288	18	-	-	121	40	46	-	413	172	153	30	77	109	20	-	1,363	1,836	108	-	2,543	2,445	345	30	-	5,363		
	T	985	578	157	57	-	216	40	126	-	780	493	299	60	77	109	20	-	3,779	3,746	265	56	5,837	4,966	867	173	-	11,843		
Employment	F	46	6	3	2	-	5	-	-	-	15	8	2	-	-	-	-	-	20	37	6	4	86	51	11	6	-	154		
	M	87	3	2	-	-	14	2	1	-	14	5	-	-	13	5	1	-	24	28	-	-	152	43	4	-	-	199		
	T	133	9	5	2	-	19	2	1	-	29	13	2	-	13	5	1	-	44	65	6	4	238	94	15	6	-	353		
Quantity (Acre/No)		18	12	9	-	-	11	1	3	-	-	23	7	15	11	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	109	39	20	15	-	184		
Investment in Tk		1,748,155	244,700	185,576	45,255	-	247,750	64,700	61,500	-	256,250	137,610	24,700	94,410	55,100	8,000	0	-	1,007,730	93,032	13,850	-	4,960,446	1,628,480	485,718	83,805	-	7,158,449		
Decreased																														
Group	F	38	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	28	3	2	1	-	-	-	-	57	1	-	-	123	6	5	1	-	135		
	M	30	10	-	-	-	13	-	2	-	26	9	8	1	-	2	-	-	69	1	2	1	138	22	12	2	-	174		
	T	68	12	3	-	-	13	-	2	-	54	12	10	2	-	2	-	-	126	2	2	1	261	28	17	3	-	309		
Member	F	761	32	57	-	-	-	-	-	-	557	62	40	30	-	-	-	-	1,010	20	-	-	2,328	114	97	30	-	2,569		
	M	503	220	-	-	-	256	-	36	-	531	180	160	30	-	40	-	-	1,355	20	34	30	2,645	460	230	60	-	3,395		
	T	1,264	252	57	-	-	256	-	36	-	1,088	242	200	60	-	40	-	-	2,365	40	34	30	4,973	574	327	90	-	5,964		
Employment	F	7	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	1	-	-	21	5	-	-	-	26		
	M	19	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	3	6	-	2	-	-	-	5	1	-	-	31	14	6	-	-	51		
	T	26	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	5	6	-	2	-	-	-	11	2	-	-	52	19	6	-	-	77		
Quantity (Acre/No)		17	6	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	25	5	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	43	21	13	-	-	77		
Investment in Tk		1,547,462	92,100	99,652	-	-	321,250	-	-	-	832,555	126,800	122,000	14,500	106,240	24,700	-	-	-	267,670	34,332	14,500	-	4,104,886	511,270	271,184	29,000	-	4,916,340	
Up to March 2013																														
Group	F	506	51	103	17	7	73	4	6	-	136	79	58	13	11	1	-	1	1,300	451	91	3	2,027	586	258	33	7	2,911		
	M	674	63	55	11	13	127	62	7	1	235	97	69	10	64	41	3	3	689	655	34	3	1,792	918	168	25	13	2,916		
	T	1,180	114	158	28	20	200	66	13	1	371	176	127	23	75	42	3	4	1,989	1,106	125	6	3,819	1,504	426	58	20	5,827		
Member	F	10,955	1,021	198	333	126	1,536	82	144	-	3,038	1,584	1,121	222	181	20	-	18	22,781	8,369	1,681	56	38,509	11,076	3,144	611	126	53,466		
	M	13,769	1,355	1,294	220	239	2,751	1,838	222	17	4,853	2,031	1,616	178	1,103	884	61	62	13,379	12,718	549	92	31,002	18,826	3,752	477	239	59,211		
	T	24,739	2,376	1,492	553	365	4,287	1,920	366	17	7,891	3,615	2,737	400	1,284	904	71	80	36,160	21,087	2,230	118	74,441	29,902	6,896	1,088	365	112,677		
Employment	F	1,008	14	17	89	4	419	3	-	-	578	50	33	14	4	-	-	4	4,729	184	53	4	6,742	251	103	107	4	7,207		
	M	5,955	37	31	5	5	1,808	22	1	1	94	81	41	10	204	54	1	4	2,943	182	49	79	10,996	376	123	95	5	11,595		
	T	6,911	51	48	94	9	2,227	25	1	1	672	131	74	24	208	54	1	8	7,672	366	102	83	17,738	627	226	202	9	18,802		
Quantity (Acre/No)		907	67	45	1	44	584	120	7	3	740	277	119	37	158	58	3	4	49	10	0	0	2,580	512	174	41	44	3,351		
Investment in Tk		22,198,314	1,107,398	2,220,988	270,000	507,200	4,816,014	713,530	165,300	16,000	4,458,555	1,272,957	1,197,149	294,000	259,376	371,050	27,073	40,700	10,356,364	931,580	748,721	30,850	42,129,323	4,378,515	4,359,231	610,850	507,200	51,985,199		
Profit in cash (April 2012- March 2013)	F	1,338,744	15,000	61,640	-	-	126,405	45,000	14,520	-	75,690	7,200	970	-	4,900	6,885	-	-	546,046	304,348	65,995	-	2,091,785	378,433	143,125	-	-	2,613,343		
	M	3,344,652	17,600	20,550	-	-	475,745	44,000	57,450	-	91,355	13,700	36,900	-	70,450	75,225	1,200	23,500	655,685	224,										

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

Description	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	
		Normally by UP	By protest		Normally by UP	By protest		Normally by UP	By protest		Normally by U.P	By Protest			
Rajshahi	8,607	7,914	693	4071	407	3,664	6	4	2	6,699	6,540	159	19,383	14,865	4,518
Dhaka	591	563	28	17	17	-	3	3	-	16	15	1	627	598	29
Chittagong	20,739	18,769	1,970	4,536	867	3,669	25	22	3	9,863	9,527	336	35,163	29,185	5,978
Khulna	3,148	2,981	167	450	446	4	7	6	1	1,763	1,704	59	5,368	5,137	231
Total Core	33,085	30,227	2,858	9,074	1,737	7,337	41	35	6	18,341	17,786	555	60,541	49,785	10,756
CA	3,830	3,707	123	28	28	-	26	26	-	630	593	37	4,514	4,354	160
MJF	4,340	3,038	1,302	933	703	230	447	297	150	4,160	3,460	700	9,880	7,498	2,382
Total (NK)	41,255	36,972	4,283	10,035	2,468	7,567	514	358	156	23,131	21,839	1,292	74,935	61,637	13,298

TABLE: 15- Legal Aid Activity

Description	Cases up to March 2012	New Cases	Total Cases	Cases Settled	Result		Cases on Appeal	Remaining Total Cases	Nijera Kori Run Cases	Group Run Cases
					Favour	Against				
Rajshahi	172	14	186	19	18	1	2	169	41	128
Dhaka	134	2	136	-	-	-	-	136	40	96
Khulna	147	15	162	21	21	-	1	142	51	91
Chittagong	120	2	122	6	6	-	-	116	10	106
Total Core	573	33	606	46	45	1	3	563	142	421
MJF	221	26	247	38	38	0		209	118	91
CA	53	17	70	16	14	2	0	54	10	44
Access	2	1	3	0	0	0	0	3	2	1
ARP	16	0	16	0	0	0	0	16	16	0
Total (NK)	865	77	942	100	97	3	3	845	288	557

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'2012	549	476	1,025	163	143	306	291	260	551	274	237	511	1,277	1,116	2,393	173	207	380	1,450	1,323	2,773
Plan	46	36	82	13	8	21	12	10	22	17	16	33	88	70	158	22	24	46	110	94	204
Achievement	46	32	78	10	5	15	17	7	24	17	12	29	90	56	146	18	20	38	108	76	184
Total 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
Third Level																					
Up to March'2012	99	93	192	10	7	17	49	27	76	31	7	38	189	134	323	18	2	20	207	136	343
Plan	18	13	31	-	-	-	3	4	7	2	2	4	23	19	42	5	8	13	28	27	55
Achievement	17	16	33	-	-	-	1	1	2	4	2	6	22	19	41	3	5	8	25	24	49
Total 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

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
	Male	Female	Total					Male	Female	Total			
Organisational activities													
Workshops	1,998	2,479	4,477	183	139,440	0	139,440	88	86	174	40	67	107
Refresher Trainings	584	755	1,339	52	43,069	0	43,069	23	24	47	10	15	25
Movement/Struggle	301	303	604	104	53,020	0	53,020	518	321	839	44	21	65
Village Convention	1,551	1,878	3,429	1,997	150,147	0	150,147	456	363	819	796	935	1,731
Union Convention	491	607	1,098	15	44,136	0	44,136	126	117	243			0
Upazila Convention	332	350	682	4	29,325	0	29,325	57	54	111			0
Area Convention	802	1,282	2,084	32	82,116	0	82,116	76	63	139	94	80	174
Cultural Programme	1,042	1,546	2,588	133	178,999	0	178,999	302	221	523	335	3522	3857
Observance of National/ International Day	2,993	4,039	7,032	283	242,365	0	242,365	619	564	1,183	2	1	3
Conducting Case	1,894	1,628	3,522	5,383	1,134,095	0	1,134,095	251	62	313	984	843	1,827
Assistance to Family of arrested Member	61	33	94	6	5,100	0	5,100	11	1	12	6	7	13
Total (NK)	12,049	14,900	26,949	8,192	2,101,812	0	2,101,812	2,527	1,876	4,403	2,311	5,491	7,802
Solidarity Activities													
Medical Support	1,408	1,608	3,016	1,395	290,452	54,270	344,722	438	453	891	103	107	210
School Repairing	5	3	8				0	12	5	17			0
Educational Support	257	275	532	1,555	47,952	6,615	54,567	22	61	83	24	20	44
Marriage without Dowry	126	152	278	32	32,310	1,050	33,360	168	191	359	12	11	23
Contribution in Marriage	892	1,054	1,946	4,156	152,766	14,260	167,026	344	385	729	62	67	129
Bridge Repairing/Construction	107	124	231	28	17,210		17,210	236		236	10,667	2890	13,557
Road Repairing/Reconstruction	85	161	246	13	30,520		30,520	287	155	442	472	265	737
Dredging of Canal	46	35	81	11	1790		1,790	205	45	250	1,120	445	1,565
Repairing of House	232	245	477	62	87,360	23,200	110,560	247	149	396	37	28	65
Tree Plantation	150	161	311	248	20,240		20,240	84	34	118	23	14	37
Burial and Others	146	158	304	9	1,327,175	33,630	1,360,805	116	130	246	193	121	314
Total (NK)	3,454	3,976	7,430	7,509	2,007,775	133,025	2,140,800	2,159	1,608	3,767	12,713	3,968	16,681
Grand Total (NK)	15,503	18,876	34,379	15,701	4,109,587	133,025	4,242,612	4,686	3,484	8,170	15,024	9,459	24,483

TABLE: 18- Group Member in different Committee

Description	Rajshahi				Dhaka				Khulna				Chittagong				MJF				Total (Core)				Total (NK)			
	No	F	M	T	No	F	M	T	No	F	M	T	No	F	M	T	No	F	M	T	No	F	M	T	No	F	M	T
Elected Union Parishad/pourashova March'2012	16	8	11	19	19	8	15	23	18	12	9	21	23	15	15	30	9	6	9	15	76	43	50	93	85	49	59	108
Upazila Parishad Up To March'2012	2	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	2	2	2	-	2
Elected in School Management Committee'2012	67	34	54	88	12	3	11	14	39	18	34	52	38	20	26	46	43	17	102	119	199	75	125	200	242	92	227	319
Contested candidate in School Committee election '2013	152	75	160	235	3	4	11	15	21	15	21	36	81	81	54	135	82	37	90	127	257	175	246	421	339	212	336	548
Elected in School Management Committee'2013	148	72	156	228	7	3	8	11	13	10	13	23	39	40	20	60	45	20	55	75	207	125	197	322	252	145	252	397
Elected in Market Committee election' 2012	22	1	41	42	2		11	11	25		30	30	11		16	16	13		20	20	73	1	98	99	86	1	118	119
Contested candidate in Market management Committee 13	38	2	62	64	11	0	19	19	17	5	24	29	23	0	38	38	44	13	60	73	90	7	143	150	134	20	203	223
Elected in Market Committee election 2013	34	2	55	57	10	0	16	16	11	2	17	19	7	0	11	11	25	4	38	42	62	4	99	103	87	8	137	145
Elected in Sluice Gate Management Committee'2012	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	3	15	18	-	-	-	-	9	7	22	29	-	-	-	-	18	10	37	47
Contested candidate in Sluice Gate Management Committee'13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	0	11	11	18	6	24	30	29	18	26	44	25	6	35	41	54	24	61	85
Elected in Sluice Gate Management Committee'2013	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	0	6	6	14	4	20	24	17	17	12	29	18	4	26	30	35	21	38	59
Nominated Sugarcane Purchase Committee till March'12	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	-	3	3	-
Nominated candidate in Sugarcane Committee'2013	2	0	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	0	4	4	2	-	4	4
Nominated Candidate in Sugarcane Committee'2013	2	0	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	0	4	4	2	0	4	4
Project Management Committee (U.P) till March'2012	12	4	13	17	8	2	8	10	6	3	10	13	4	4	5	9	2	2	4	6	30	13	36	49	32	15	40	55
Contested in Movement Committee'2013	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28	15	32	47	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28	15	32	47	28	15	32	47
Elected Candidate in Movement Committee'13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28	15	32	47	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28	15	32	47	28	15	32	47
Contested Candidate in Low and order Situation Committee'2013	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	5	3	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	5	3	8	5	5	3	8
Elected in Low and order situation Committee'2013	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	5	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	5	7	3	2	5	7
Contested Candidate in Clinic Management Committee'2013	3	4	3	7	-	-	-	-	9	7	9	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	11	12	23	14	11	12	23
Elected in Satellite Clinic Management Committee'2013	3	4	3	7	-	-	-	-	6	5	6	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	9	9	18	10	9	9	18
Total Contested candidate	195	81	229	310	14	4	30	34	87	47	100	147	122	87	116	203	155	68	176	244	421	219	475	694	576	287	651	938
Total Elected Candidate	187	78	218	296	17	3	24	27	65	34	79	113	60	44	51	95	87	41	105	146	330	159	372	531	417	200	477	677

TABLE: 19-Participation in local shalish

Description		Women against: (dowry, divorce, polygamy, rape, kidnapping, physical assault, fundamentalism and religious indictment)	Illegal Possession of Property from the Landless	Issue of Injustice and oppression	Total (NK)
Total Shalish of Current Year 2012-13			1,108	403	1,779
Core			501	143	720
MJF			512	244	872
CA			62	16	133
Access			33	0	54
Member attended the Shalish		Female	5,771	1,854	8,895
		Male	10,555	3,937	17,397
Nature of Participation in Shalish	Shalish at Self-initiative of Landless Leader Nijera Kori	By Female Leader	72	7	81
		Jointly by Female and Male Leader	873	252	1,205
		UP Chairman	68	38	130
	Shalish under Joint Leadership of Landless and Village Authority	UP Member	277	94	418
		Teacher	122	33	180
		Local Matbar	505	126	686
		Political Persons	153	48	231
Landless Leader as Judge/Mediator		Female	801	274	1,122
		Male	2,059	837	3,111
		Total	2,860	1,111	4,233
Result		No of settled Shalish	983	371	1,613
		No of stopped Shalish	125	32	166
No of Court Cases on Stopped Shalish			105	17	122

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 Group Member	Amount of Land	No of Group Member	Amount of Land	No of Group Member	Amount of Land	No of Group Member	Amount of Land	No of Group Member	Amount of Land	No of Group Member	Amount of Land	No of Group Member	Amount of Land	
Up to March 2012	Core	15,122	8,750.40	4,156	898	37,523	27,580	60	47	1,019	362	10,828	787	36,320	1,559
	MJF	7,113	12,577.46	1,600	15,190	10,503	15,116			40	12	4,032	233	4,000	74
Increase in April' 2012-March'2013	Core	15	11.9	-	-	67	25.53	6	19.05	-	-	105	16.32	-	-
	MJF	20	22.15	-	-	173	207	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total 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
Total NK		22,270	21,362	5,756	16,088	48,266	42,929	66	66	1,059	374	14,965	1,036	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	55	48	5	49	4	9	40.45	16.48	43	2	
Current Year	Core	73	62	9	74	32	24	34.16	16.32	516	19
	MJF	36	36	6	29	3	2	18	0	21	1
Total	109	98	15	103	35	26	52.16	16.32	537	20	

TABLE: 22- Activity relating to Social Movement/Struggle

Issue of Social Protests/Struggle	Issue raised by organisation	On going movement in 2011-12	Division wise Protest/struggle in 2012-2013									Total no. of movement in current year	Total No. of current and last year	No of movement won					On going movement till data
			Raj	Dha	Khu	Chit	Core	MJF	CA	Access	Total			Core	MJF	CA	Access	Total	
			Total NK																
Violence against women: dowry, divorce, polygamy, rape, physical assault, kidnapping, fundamentalism and religious indictment.	Women	394	108	15	55	43	221	166	23	16	426	663	1,057	201	160	23	12	396	30
	Men		45	2	53	28	128	98	5	6	237			115	97	3	6	221	16
Fundamentalism	Women	22	3	4	4	3	14	6	2	0	22	32	54	12	6	2	0	20	2
	Men		1	1	2	1	5	3	2	0	10			5	3	1	0	9	1
Establishment of rights on local resources: establishment of rights on khas land, water bodies, regaining possession of disposed land Environmental Issues: resisting commercial shrimp aquaculture, creating public support against excessive use of chemical fertiliser and pesticides. Resistance to action and oppression of reactionary groups: resisting eviction of lands less from land, looting of ripe paddy, burning the houses, physical assault.	Women	230	6	3	28	16	53	32	9	0	94	305	535	46	31	6	0	83	11
	Men		28	13	81	37	159	42	10	0	211			140	39	6	0	185	26
Resistance against corruption: in Local Govt. (U.P), partial justice in exchange of money, decisions contrary to the interest of land less masses, misappropriation of wheat from food for work and food for education programme, illegal transaction of money and false cases. Resisting illegalities and irregularities of micro credit Movement for due wage.	Women	301	32	17	27	5	81	43	3	3	130	369	670	65	42	2	2	111	19
	Men		39	25	51	25	140	94	3	2	239			125	94	3	1	223	16
Total	Women	947	149	39	114	67	369	247	37	19	672	1,369	2,316	324	239	33	14	610	62
	Men		113	41	187	91	432	237	20	8	697			385	233	13	7	638	59
	Total		262	80	301	158	801	484	57	27	1,369			709	472	46	21	1,248	121

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:	9	1	-	-	3	-	2	3	3	-	-	-	-	1	2	24
	Group	100	4	1	3	2	-	7	4	4	-	-	1	-	2	2	130
Land Administration	Govt:	150	4	3	17	3	-	4	1	1	-	4	11	-	8	9	215
	Group	474	14		32	3	-	7	2	3	-	4	15	-	1	25	580
Upazila Administration	Govt:	134	21	6	50	80	16	72	28	79	19	20	59	1	19	13	617
	Group	458	30	10	69	115	27	89	46	132	46	37	109	1	48	66	1283
Police Administration	Govt:	97	12		50	7			4	31	68	38	216	7	112	31	673
	Group	150	18		61	3	1	2	1	45	141	54	247	1	153	56	933
Election Commissioner	EC	6	-	-	-	-	-	1		1	1		3	-	1	1	14
	Group	2	-	-	-	-	-		1	3	1	1	1	-	-	2	11
Political Party	PP	3	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	-	-	3	-	-	3	16
	Group	4	6		1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	15
Parliament Member	PM	41	11	2	36	43	4	15	18	30	16	9	29	-	19	6	279
	Group	114	13	5	44	34	3	8	20	51	17	14	46	-	29	27	425
Union Perished	UP	140	15	30	51	115	30	67	75	54	83	40	64	1	15	38	818
	Group	415	31	55	104	210	63	31	140	144	164	66	91	2	62	83	1,661

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

Description	Initiative by Government / 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.				6	6	170	2	1	2	11	5	5		3	8	220
	Group	9		1	2	21	395	16	4	9	17	3	1		2	4	484
Press Club	P. Club	30	6		9	5	11	1	6	41	28	3	8		7	12	167
	Group	44	6		22	16	12	6	7	74	45	9	23	2	20	35	321
Bar Council	B.C:	5			1					2	7		22		1	1	39
	Group	57	10		10	6		2		4	18	7	87		3	5	209
Women Organisation	WO:	1			3	1	1	1		2	9				1		19
	Group	3			5		3	1	3	12	21		3		3	1	55
Education Administration	Govt:	5		13	1	9	5	209	2	23	4	2				1	274
	Group	1	1	10	11	2	20	301	5	58	1	7	2		6	3	428
Total(NK)	Govt.	621	70	54	224	273	237	376	139	270	246	124	420	9	187	125	3,375
	Group	1,831	133	82	364	412	524	471	233	539	471	203	628	6	329	309	6,535
	Total	2,452	203	136	588	685	761	847	372	809	717	327	1,048	15	516	434	9,910