

ANNUAL REPORT

2001- 2002

NIJERA KORI

(We do it ourselves)

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Foreword

Nijera Kori is an NGO, but it is somewhat different from average NGOs. It works with the most disadvantaged among the poor and other marginal groups. It does not provide aid or fund for programmes or micro credit for small enterprises. The name Nijera Kori, meaning 'we do it ourselves' indicate that it is not directed at 'benefiting the target groups'; it is the organization of the identified participants.

The basic plank of NK's work is to assist and facilitate the work of the poor and the by-passed segments of population to organize to enhance their functioning capacity, to realize their rights and improve their life and living conditions through their own organization and efforts.

The basic approach to organization and functioning of NK groups is the participatory democratic principles and decision making. The groups assess their own needs, design their programmes and strategies and implement them accordingly.

The Annual Report of NK 2001-2002 below provides information on programmes, progress, obstacles, successes, and failures. The Report depicts the story of struggle of the participants and the strength of their organization and unity that give them their identity in their respective communities.

Practicing democratic principles, participatory work and united approach to achieving the inherent rights and engaging in judiciously selected activities can indeed help people improve their own life and living environment and that of their communities.

The participants of the groups and the staff organizations at different levels have worked hard to achieve the goals set at the beginning of the year under report. Success and failures are two sides of the same coin. Minor failures need not prove daunting nor should success end in slackness. The way forward is long and the work of NK must continue with more vigour and unity.

I trust that this Annual Report will find understanding readers and supporters of the type of work that NK does. Any comments and suggestions will be greatly appreciated.

Nurul Islam Khan
President

PREFACE

As the ongoing programme of Nijera Kori continues, we publish our Annual Report for 2001-2002. The report is the outcome of the collective endeavour of NK staff and groups, who jointly adopted a strategy for consolidating, strengthening and prioritizing the activities of NK during the year, rather than emphasizing on its physical expansion. This strategy was followed throughout the year, which I hope has been adequately reflected in the report.

As per decision taken at the last partners meeting held in March 2001, reiterated at the NK staff convention, at the NK Board and AGM and as approved by the NGO Bureau, the financial as well as the programme year for Nijera Kori will be April to March. Therefore, the present annual report is based on the April-March period. Due to a three month overlap, some differences may be found in the statistics attached with the report in relation to the previous report.

The joint efforts of NK staff and groups in implementing the overall activities of the organisation as fixed in the year's plan can be considered as being reasonably successful. This success has to be assessed, bearing in mind that the current environment and overall situation of each area varies from each other, which means that in some areas the achievement has been more than planned and in some areas it is below the target. This uneven trend of achievement is natural, given the nature of our programmes. Nevertheless, the landless today are increasingly raising their collective voice at the national level, going beyond their immediate boundaries and speaking out on behalf of the entire community. If this process continues, it is hoped that the targeted objective would eventually be achieved.

This year saw various changes and events in our national life as well as in other parts of the globe. We had the National Elections in Bangladesh, which brought a change in Government. In the international arena, the events of September 11, its aftermath, regional and international conflicts rocked the continents. These dramatic events, though apparently far away from the life of the rural peasants did have consequences on their lives and livelihoods, as it had on the world's populations, in terms of security, prices of essentials and general feeling of helplessness as citizens of a world over which we have no control. Apart from this, as has always been the case, many landless members and NK staff, have faced attacks by feudal elite, shrimp farm owners and other vested quarters during the year. Many have been jailed in false cases. Overcoming all these challenges NK and its groups continue to carry on with its activities as before.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank our Chairperson, Mr. Nurul Islam Khan, who along with all his Board Members have as always played a very supportive and constructive role for the organisation, but this year, despite his very busy schedule has personally gone through the draft of the report and given his valuable comments towards making this annual report more comprehensive one.

We hope that our efforts to present as clear a picture of our activities as we could and to the best of our abilities, does provide an understanding of Nijera Kori and its performance for the past year. As always, we continue to look forward to hearing from you and receiving your comments so that we can improve our Reports further.

Khushi Kabir
Coordinator

CONTENTS

CHAPTER ONE		INTRODUCTION TO NIJERA KORI	1- 4
1.1	Background		1
1.2	Mission Of Nijera Kori		2
1.3	Objectives Of Nijera Kori		2
1.4	Target Group Of Nijera Kori		2
1.5	Management Of Nijera Kori		2
1.6	Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation And Reporting System Of Nijera Kori		3
1.7	Working Area Of Nijera Kori		3
1.8	Intervention Logic Of Nijera Kori For Starting Programme		4
CHAPTER TWO		ORGANISATIONAL ACTIVITIES	5-8
2.1	The Landless Organisation And Its Formation		5
2.2	Group Formation And Members		5
2.3	Group, Representative And Joint Meeting		6
2.4	Workshops		6
2.5	Committee Formation, Meeting And Convention		6
2.6	Group Saving And Bank Account		7
2.7	Joint Economic Activities		7
2.8	Level Of Group Consciousness		8
CHAPTER THREE		TRAINING AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES	9-12
3.1	Training And Culture		9
3.2	Follow Up Of Training		10
3.3	Cultural Activities		10
3.3.1	Week Long 'Padajatra' (Long March)		11
3.3.2	Drama Performance At National Level		11
3.4	Staff Development Activities		12
CHAPTER FOUR		SPECIAL & OTHER ACTIVITIES	13-17
4.1	Special Activities		13
4.1.1	Legal Aid		13
4.1.2	Educational Activity		14
4.1.3	Livestock Development Activity		14
4.1.4	Advocacy and Lobbying Activity		14
4.2	Other Activities		15
4.2.1	Staff Convention		16
4.2.2	Experience Sharing Activity		16
4.2.2.1	The Achievements		16
4.2.2.2	Weaknesses		16
4.2.2.3	Measures Suggested		17
4.2.3	Meeting With The Partner Organisations		17
4.3	Follow Up Activities		17
4.3.1	Training On 'Development, Democracy, Society And Culture'		17
CHAPTER FIVE		IMPACT	18-21
5.1	Strengthened Group Dynamics		18
5.2	Greater Participation In Different Committees And Social Activities		18
5.3	Vindication Of The Rights In Public Resources		19
5.4	Re-Invigorated Movement Of The Marginalised		20
5.5	Access To Local Administration And Other Public And Civic Authorities		20
5.6	Impact Assessed By The Group		20
Figure - 01	Group Structure		5
Figure - 02	Human Development Training		9
Box -01	Graph Analysis: Trend Of Group Formation		5
Box -02	Total Committees		7
Box -03	Table (08) Trend Analysis Of Group Participation In Joint Economic Activity		7
Box -04	Level Of Group Consciousness		8
Box -05	Table (09) (Trend Analysis Of Groups' Consciousness Level)		8
Box -06	Particular Of Victims		13
Box -07	Graph Analysis: Trend Of Cases, Judgment And Groups' Participation		14
CHAPTER SIX		ANNEX	22-43

C **CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION TO NIJERA KORI**

1.1 BACKGROUND:

Nijera Kori (NK) is a well-known activist NGO in Bangladesh. After the famine of 1974, many destitute rural women made their way to the cities in search of food and work. Under such condition, some women took the initiative of training some of these women in food processing activities, from which they were able to generate income. The process gradually resulted in the development of an organisation “Nijera Kori”, which, in Bengali, means, “We do it ourselves”. At its inception, therefore, famine-affected urban destitute women constituted the target group of Nijera Kori and the aim of the organisation was to rehabilitate these women.

During the early period of NGOs, the mainstream NGOs in Bangladesh concentrated on rural social mobilisation to combat the power structure, which brought a strong backlash from the rural elites particularly during the martial law. This was one of the reasons why there was a general move away by the NGOs from the noted aspect and towards concentration on micro-credit. This concentration allowed professionalisation of NGOs and increased tendency of measuring progress in terms of money and quantity. However, it also pushed out of the leading NGOs, a number of people who felt that consciousness raising of the poor held the key to combating the core problems of rural society. NK with its current form and focus was formed in 1980 from a group of such people who had started working at field level concentrating on rural social mobilisation and who felt that the increasingly service-based approach of NGOs would simply create dependency among the clients.

This group brought about a change in the focus of the organisation. It began to concentrate on addressing the situation, which causes poverty and destitution of rural people, rather than temporarily ameliorating, and that too at a surface level, the suffering of those who had fled such circumstances. The organisational objectives of Nijera Kori shifted to the struggle to create a society, free from oppression and deprivation through the establishment of the fundamental rights of the people. In order to achieve this goal, the strategy that NK developed is to make people conscious of their rights and to assist them to develop the collective strength necessary to establish those rights. Under this goal, the target group of NK also expanded from its original concentration, to work with women and men from similar socio-economic backgrounds. NK defines its target group broadly as those men and women who earn their living mainly through physical labour. Its geographical concentration has an emphasis on rural rather than urban areas.

The organisation now has 182,224 group members, of whom more than half are women. It has 378 staff out of which 103 are female and 275 are male staff including 93 support staff from both segments. Its main programme today is the *Social Mobilisation, Voice and Democracy Programme*, which is operational in 17 districts.

1.2 MISSION OF NIJERA KORI:

- NK believes in environment friendly sustainable development process. Leadership development among the organised group is one of the important directions towards that end. In this process they can identify their own production system, surrounding conditions and problems. In other words to develop independent grassroots level people's organisation and to play the role of decision-maker in all spheres of life on the basis of participation.
- Development activities of NK are directed for the establishment of rights of the downtrodden people. NK believes that democratic management is necessary to successfully manage this activity. With this perception NK, imbibes democratic practices through participation and accountability in planning, implementation, evaluation and overall management not only with the groups organised but replicated and practised within the organisation itself.
- Women are an important and integral part of all production process. They are a crucial part of the collective labour force. In order to break the patriarchal value system that finds to acknowledge this reality NK works to change male perception towards women and encourage women to recognise and assert their own position in society and for this NK believes in the establishment of equal rights for men and women in all spheres of life.
- NK feels that real accountable democratic environment is absolutely essential for development. For democracy to be ensured right to information is crusade. In this connection it is necessary to ensure flow of information to all people and to take initiative to establish real accountable democratic management through public hearing and mounting 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 challenge within their own spheres to create a better and more meaningful life for themselves and their immediate community.

1.4 TARGET GROUP OF NIJERA KORI:

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

1.5 MANAGEMENT OF NIJERA KORI (*ORGANOGRAM IN ANNEX A*):

The core value that shaped the management structure and decision-making system of Nijera Kori is participatory democracy. The overall governance of the organisation rests with the General Body, which elects the Governing Body for two years. The Governing Body meets regularly in every 3 months while the General Body holds its General Meeting annually. The Governing Body appoints the Coordinator who is responsible for coordinating the overall programmes and management of Nijera Kori.

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

For linking the grassroots, on the other hand, each Anchal (area structure) has 3-4 sub-centres, which are made up of female and male field staff. They through living collectively in a centre in the field manage

the activities of NK along with the landless people. The landless groups themselves have their own structure for group activities (See Figure 01 and Annex C).

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

1.6 PLANNING, MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REPORTING SYSTEM OF NIJERA KORI:

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

1.7 WORKING AREAS AND NIJERA KORI (DETAILS IN ANNEX MAP- E AND TABLE 01):

From the very inception the NK activists as per organisation's long-term vision started working in the areas that are densely populated by the poor who basically depend on sale of their physical labour daily for their livelihood. Most of these working areas fall in close vicinity of the seacoasts and river basins.

TABLE 01		
NK ACTIVITY AREAS		
Year	2001	2002
Village	1,161	1,194
Union	164	170
Thana	37	37
District	17	17
Division	04	04

Besides, Nijera Kori also works in some specific areas where most of the inhabitants belong to the vulnerable communities i.e. weavers, blacksmiths, tobacco and sugarcane farmers etc. and in the areas where fundamentalism, human right abuse and violation against women are usual phenomenon. Nijera Kori provides enough logistics support to carry out its programmes at field level, coordinate all its activities including regular trainings. Overall activities in the working areas are being managed and coordinated through 50 sub-centres, 15 areas, 04 divisional offices cum training centres located respectively in Tangail (Gala), Bogra (Noongola), Comilla (Chandina) and Khulna (Maniktala). The Head Office of NK is located in Dhaka. *This year the NK activity areas have been expanded in 33 new villages and 06 new unions.*

It is to be noted that, NK has decided to expand its operation and already selected two new areas from the next activity year. The areas respectively are Sribardi Upazilla under Sherpur district and Khoksa Upazilla under Kushtia district. NK decided to undertake activities in these two new areas in response to repeated requests by the local inhabitants who are in a vulnerable situation in every respect i.e. livelihood, land rights, culture, employment etc. In Sribardi, the presence of a number of smaller indigenous groups largely unrepresented in expressing their rights was also a major concern for selection. NGO presence in these areas are minimal although the areas are highly poverty stricken.

1.8 INTERVENTION LOGIC OF NIJERA KORI FOR STARTING PROGRAMMES:

NK has undertaken the current programme in realisation of the following conditions in the programme locations. A region wise brief is given hereunder:

Khulna Division

The majority of the people in Khulna Division, in the south of Bangladesh and close to the border to India, are dependent on agriculture and fishing for their livelihood. Since the early eighties commercial shrimp farming has increased in the area. A few rich people have taken over the cultivable lands and water reservoirs for shrimp farming while the local people lost their livelihood. Problems such as water logging, rise of salinity and decrease of fish in the water system have increased as a consequence. Thus a strong movement against devastating shrimp aquaculture continues in order to re-establish people's rights and livelihood in the area. The influential vested quarters respond with harassment, false cases and violence.

Other problems in the area are underground political groups, criminal activities such as smuggling, and trafficking of children and women. Every year a number of people migrate from the area because of the above-described problems.

Chittagong Division

A major part of our work in Chittagong Division is in the coastal areas. It is a traditional and conservative area where many women observe strict purdah and obscurantist ideas are deeply rooted in society. Establishment of women's rights in the area is therefore a focal issue. Conflicts concerning government owned khas land is another major problem, as the landless women and men began to assert their rightful claim over these lands. This has now become more complex due to the increase of commercial shrimp aquaculture in the area by huge vested interest businessmen, resulting similar problems as in Khulna Division. Also the use of hybrid seeds, chemical fertiliser and pesticides weakened the economy of the local farmers, decreasing fertility of the land and increasing dependency on micro credit programmes often leading to a debt trap.

Dhaka Division

Dhaka Division including the capital with its surrounding districts is a very important area for agricultural products such as vegetables and pineapples. Local people do not get due wages for their products and are therefore forced to take loan from micro credit programmes or from moneylenders.

One specific problem in the area is deforestation of the Modhupur forest and the unplanned sluice gates on canals and natural waterways, which have serious environmental effects. The rise of fundamentalist groups, exhibition of violent and obnoxious films has contributed greatly to the increased harassment of women. Terrorism, rent seeking, atrocities on women and eviction of slum dwellers has become a regular phenomenon. Environmental pollution and forcible occupation of the surrounding agricultural flat lands and water bodies for expanding real estate business and brickfields by the influential businessmen has become a matter of serious concern. Unplanned expansion of the city is also posing threat to the sound living of the dwellers as is unplanned drainage and sewerage system to the public health.

Rajshahi Division

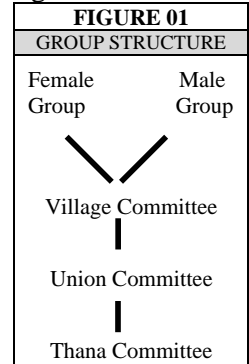
Most of the people in Rajshahi Division, in the north of Bangladesh are economically poor and lack of employment opportunity is the major problem of the region. Every year flood, drought and river erosion increases the number of landless in the area. On the other hand indiscriminate use of hybrid seeds and pesticides in agriculture threaten the traditional production system and make the local farmers more dependent on moneylenders or micro credit programmes.

Other important issues in the area are fundamentalism and continued oppression on women and the use of religious decree *fatwa*.

CHAPTER TWO: ORGANISATIONAL ACTIVITIES

2.1 THE LANDLESS ORGANISATION AND ITS FORMATION:

With a minimum of 16 and maximum 30 members a primary landless group (separately for female and male) is formed. The reason behind having a separate group for women is both for strategic reasons of giving space to women to enable them to empower themselves and also due to the prevailing socio-religious bias, which stresses exclusion and seclusion of women from society. But at a later stage when both women's and men's groups are more ready and able to work together as equals and when committees are formed both female and male members get integrated into one by being gender sensitized and conscious through the organisational process. By expanding such group formation and through covering two third of the targeted population of a particular village, union or thana the committees in those areas are formed (*See figure 01 and annex C*). However, the landless can form additional coordination committees as per need for running organisational activities in a particular area, even though the organised group members fall less than two third of the targeted population. The formation and renewal of the landless' committees at every level is done through annual conventions. In this process the landless organisation gradually get strengthened and achieves a reputable identity, which ultimately ensures its share to the local power structure.

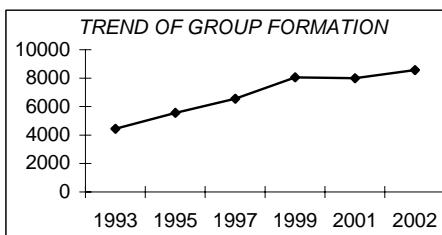


2.2 GROUP FORMATION AND MEMBERS (DETAILS IN ANNEX TABLE 02 & 03):

Achievement Analysis: The average of new group formation during the activity year is 62.89 percent, which was 23.35 percent in the previous year. Obviously the progress is remarkable. Another important

fact is that, although the latest number of NK group members now stands at 182,224 under 102,217 families but the impact of social mobilisation over them is far reaching. As per government statistical analysis (*Source: Statistical Pocket Book, Bangladesh 2000*) each family in our country is comprised of 4.8 persons. From this standpoint a total of 490,641 persons already became part of the NK social mobilisation process.

Description	Group			Member		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Upto March 2001	3,484	4,510	7,994	80,197	90,267	170,464
Plan	436	456	892	8,720	9,120	17,840
Achievement	242	319	561	4,962	6,798	11,760
Grand Total	3,726	4,829	8,555	85,159	97,065	182,224



Remarks: During the year Nijera Kori could fill up most of the staff vacancies as a result of which we could accelerate the activities at field level overcoming the weaknesses of last few years. Above all, restarting of regular trainings after a long interval of many years could generate new spirit and enthusiasm among the staff and group members that increased their diligence and will for collective action. Nonetheless, the staff deficiency as a whole is still remaining.

Also, the new staff are still in the process of learning to carry out NK activities independently. In addition to this, almost in all working areas due to intimidation, initiation of false cases against staff and group members, police harassment and other pressures from the vested quarters the normal pace of organising movements/struggle and implementation of activities is being hindered.

BOX 01 - GRAPH ANALYSIS: TREND OF GROUP FORMATION

Shortage of staff and other relevant adversities affected the group formation process during last few years. River erosion and slum eviction rendered many families homeless and the relevant groups virtually ineffective. These are the reasons why in the graph the trend of group formation from 2000 to 2001 remained static. However, during the current year the trend line is seen up tracked.

2.3 GROUP, REPRESENTATIVE AND JOINT MEETING (DETAILS IN ANNEX TABLE 04 & 05):

Description	Group Meeting			R M	J M	AGM
	Male	Female	Total			
Plan	74,632	97,706	172,338	322	-	-
Achievement	55,073	74,150	129,223	576	501	2,703

R M=Representative Meeting, J M=Joint Meeting, A G M=Annual General Meeting

Achievement Analysis: This year the overall achievement in group meeting is 74.98%. In comparison to that of last year the ratio has increased by 14% in the activity year. It may specially be mentioned that the ratio of arranging group meeting at group's initiative

has increased by 55.07% in comparison to that of previous year (See Table-04). Similarly representatives' meeting and annual general meeting also were implemented more than that of last year. This achievement indicates the continuous effort of the groups towards attaining self-reliance in carrying out their activities.

Remarks: However, the number of group meeting could not be achieved as per plan. The reasons for this are many. Although the number of staff at Nijera Kori has increased following new recruitment, the new recruits are still in the learning process. In addition, group members could not attend the group meetings regularly for a couple of months due to national election and subsequent political changes. During off agricultural season group members migrate from one place to another in search of employment and so during this period holding of group meetings become difficult.

Group meeting at group's initiative		
By gender	2001	2002
Male	11,662	16,671
Female	7,675	13,315
Total	19,337	29,986

2.4 WORKSHOPS (DETAILS IN ANNEX TABLE 05):

Achievement Analysis: The groups emphasize on workshops to evaluate activities and local issues, identify problems and decide remedial measures and above all to strengthen and consolidate the organisation. According to the plan the overall achievement is 118.75%, which is 57.50% higher than that of the previous year.

Description	N	P
Plan	80	2,000
Achievement	95	2,631

(N=Number, P=Participant)

Through the workshops the group members obviously progressed in developing better understanding about the organisation and local issues. Specially the 3 advanced level workshops (2 day long) that were held in Saghata, Khulna and Noakhali are believed to have strengthened the concept and system of "Joint Production Management" among the members. The above 3 areas are known for plenty of khas lands and prospects of groups' joint economic activities where the groups are striving to produce more through joint production system.

Remarks: When the overall NK activities suffered setback for the last few years due to various reasons including financial constraint, the groups strived to overcome the irregularities and again put into order the whole organisational activities. This is the pro-active role of the groups, which is the main reason behind over-achievement of workshop target (See table 05). But noticeable is that, in comparison to that of Rajshahi and Chittagong Division the implementation ratio of Dhaka and Khulna Division is lesser since the amount of activities are also lesser in those 2 divisions as also the working areas.

2.5 COMMITTEE FORMATION, MEETING AND CONVENTION (DETAILS IN ANNEX TABLE 06 & 07):

Description	V	U	T	A
Plan (committee formation)	20	13	01	05
Achievement	09	-	-	-
Plan (convention)	114	10	02	18
Achievement	74	08	02	12
Plan (Committee meeting)	1,375	173	21	288
Achievement	906	143	19	213

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

Achievement Analysis: The target of committee formation could not be achieved as per plan. Only at village level 45% committees have been formed (See box 02). In case of group convention although the target could not be reached fully but in comparison to that of previous year the same has been increased respectively 17.54% at village level, 60% at union level, 50% at thana level and 55.57% at area level. The implementation ratio of overall committee

meetings is 68.98%, which is 9.49% higher than that of the previous year. It is to be noted that the landless organisations of Dhaka, Khulna and Chittagong division through 30 issue based additional committees have been successfully continuing with their struggle/movement on issues i.e. management of khas land and water bodies, resistance against saline water and commercial shrimp aquaculture etc. in cooperation with other regular committees.

Remarks: As per groups' policy, the precondition of forming an organisational committee is to organise two third of the targeted population of the concerned area (See Annex C). The landless organisation emphasizes more on minutely observing the group members' characteristics and conduct before their inclusion into a group than the speedy expansion of the groups' number. So according to policy itself the process of committee formation is a slow but steady process. Due to this reason in some of the areas the targeted population could

not be covered during the activity year, which hindered achievement in committee formation as planned. On the other hand the group conventions usually take place at the end of every calendar year. Due to the national election and subsequent crises the group conventions could not be held in some working areas. Specially in the Khulna Division the landless organisation could not arrange group convention due to excessive intrigues by the shrimp farm owners, initiation of false cases against group members and staff under several anti-people laws including that of the special power act and the continuance of constant harassment by the police.

BOX - 02	
Total Committees	
Village:	127
Union:	16
Thana:	02
Area:	24
Additional:	30

2.6 GROUP SAVING AND BANK ACCOUNT (DETAILS IN ANNEX TABLE 08 &09)

At time of forming a group the group members determine their rate of monthly saving taking into account the financial ability of the poorest member among them. The overall responsibility for collection and preservation of savings lies on the landless organisation. However, the staffs of NK provide necessary advice and mediation if required to the landless. By no means NK plays the role of neither collector nor does

Description	Plan	Achievement
Saving	3,370,680	8,242,266
Bank account	-	280

it keeps their savings.

Achievement Analysis: In comparison to that of plan, achievement in group savings is higher. Similarly achievement in opening new bank accounts for preservation of savings reached to 280 nos. The group

members have been utilizing a portion of their savings to help themselves during various crises they face in their day-to-day life. For instance, they have distributed among themselves a total of TK. 3,214,046 during the year to overcome the dependency on moneylenders or institutional credit net, which appears as means of attaining their self-reliance. On the other hand during the activity year they spent TK. 380,425 from the group savings in various organisational, legal aid, educational and other social welfare activities inside and outside the groups' activity areas (Details in Annex Table 17).

Remarks: Due to reasons mentioned, earlier groups' activities became irregular during the last few years.

But with joint endeavour of staff and groups the activities again could be made regular during the year. As a result, groups saving increased comparatively. However, the groups' bank accounts are not increasing as expected due to following reasons. The main reason is the distance between the bank and working area. Secondly, the bank authority remains reluctant to help open joint bank accounts (group's bank account requires 3 signatories) with such meager amounts the groups can provide.

2.7 JOINT ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES (DETAILS IN ANNEX TABLE 13)

The groups undertake various joint initiatives alongside awareness raising of the people. When a group reaches a certain level of consciousness and accrues a reasonable amount from its savings then it undertakes joint economic activity. The groups have been carrying out their joint economic activities by taking lease of individually owned or khas land/acquiring khas land and water bodies, purchasing rickshaw, livestock etc. as per environment and opportunities available in the activity area. The groups distribute equally among themselves some portion of the profit generated from these joint activities. The remaining portion they preserve in joint account for future activities.

Description	1999	2000	2001	2002
Agriculture	497	340	485	740
Fishery	171	108	122	124
Livestock	135	77	90	136
Rickshaw/Van	32	20	26	62
Shallow	09	16	07	07
Small Business	181	134	186	751

Achievement Analysis: Except the one of shallow (irrigation) the groups' participation has increased in all other sectors in comparison to that of last year (See Table 08). This includes the increase of group number in the following sectors respectively: Agriculture 225, Fishery 02, Livestock 46, Rickshaw/Van 36 and Small Business 565.

BOX 03-Table Analysis (Table 08) TREND OF GROUP PARTICIPATION IN JOINT ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

The table shows that in the year 2000, groups' participation has decreased almost in all sectors of activities. The reasons are: firstly, some groups became inactive due to river erosion, secondly, many lease contracts on khas and individually owned lands and water bodies reached expiry which could not be renewed further. As regard to livestock, at the end of year 2000 the price hike of the same due to Eid festival affected the groups' effort in two ways. During the period the groups sold their livestock for lucrative price, on the other hand they abstained from purchasing the livestock due to the same price hike. As regard to rickshaw/van and small business the decrease took place due to exclusion of many groups that had fallen victims of river erosion. In case of shallow machines the same could not be of proper service in supplying required water in some areas and so the groups sold the shallow machines.

Remarks: Joint economic activities specially agriculture and fish farming depend on occupying khas land and water bodies or on easy lease of the individually owned agricultural land and water bodies. For livestock rearing the main hurdle is unavailability of animal feed and necessary veterinary treatment facility. For small trading of seasonal crops also the space and facilities for their preservation are too limited. In case of rickshaw/van business although the investment is made jointly but the running of the business has to be done individually as required by its nature. As a result the required collective responsibility and practice of collective life is remaining absent due to which the groups also remain reluctant. Above all, all such businesses are seasonal and cease to continue after a certain period. Reinitiating such business depends on overall congenial atmosphere of the next period. Due to these uncertainties the groups are not being able to keep the consistency of joint economic activities.

2.8 LEVEL OF GROUP CONSCIOUSNESS: (DETAILS IN ANNEX TABLE 16)

In NK's perception consciousness means, rational reflection of overall experiences gained through organisational activities. When the state of consciousness of most of the members in a group is found similar as per the criterion defined, then they are put to a particular stratum of groups. These strata of the groups with regard to their level of consciousness are defined as: Primary, Secondary and Final Level. (See Box 04).

Achievement analysis: During the activity year a total of 79 groups have been successfully promoted to

Description	1999	2000	2001	2002
1 st Level	7,347	7,823	7,306	7,788
2 nd Level	715	796	685	764
Final Level	03	03	03	03

the secondary level from the primary stage. But the promotion of groups into final level from the secondary one could not be achieved despite tremendous effort by the groups. Table 09 shows the trend of progress of the groups at different levels.

At the secondary level the trend of progress is found upward during last 2 years although the same remained downward in the year 2001. The reason for this was group members' migration falling prey of river erosion and slum eviction due to which some groups have also been excluded from the statistics. However, at final level the trend of progress remained static.

Remarks: The landless groups ensure the process of change of consciousness level through practical experiences gained from overall activities/struggle in their day-to-day life. Through this process the group members strive to bring about a change in their consciousness level by striking on the outdated ideas and views prevailing in the society. They try to generate progressive ideas and values through this process. This is a lengthy, practice oriented but steady process. However, the group members have to remain busy for their livelihood so much so that they in many cases fail to integrate themselves with the process. Moreover, coming out of the prevailing mindset that is enriched with conditions of traditional social disparity, socio-religious prejudices, parasitic thoughts and ideas inherited through feudal social system, is really a tough job and in such a context achieving higher state of consciousness is very much time-consuming.

BOX 04: LEVEL OF GROUP CONSCIOUSNESS
PRIMARY LEVEL
Groups at this level concentrates on becoming organised, developing basic awareness and ensuring regular attendance at meetings. Group savings and account keeping are given importance in-group activity.
SECONDARY LEVEL
At this level the groups reach a level of social awareness where they can act on behalf of all members of their class within their area, irrespective of their member, non-member identity. They develop accountability and leadership skills and initiate collective action.
FINAL LEVEL
At this level, groups become able to analyse national and global issues and relate these to their own situation. They participate in national rallies and organise rallies in their own localities. Their savings are used for the benefit of the community. They also ensure access to local and national resources for collective production or use through constant movement/struggle. Their leadership is established in the locality.

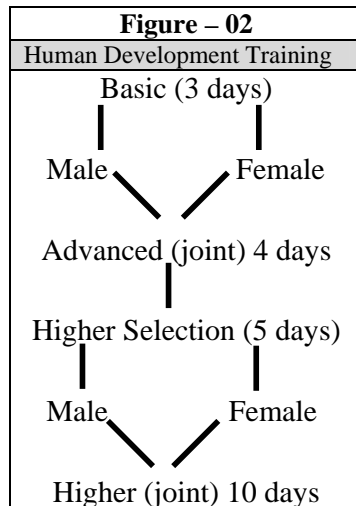
BOX 05 Table 09 (Trend Analysis of Groups' Consciousness Level)

Achieving higher level of consciousness depends on groups' capabilities to reach the level as per criterions defined. A group after its formation immediately becomes part of the 1st level of Groups' Consciousness. To reach the 2nd and Final Level step by step the groups have to achieve some specific experiences and skill getting through some initiatives. (See Box – 04). From Table 09 it can be seen that the trend of groups' consciousness in the period 1999 and 2000 shows upward trend while in the year 2001 there is a downward trend. Again in 2002 the trend went upward. The reasons behind the downward trend in 2001 are river erosion, slum eviction etc. due to which some groups at primary and secondary levels went scattered and ineffective and as a result they have been excluded from the statistics. However, it is seen that at final level the trend of change is remaining static. It may be noted that promotion into the final level depends not only on a particular group's consciousness or activities, but also on the positive trend and change of local socio-economic conditions based on which access to local and national resources and leadership of the group is recognised in that particular area. In the activity year although the number of such promotion is few but it is evident from the trend that the change is positive which is continuously getting reflected in groups' collective actions and movements/struggles of the landless.

CHAPTER THREE: TRAINING AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

3.1 TRAINING AND CULTURE: (DETAILS IN ANNEX TABLE 10)

Human development training is held taking 20-25 female/male participants in each of the training events. At the basic level the training is imparted to female and male members separately while at the advanced level the same is imparted jointly. Again at the higher selection level, it is organised separately and at the higher level, jointly (See figure –02). This is the strategy that NK has been following so far to provide training to both female and male members. Given the prevailing socio-religious condition trainings are organised separately with a view to create an open environment specially for women so that they can interact freely with other fellow participants which in presence of male members becomes uncomfortable.



Afterwards both female and male members are taken together during the advanced level training to create scope of reciprocal interaction for both the participants so that they can develop a greater understanding and overcome gender bias. The same process is followed at the higher selection and the higher training level for the same reason. In the same vein, a few more trainings are also undertaken based on the specific demand of groups from the working areas. Organising joint cultural training at basic and advanced level with participation of 20 female and male cultural group members is an instant at point. Trainings on issues like "Leadership Development", "Joint Production Management" and "Right of Access to Information" are being imparted to a group of 20-25 participants both female and male who once were given basic training and are prominent among the members. On the other hand, in Rajshahi, Khulna and Chittagong Divisions, specially in coastal areas and polders, livestock training (basic and advanced) is imparted to promote the traditional way of livestock rearing, ensure vaccination and emergency treatment. The

participants are those who are deprived of every opportunity provided by the government. Furthermore, Para-legal trainings are also provided in those working areas where the group members fall victim of various false cases, human rights abuses and related harassments. Help from the well wishers and supportive lawyers are usually sought and taken for imparting these Para-legal trainings.

Achievement Analysis: Implementation ratio of the training activities during the year may be counted 100% except 01 basic livestock training that could not be implemented (See Table 10). 20-25 members usually participate in a training. From that count, the number of participants during the training is satisfactory. Even in some cases the number of participants was more than it was planned. It may be noted that, participants at the last session of training formulated an elaborate plan concerning their role and responsibility in all organisational activities, being driven by their own realisation and commitment reinforced through the trainings. The participants instantly composed songs, poetry, and drama etc. from the issues discussed which they later presented before the audience. This may be considered as an immediate outcome of trainings while the long-term outcome may get reflected in overall activities in usual process. Before the formalisation, groups are mobilised by these trained members preliminarily. These members regularly participate in other group meetings also for exchanging their learning and experiences. Another fact is that the higher cultural training had been organised this year after many years of interval although the same was not in plan. The most significant aspect of it was the joint participation of the staff and the group members. Because of the training the group members could produce 2 dramas, which they later staged before a discerning audience in Dhaka comprising of intellectuals and

TABLE 10 (TRAINING ACTIVITIES)				
Description of Training	Plan		Achievement	
	N	P	N	P
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT TRAINING				
Basic	46	1,150	46	1,022
Advanced	12	300	12	248
Higher Selection	07	175	07	143
Higher	01	25	01	23
CULTURAL TRAINING				
Basic	04	80	04	72
Advanced	01	20	01	24
Higher	-	-	01	25
OTHER TRAININGS				
Leadership Development	04	100	04	105
Joint Production Management	04	100	04	97
Right to Information	04	100	04	95
Para Legal	30	750	30	768
LIVESTOCK				
Basic	08	200	07	177
Advanced	04	100	04	82
<i>N= Number, P= Participant</i>				

drama personalities. Rati Bartholomew, previously faculty at the National School of Drama, New Delhi and a well-known cultural activist from India formulated the training. Rati had personally conducted NK Cultural Trainings in the past.

Remarks: *As trainings remained suspended for quite a long time due to financial constraint, demand and necessity for their reinstatement was raised and felt by both the groups and staff of NK. Therefore, targeted trainings could be implemented in full swing. However, one basic livestock training of Paikgacha area, which was scheduled to be held in October 2001, could not be implemented due to the national election held at the same time. Although the higher cultural training was not in the plan but following huge demand from the groups for strengthening the cultural movement the same had to be organised. Furthermore, the availability of Rati Bartholomew in Bangladesh during the period ensured and quickened the arrangement of this training.*

3.2 FOLLOW UP OF TRAINING:

After imparting training to the group members, the follow up of the same is done through the following strategies. Firstly, in group meetings NK encourages trained members to analyse and summarise the discussion held. Secondly, regular refreshers' trainings at the field level are organised with the trainees.

DESCRIPTION	P	A
Refresher Training	62	71
Participant	1,552	1,632
Training forum meeting	420	402
P= PLAN, A=ACHIEVEMENT		

Thirdly, training forums are formed usually consisting of 10 trained members.

Achievement Analysis: In case of refreshers' training the implementation ratio is 14.52% higher than the plan. At the same time number of participants also increased (See Table 11). On the other hand, the 35 training forums through regular meeting,

discussion, debate, and self-assessment are playing an active role in the struggle/movements to establish rights of the downtrodden.

Remarks: *Basically, weaknesses are found among the group members in analyzing reasons and also having an in-depth understanding on the issues, which happened due to irregular activities and longtime break in conducting trainings. So based on trainees (group members) demand, refreshers' trainings were held more than that of plan.*

3.3 CULTURAL ACTIVITIES:

A cultural group is formed through a weeklong discussion by the culturally aware group members who discuss the issues among themselves 2/3 hours a day.

Description	P	A
Meeting	528	629
Drama	153	256
Discussion	88	101
Padajatra	04	03
Function	-	328
(P=Plan, A=Achievement)		

Achievement Analysis: Till date a total of 47 cultural groups are playing active role at field level. Except the case of weeklong Padajatra other cultural activities have been overachieved than that of plan (See Table 12). These include increase of implementation ratio in the following activities in comparison to that of previous year i.e. 38.07% increase in Cultural group meetings, 79.08% in Drama, 55.68% in Cultural discussions and 86.36% in Cultural functions. Through these cultural activities based on

local issues like injustice, atrocities against the poor, violence against women, human rights abuses and environmental degradation etc. the cultural groups have been striving to awaken and encourage the masses for their greater involvement in peoples' movement. The groups also celebrated various days of national and international importance (including Korunamoyee Martyr's Day and Rokeya Day which were marked by mammoth gathering) through which they could imbibe and promote the spirit of liberation war, patriotism and express solidarity with other national and international movements aimed towards freedom of mankind from all sorts of deprivation. In addition, groups could organise weeklong padajatra and a performance at Dhaka's main theatre that contributed significantly to strengthen and speed up the cultural movement (See for details, contents serial 3.3.1 & 3.3.2).

Remarks: *The landless organisation emphasized on reorienting the cultural groups and consolidating activities rather than forming new groups during the activity year. Therefore, formation of new cultural groups was not planned. With restarting of cultural trainings (See Table 08) after a prolonged gap the groups got strengthened and revived. As a result, overall cultural activities have been overachieved. It may specially be mentioned that the Drama performance at national level was the significant outcome of higher cultural training and it was held with a view to raise the voice of grassroots masses at national level.*

3.3.1 WEEK LONG 'PADAJATRA' (LONG MARCH)

The cultural groups of Tangail and Modhupur area under Dhaka Division and of Gangnee area under Khulna division could organise 3 weeklong cultural procession/long march (padajatra) with help of the landless groups. A total of 11 cultural groups participated in the padajatra. Just with help of 4/5 rickshaw/vans to carry the musical instruments and other necessary goods, hundreds of poor women and men of the groups participated in the procession covering 187 km pathways on foot. They performed 29 open-staged functions like mass drama and music, open discussion etc. at various public places (hat/bazaar & school premises) throughout 86 villages. The villagers arranged board and lodging for the participants at the local school premises and collected from among themselves the rice, pulses, vegetables, fish, and utensils etc. for them. The group members themselves provided about 80% of the total expenses by collecting donation and subscription. About 1000/1500 women and men attended each of the functions. It deserves special mention that, during such a cultural function at Jagira Chala Bazaar of Modhupur Thana the fundamentalists tried to obstruct it but failed to do so confronting tremendous protest from the participating masses. In almost every area local Rickshaw Driver's Association, Baby Taxi Driver's Association, Hat/Bazaar Committee etc. extended their unconditional support to the organisers. This has added new spirit to the endeavour of the landless.

OPINION OF RATNA BEGUM

Housewife Ratna Begum (non-member), 23, of Pankata village. She came to enjoy the cultural function at Jagira Chala Bazaar with her little baby at her lap. She expressed, "such an event had never been organised in this village, if Jatras. (folk plays) are held sometimes I cannot watch because of obscenity and social barriers. Sometimes I go and watch movie in the TV of my neighbours. The fighting, dances, fun and frolics of the cine stars are useless. But today I could watch and listen the story of sorrows, pains and struggle of our life and also of exploitation and discrimination towards the poor". With emotional outburst she cited, "society's obvious duty is to create obstacles in all good works. Does the society cares about us or feed us?"

3.3.2 DRAMA PERFORMANCE AT NATIONAL LEVEL:

"Listen to the voices of deprived masses, keep your hand on the ever flowing stream of their grassroots culture and so let them be inspired and flourished" – with this clarion call the Drama Performance of the landless cultural groups was held on 13 March 2002 at the Mohila Samity Manch (Women Association Auditorium), Dhaka. Two plays were performed in the event. These two plays were adopted from the works of two well-known writers. One is '*Khet Mojurer Kabyo*' (the poem of the agriculture labour) a poem by one of our leading poets Nirmalendu Goon, and the other from a short story titled '*Spot*' by upcoming writer Ishaque Khan. This was the first time that the landless groups and our staff could competently interpret to an audience comprising of Dhaka's intellectuals and literary persons. Both the authors present at the performance were very moved and expressed their sense of fulfillment at their writings having reached the masses. Through such initiatives the grassroots are being able to raise their voice at national level.

To express solidarity with the landless masses distinguished personalities such as litterateurs, teachers, journalists, women leaders, human rights and development activists, political and cultural activists and many other distinguished individuals as well as the NK's Governing Body and the authors themselves participated in the function. Eminent personalities of national repute participated in the open discussion. Expressing firm determination in line with the discussants the event concluded with the slogan "For liberation the lone way is struggle, continuous struggle".

OPENING AND EXCERPTS

The drama festival began with the opening speech of the chairman of Executive Committee of NK. According to the discussants, "although the plays started from two different perspectives, but the coherent message is that the only way to emancipate the deprived masses from the aggression of capitalism, open market economy and globalisation is nothing but to change the present social structure".

3.4 STAFF DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES:

NK has a comprehensive staff development strategy, which the organisation has been applying for staff development from the beginning. As part of this development strategy schooling is a must in all regular meetings i.e. weekly, monthly group and staff meetings, divisional and executive council meetings etc. In view of providing sufficient information and reading materials to the groups and staff NK has established libraries in all training centres. Reading and idea sharing on a regular basis is mandatory for all the staff and is an integral part of the staff development process. In all group trainings all staff alternately have to participate as observer, beside their mandatory participation in the staff development trainings of primary, secondary and higher level.

Remarks: Due to prolonged financial crisis almost 85% of the regular meetings, group and staff development trainings had to be suspended for last few years. As a result NK had to break the continuity in its staff development effort. However, with a view to overcome this drawback the following measures were undertaken during the activity year.

ACTIVITIES:

- Emphasis was given on holding of regular meetings, activity evaluation sessions and imparting staff development trainings at all levels.
- For the new recruits 3 primary level staff development trainings were organised where 89 new recruits participated.
- After judging the state of staff's consciousness 3 secondary level staff development trainings were organised where 93 staff participated.
- 01 higher-level staff development training was organised with participation of 29 staff.
- A total of 14 staff were provided with higher cultural trainings.
- The suggestions and findings of the staff that participated in the above trainings were incorporated in the training modules. These modules were proved to be helpful in attaining expected experiences and lessons by the staff. It is observed that the staff are becoming more conscious and realising their responsibilities competently in line with the trainings imparted.
- With a view to strengthen the capabilities of the central training cell and also to smoothen the coordination between various sections of the organisation some training sessions at central and divisional level were organised. Similarly, an opinion sharing session to discuss entire gamut of NK trainings was also organised at central office with the initiative of central training cell. Kamla Bhasin from India played the role of moderator in the session.
- A 02-day workshop on information and reporting system of Nijera Kori was also held on 12-13 July 2001 where a total of 34 staff participated. The workshop was organised with a view to scientifically methodise and improve the whole information management and reporting system of NK. As a result, the participants could build an integrated view and structure on the proposed system of information and reporting including, information collection, dissemination and preservation and also ascertaining the impacts of overall NK activities. Dr. Naila Kabeer from IDS, UK, conducted the workshop.

CHAPTER FOUR: SPECIAL & OTHER ACTIVITIES

4.1 SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

4.1.1 LEGAL AID (DETAILS IN ANNEX TABLE 15):

Through constant struggle and movements the landless organisation is being able to strengthen and speed up the effort of establishing rights of the masses. The more the voice and demands of the grassroots are being recognised in society the more the vested groups are striving to alienate this voice from the society and rift the grassroots leadership through various intrigues, false cases, police harassment and intimidation. Primarily the false cases are taken care of by the group members using their own savings. If the groups become incapable of running the cases then Nijera Kori provides legal aid support.

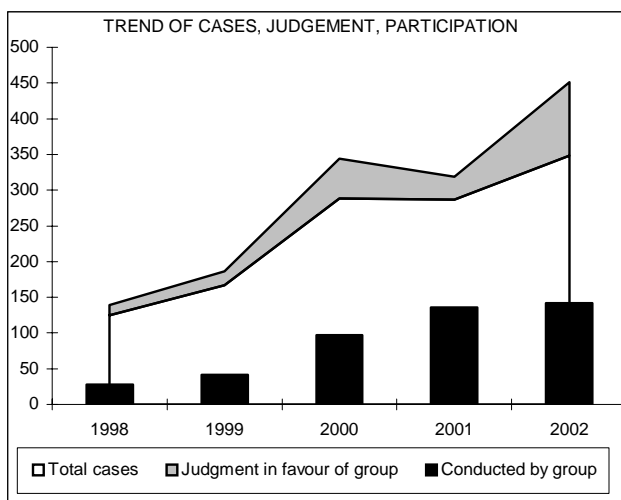
DESCRIPTION	2001-02
Till March 2001	287
New cases	127
Settled cases	103
Judgment in favour of group	93
Appeal cases	37
Total cases	348
Conducted by groups	142
Supported by NK	206

Achievement Analysis: Out of 103 settled cases 93 were settled in favour of the landless groups, which is 90.02% of the total settled cases. The groups also conducted by themselves 142 cases out of total 348, which is 40.81% of the total. They spent a total of TK. 125,572 to conduct those cases and TK. 41,572 to support the families of the arrested group members for their livelihood.

Remarks: Out of 127 new cases the groups filed only 11. These too are mainly regarding violence against women and against illegal shrimp farming. Out of total 37 appeal cases the groups took only 10

to the higher court for review of the given judgments. It is to be emphasized here that the groups file their cases based on actual facts/incidences for ensuring justice, on the other hand the opponents (feudal elites, land grabbers, shrimp farm owners etc.) file their cases just to harass and destabilise the groups' strength. As a result the group members are becoming the worst sufferers of these false cases.

Due to these false cases the victim becomes the loser not only in terms of money and time but also of his livelihood causing tremendous suffering to him and his family members. Following court's order the accused has to appear before the judge for hearing and for it he has to spend a major portion of his working days of a month (*See Box 06*). As a result the victims cannot sell their daily labour during those days, which is the only source of livelihood for them. In addition, they have to spend a major portion of their hard-earned money to meet up the expenses relating to these cases. Such cases of victimization are plenty in the NK working areas.



BOX 06: PARTICULARS OF VICTIMS

CHITTAGONG DIVISION

Name: Dulal Member, Village: Char Sullukia
Upazilla: Sudharam, District: Noakhali
Number of cases: 13, Distance of court: 14 km.
Monthly average appearance at court: 15 days
Extra days lost for conducting cases: 04 days
Average monthly expenses: Taka 550

DHAKA DIVISION

Name: Haidar Ali, Village: Ukharia Bari
Upazilla: Modhupur, District: Tangail
Number of cases: 07, Distance of court: 65 km.
Monthly average appearance at court: 08 days
Extra days lost for conducting cases: 02 days
Average monthly expenses: Taka 725

KHULNA DIVISION

Name: Jahanara Begum, an NK Group member and elected UP member in Dumuria Union Parishad
Village: Dumuria, Upazilla: Dumuria
District: Khulna
Number of cases: 06, Distance of court: 30 km.
Monthly average appearance at court: 10 days
Extra days lost for conducting cases: 04 days
Average monthly expenses: Taka 1,200

RAJSHAHI DIVISION

Name: Abdul Gafur, Village: Bara Daudpur
Upazilla: Sadullyapur, District: Gaibandha
Number of cases: 07, Distance of court: 51 km.
Monthly average appearance at court: 08 days
Extra days lost for conducting cases: 03 days
Average monthly expenses: Taka 700

BOX 07 - GRAPH ANALYSIS: TREND OF CASES, JUDGMENT AND GROUPS' PARTICIPATION

The graph shows that the number of cases is increasing every year. The number has radically increased during the year 1999 – 2000. The reason behind was massive shrimp farming that was introduced in Noakhali area for the first time. When protested by landless groups the shrimp farm owners filed numerous cases against the group members and NK staff. But in most of the cases judgments were delivered in favour of group members, as seen in the graph. During the period 2001-2002 the number of cases and also the judgments in favour of groups have increased in comparison to that of 1999 – 2000. This increase is an obvious outcome of rising strength of peoples' collective voice. Such increase of judgments (in favour of the groups) proves that most of the cases filed against the group members were basically false and intentional. The graph also shows that the groups at their own initiative are tackling more cases every year in line with the growing number of new cases. Comparatively from 2000 onwards the ratio of tackling cases at groups' initiative has increased.

4.1.2 EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITY :

Description	Number	Male	Female
Primary School	15	3,226	2,021
Junior High School	04	259	132
Night School	06	307	178

Landless organisations establish schools at their own initiative using group savings and collecting social subscription. Through such a noble initiative they have been running educational programmes in those activity areas where the government sponsored educational institutes are unavailable. In addition to this, the group members with the help of local students and literate elders practice reading and writing during the group meetings.

4.1.3 LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY:

Description	Plan	Achievement
Vaccination	80,410	40,112
Medical Treatment	4,450	3,545

Because of negligence and at times corruption by government officials, the grassroots are being deprived of all opportunities more so in the coastal belts of the country. Based on specific demand of the landless groups the above programme was undertaken in the coastal region of Paikgacha and Charjabbar – the very remote areas far from the upazilla headquarter and beyond reach of any civic amenity and opportunity. With a view to inspire the group members in livestock rearing following indigenous methodology, the programme is being carried out from the Noongola Training Centre.

Remarks: Due to shortage in supply of vaccines from the concerned government authority and also shortage of skilled staff the expected target could not be reached.

4.1.4 ADVOCACY AND LOBBYING ACTIVITY:

- On the occasion of 11th death anniversary of Martyred Korunamoyee (7 November 2001) a video documentary was made. The same has also been telecasted in the 'Prekkhapat Programme' of ETV. As a result the role and supreme sacrifice of Korunamoyee in the struggle against commercial shrimp could be made heard to a wide range of audience at home and abroad.
- The well-known and globally seen channel TV5 has a monthly programme on Environment and Water called Thalassa. In February, Thalassa featured Bangladesh, where NK and its campaign against commercial shrimp aquaculture was largely featured.
- NK organised a weeklong ISA Net meet in Bangladesh in April 2001 where the ISA Net members from Honduras, USA, Thailand, India, Malaysia and Indonesia participated. A steering committee meeting, conference in the Sundarbans, field visit and a workshop in Khulna were also included in the programme. They also met with concerned Ministers and Donors during their visit. The meet ended in Dhaka with a press conference where the ISA Net gave concern about overall environmental degradation, Sundarban biodiversity and commercial shrimp aquaculture in Bangladesh.
- **'Voices through colour': art and poetry workshop and exhibition:**
Last year a painting exhibition of the grassroots women and men and school children was held in 22 polder of Paikgacha area. The participants in light of their practical experience painted their thoughts on adverse affects of commercial shrimp, life struggle of the local people, human rights abuses, mangrove forest and various other relevant issues. With a view to promote a pro-people campaign worldwide some exhibitions were arranged in 06 important cities in Sweden taking all these paintings together. As part of it a weeklong exhibition titled "voices through colour" was organised at the Chitrak Galary in Dhaka. At the opening ceremony the landless cultural group from polder 22 staged a drama based on issues relating

to abuses of their human rights. In the opening session Borhan Uddin Khan Jahangir was the chief guest while eminent painter Rafiqun Nabi and the chairperson of NK executive committee Nurul Islam Khan were present as special guests. The ETV telecasted the exhibition in their evening news. National newspapers too published the news of exhibition. To sustain this creative and consciousness raising activity NK has formed a committee named 'Environment Conscious Painters' Committee' in the polder 22. The money earned from the exhibition was preserved in the joint bank account of the committee. This money will support the next programmes of the committee.

▣ **Participation in 'stakeholder committees' of MOHFW:**

To Support the initiative of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Nijera Kori has joined in its 12 stakeholder committees since 1999. The committees are operational in four divisions of NK out of which 04 at thana level (in Modhupur, Bagatipara, Dumuria and Sudharam thana) and remaining 08 at union level. These committees are participating in implementation of the government run HPSP programmes, monitoring the health services activities, identifying problems, collecting overall information and disseminating the same among the peoples. Through this process the committees are promoting joint initiative of landless peoples and partners and also strengthening the process of mutual cooperation. It is to be noted that many high-level government officials visited the thana level activity areas to share opinion and gather experience and directly participated in activities of the committees. On the other hand the committee members also attended 07 national level workshops organised by the Ministry and the partners to evaluate the strategy of health services activities. This process of participation and sharing is ongoing. Furthermore, the government and the donors organised experience-sharing meeting for 03 consecutive times during the year to formulate next 05 years plan. The grassroots expressed their strong voice and opinion in those meetings.

▣ **Workshop on democracy and participatory development:**

During last activity year NK organised the workshops (Democracy and participatory development) in 16 thanas, which were attended by the government officials, public leaders and professional groups and also the grassroots people. The government officials and public leaders stressed on organizing such workshop more frequently considering its importance. In the areas where the workshops were held the amity and mutual cooperation among the members in all activities has been improved, flow of information smoothed and accountability practiced.

4.2 OTHER ACTIVITIES:

Apart from the above activities NK has undertaken several other activities, which are as follows:

- ➔ NK helped the organising of a workshop titled 'Women at Work: Reality versus Practice' by Green Valley Shelter on the occasion of International Women's Day.
- ➔ NK helped make a short video film titled 'Mother and Daughter' on the occasion of International Women's Day with a view to encourage joint movement of women and men to establish gender equality in the society. Various issues concerning women and their struggle were brought to focus in the video.
- ➔ NK helped initiate a small study titled 'Study on the impact of Social Mobilisation Process on the Rural Poor in Nijera Kori Working Area' by the 'Bangladesh Research and Publication'.
- ➔ Based on the project document prepared by Naila Kabeer on Nijera Kori for DFID, Nijera Kori requested Naila Kabeer to use the notes and the document, to rewrite NK's experiences in a more readable form. Professor Kabir's quick and punctual response resulted in NK's own publication titled 'We Don't Do Credit' which is now being quite widely circulated. Since research works on this field are very few it is expected that the book of Dr. Kabeer might be of great help for the students, development activists, researchers, teachers and intellectuals of various fields.
- ➔ The Global Greengrant Fund allocated funds to NK in order to help NK conduct a study on availability of fresh ground water in Polder 22, Khulna as a possible measure to counter shrimp aquaculture and increase agriculture, food production. The study is underway.

4.2.1 STAFF CONVENTION:

From the very inception NK considered the Staff Convention as a very important concomitance for ensuring and rationalizing staff's share and participation in all NK activities. For evaluation of previous activities, policies and strategies, preparing new plan based on evaluation as well as electing new office bearers the staff convention is held in every alternate year. Beforehand the staff organise Annual Staff Meeting in every anchal (area). To discuss the proposals of these meetings in a wider domain, 04 Divisional Staff Conventions were held during the activity year. The divisional conventions were followed by the Central Staff Convention that was held during the year to adopt final decision and formulate plan of action based on the issues identified and proposals discussed. It is to be noted that, although the central staff convention could not be held in previous three years due to financial constraint, the divisional staff conventions were held regularly.

4.2.2 EXPERIENCE SHARING ACTIVITY:

In addition to normal evaluation activities, NK undertakes regular experience sharing sessions in order to have more intensive evaluation, identify problems and define measures in which cross sections of NK staff from different regions participate. Due to financial constraint the same could not be implemented for last few years. During the activity year, the event was implemented along with 48 staff who being divided into 14 groups participated the daylong experience sharing sessions in each activity area.

IMPORTANT ASPECTS THAT WERE IDENTIFIED THROUGH THE STAFF CONVENTIONS AND EXPERIENCE SHARING SESSIONS:

4.2.2.1 The Achievements:

- The follow up process of various strategic instruments such as joint participation of group members and staff in formulating plans, evaluating the prevailing environment, circumstances and self-strengths, shouldering collectively the planned organisational activities etc. has accelerated.
- Joint initiative of groups and staff in implementing activities has increased.
- Annual group meetings and group conventions helped accelerate the organisational process.
- Participation of women specially in leadership for struggle/movements has increased. Similarly, participation of civil society and other professional groups in the movements of landless also increased.
- In NK working areas incidences of violence, atrocities and various other injustices have decreased in relation to other areas of Bangladesh and from previous years. In the aftermath of national election although some stray incidences were noticed, as a whole communal harmony and peace was prevalent in all NK working areas due to groups' collective endeavour.
- The Long March (weeklong cultural procession) could reinvigorate the cultural movement of the landless groups and inspired hundreds of participants to remain culturally active.
- The group leaderships are being able to debate and exchange ideas on various issues with the local administration. They are representing the grassroots' voice in various policy and strategy related meetings of the government.
- Participation of the trained group members in the field level activities increased and they are playing a positive role in strengthening the organisation by promoting group dynamics.

4.2.2.2 WEAKNESSES:

- Inability of organising regular trainings, workshops and other important activities due to financial constraint and shortage of staff led to inconsistency in organisational activities.
- Weaknesses are visible in organising weekly group meetings on regular basis.
- Failure in imparting staff development training for a long time due to economic crisis resulted into deficiency of skill among the staff.
- The issue based struggle/movements of the landless groups although were organised at Dhaka, Sandwip, Dinajpur, Tangail, Ramgati and Gangni working areas but these couldn't prove to be sufficient to keep the pace of grassroots movement more even and consistent.
- General weaknesses are prevailing in case of information collection and its preservation.
- In all working areas cultural activities are not expanding as per expectation.
- Undertaking of joint economic activities in the working areas is not up to the expectation.

4.2.2.3 MEASURES SUGGESTED:

- Process of ensuring accountability and transparency at all levels (i.e. staff, group members and their leaderships, representatives etc.) and in all activities from planning to implementation must be strengthened and the drawbacks, loopholes that hindered achieving the target must be identified.
- The weekly group meetings must be ensured and streamlined in organisational operation.
- Emphasis should be given to continuity rather than expansion of the activities, programmes in order to strengthen and consolidate the process of development.
- The issues and areas of activities should be prioritized on the basis of organisational need and importance. At field level important issues should be identified through various meetings, workshops and joint initiative of the groups and staff to organise movement/struggle on those issues must be ensured.
- In order to accelerate the process of staff development specific subject based and intensive study session in all meetings must be ensured.
- As per guidelines of last year's workshop a coordinated system for collection, documentation and dissemination of information between central and field set ups must be introduced through proper consultation with all the concerned and assessing the needs of the organisation.
- Group members must be activated and inspired through regular discussion on the importance of cultural movement. The incident oriented approach of the cultural groups must be changed into programme-oriented approach and cultural activities be carried out in a continuous process.

4.2.3 MEETING WITH THE PARTNER ORGANISATIONS:

Partners meetings are usually held once in every two years at a suitable date mutually agreed upon by NK and its partners. During the year, holding of this meeting was originally scheduled for October 2001. Due to September 11, the meeting could not be held in time, as many of our non-resident partners were unable to attend it. However, a daylong discussion session was organised with the representatives of partners i.e. The Swallows, DFID, Christian Aid and Inter Pares who were present during that time in Bangladesh. A full-fledged meeting was organised with all the partner organisations and senior NK staff, which was held on 9-11 March 2002. In this meeting along with stocktaking of NK activities and sharing views of the partners, issues relating to future strategy and mutual cooperation and support to NK were also discussed.

IMPORTANT DECISIONS:

- To strengthen the process of mutual coordination and support and with a view to simplify this process a day long meeting at Dhaka in the first year and a 02 days meeting in NK field the next year would be held.
- As proposed by NK the partners will accept the April-March period as financial year of the organisation instead of July-June period.

4.3 FOLLOW UP ACTIVITIES:

Training on 'development, democracy, society and culture'

Following request of the Swallows-Sweden NK conducted a 12 days training on the above subject at Thana Para Swallows Development Society (TSDS), Rajshahi. The training was held in 03 phases respectively on 08-11, 13-16 and 17-20 January 2002 where a total of 123 trainees participated. The objective of the training was to make the governing body, representative council and the general staff of TSDS more aware and analytic towards the issues of development, democracy, society and culture. Another intension was to strengthen the democratic process by inspiring them to instill the values of participatory democracy in their day-to-day life, in their family and the organisation.

CHAPTER FIVE: IMPACT

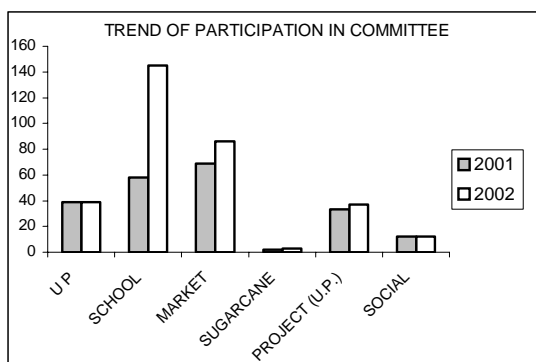
Though for various valid reasons, several of its planned activities could not reach the annual targets, NK believes that the activities of this year would make positive impact in the movement for empowerment of the poor and the marginalised in the country. The different need based activities of this year also would make complementary impact in this regard in achieving the overall objective i.e. strengthening democracy and democratic movement in the country by empowering the poor, disadvantaged and the marginalised. The impacts and concrete results that NK's activities of this year would make may be presented in the following broad categories;

- Strengthened group dynamics among the members;
- Greater participation of the landless in different institutional committees and social activities;
- Vindication of the rights of the poor and the marginalised in public resources;
- Re-invigorated movement of the marginalised for their rights.
- Access to local administration and other public and civic authorities.

5.1 STRENGTHENED GROUP DYNAMICS:

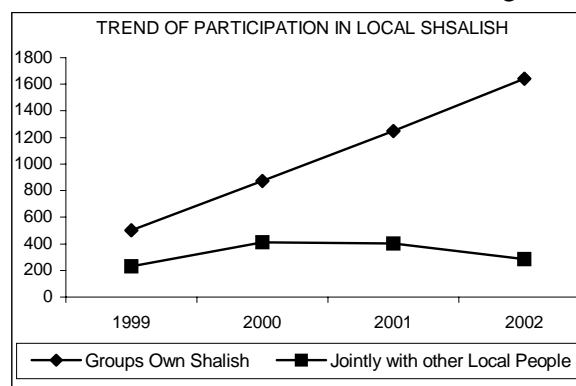
- Group activities have been expanded in 33 new villages and 06 new unions (*Details in Annex Table 01*)
- A total of 182,224 male and female group members under 102,217 families (1 family 1 member basis) have been organised. Naturally other family members too of the organised group members may get influenced and become part of the social mobilisation process. From that count a total of 490,641 family members are being able to ensure their participation in the whole social mobilisation process (*Also see 2.2 of Chapter Two for details*).
- A total of 2,703 groups could organise annual meeting and a total of 96 committees could formulate plan, evaluate previous activities and define necessary measures through organising group convention at village, union, thana and area level (*Details in Annex Table 04 & 07*).
- The groups could form 09 new village committees in the activity areas (*Details in Annex Table 06*).
- The groups could open 280 new bank accounts in the activity areas. In addition, male 381, female 523, total 904 groups could undertake joint economic activities newly. As a result the group members are being able to practice and culture the ideals of joint management, equal labour, equitable distribution system etc. Thus the values of collectivism are being flourished in the mindset of the group members. Above all, the profit earned from these activities is playing a supporting role to the group members in achieving economic solvency and self-reliance (*Details in Annex Table 13*).
- During the activity year the groups could strengthen the partnership and cooperation among groups and outside groups by spending a total of TK. 486,866 from their savings in various programmes/events relating to social unity and culture. In addition, a total of 1697 group members served voluntarily in implementing various social welfare activities (*Details in Annex Table 17*).
- Male 46, female 33, total 79 groups have been promoted newly to the secondary level from the primary one (*Details in Annex Table 16*).

5.2 GREATER PARTICIPATION IN DIFFERENT COMMITTEES AND SOCIAL ACTIVITIES:



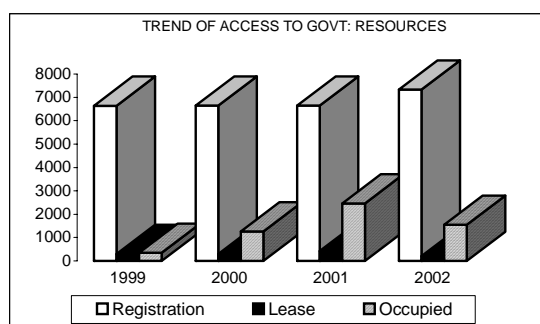
The group members are now routinely represented in different social and institutional committees; such as, Union Parishad/Municipality, School Management Committee, Market Management Committee, Sugarcane Purchase Committee and Project Management Committee under Union Parishad etc. NK reckons this as an encouraging step forward in genuinely empowering the poor of the country through which they are now capable of participating in the decision-making process, most of which are so instrumental and crucial in their day-to-day struggle

for survival. The instances of such participation have increased this year in comparison to previous years. Particularly participation of women in the electoral process of different social and institutional committees has significantly increased and they are being elected easily in both the open and reserved posts of those committees (*Details in Annex Table –18*). One of the cruellest forms of tragedy in our current society is the minimal lack of access of the poor to the judicial system of the country. But their growing protest to the injustices and participation in the different trial and arbitration (salish) in village is an encouraging indication of their rising awareness and protesting voices. In all arbitration (salish) cases the landless are ensuring their presence (*Details in Annex Table 19*). The previous dilly-dallying traditional process of settling the cases by the rural elites is being challenged due to this participation and delivery of justice has become faster. The rising participation of the women in these trials and arbitration is another encouraging indication in an otherwise traditionally all male domain. In fact, in many cases the women singularly handle these trials. On the other hand, most of the members of the Health Watch



Committees (HWC) popularly known as Stakeholder Committee formed with the initiative of government are being elected from the landless groups. The election takes place in presence of government officials and other civil society members. This participation helped increase the accountability of government health service providers as a result of which grassroots poor are turning up to the government hospitals/clinics and health officials are being compelled to remain present in their duties which was never a regular phenomenon before. Encouraged by the members of the HWC the local private dispensaries too are discouraging the selling of medicines that are usually distributed free of cost by the government to the general public (*Reference: "Incorporation of Community's Voice into Health and Population Sector Programme of Bangladesh for its Transparency and Accountability", an ICDDR, B Working Paper No. 148*). For preparing the next five years plan also the members of these committees are being invited to provide their input and share experiences in various sessions arranged by the government and donor communities. NK firmly believes that this rising tide of the voices of the poor would result with a society free from many of the societal evils that are infesting our current surrounding environment. In fact, these voices must be properly encouraged and further supported (*Details in Annex Table-23*).

5.3 VINDICATION OF THE RIGHTS IN PUBLIC RESOURCES:



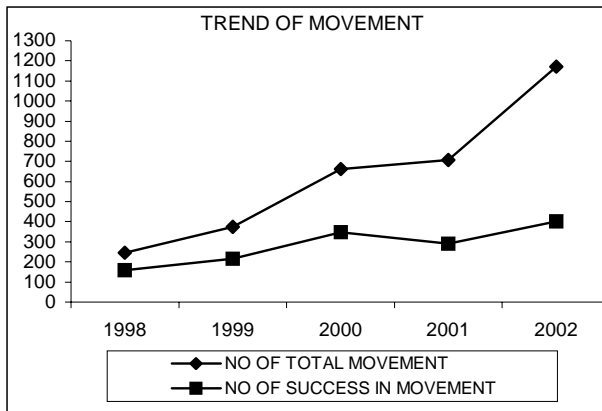
Thanks to strong group dynamics and solidarity among the members, they have been capable of establishing their rights in many government owned khas lands. Furthermore, they have been given the rights to take lease in many water bodies. Along side, they have been capable of recuperating the occupation of many of their own lands, which were forcefully usurped by influential coteries and vested interest groups. Such incidents not only vindicate the rights of the poor to ownership of land and public resources, but also provide an indication towards accelerating the process of empowerment of the poor and

establishment of accountability and good governance at all stages of the society (*Details in Annex Table-20*).

- The landless groups as part of their strategy to ensure access to public resources occupy khas land by virtue of their legitimate claim. This is to ensure that the land grabbers do not take over the land. This year 507 group members occupied 308.06 acres of khas land. A total of 266 group members got annual lease of 39 acres of khas land from the Government. 467 group members managed to get 693.21 acres of khas land finally registered in their name.
- Total 127 group members could take lease on 63.60 acres of water bodies during the year. On the other hand 361 group members managed to occupy 123.06 acres of water bodies at the same time most of which were occupied by extirpating illegal shrimp farms.

5.4 RE-INVIGORATED MOVEMENT OF THE MARGINALISED:

The activities of the year have been able to render the movement of the people at the grassroots more dynamic and strong. Specially the small sharecroppers and the landless have become more confident in raising their voices and in making decisions concerning their own interests/rights. They feel more concerned on many vital issues such as; land rights, environment, rights of women and marginalised, corruption, fundamentalism etc. *In the same spirit the landless groups could recuperate this year 314.07 acres of agriculture land from the illegal possessors and return the same to the original owners. This effort could ensure the livelihood of 1,603 families.*



Most significant is that, women's participation in the movements is gradually increasing and they are eventually taking the lead role. Even many of the movements are being organised by the women groups alone. It is an important dimension that the issues relating to women are being considered not only of concern of women alone but also from the standpoint of whole socio-economic and politico-cultural perspectives. Participation of male members and civil society groups in these movements is equally increasing. Similarly direct participation of landless members too in the movements of others is on rise. NK is confident

that this re-invigorated movement of the poor and the marginalised might potentially become a tremendous force in the nation-building efforts of the country, creating a society that would be free from all sorts of injustice, racial and communal hatred, religious bigotry and jingoism. The fact is that in most cases the administration and other concerned authorities often consult them and the civil society's growing concern over the issues of the landless is an indication of groups' importance and acceptability to others. *(Details in Annex Table – 21 & 22 and Case Study – 'Government Registration: Illegal Occupation by Feudal Elites for 30 years, Movement of Grassroots for Rights').*

5.5 ACCESS TO LOCAL ADMINISTRATION AND OTHER PUBLIC AND CIVIC AUTHORITIES:

The landless members were invited to participate in the dialogue sessions with the deputy commissioner, land administration, upazilla administration, police, contestant and elected parliament members, union council, health and population department, education department, press club, bar council, women organisations etc. on various occasions and issues. The issues of discussion include public resources, commercial shrimp aquaculture, food for work and education, local development activities, corruption of local government, paddy plantation and harvesting, false cases and police harassment, fundamentalism, national and international day observance and so on. On the other hand the concerned government authorities to find ways out for solving various problems relating to the above issues sat at least 181 times particularly with the landless organisations at grassroots level. The landless groups too at their own initiative sat 1,841 times with the concerned government authorities and other civic bodies. Day by day the participation and acceptance of the landless organisations to the government administration and other civic and private sectors is increasing. As a result the scope and field of mutual accountability and transparency of all is being widened and cooperation strengthened *(Details in Annex Table 23).*

5.6 IMPACT ASSESSED BY THE GROUP:

Group members used to evaluate their activities through group meeting, representative meeting, committee meeting, workshop and group convention. Group members could identify a few changes occurred due to this year's organisational activities. They have identified those changes through analyzing the following 3 important questions.

- A. Why did we form the group?
- B. What are we doing?
- C. What are the changes found due to group activities?

5.6.1 CHANGE IN INDIVIDUAL AND FAMILY LIFE:

- We had an inferiority complex and were dependent upon fate, labeling ourselves as poor and good for nothing. We were unable to speak out about our rights and demands articulately due to an unknown fear. Now we can analyse issues and understand the causes of our poverty. Above all, we are fully aware of our human dignity now and confidently can demand our legitimate rights standing before hundreds of people/audience.
- Due to patriarchal social system we learn that woman means housewife, so should be kept confined within household, accessing beyond this limit is illegitimate for a woman. Now we realise that women also are an integral and important part of the whole of humankind, they are equal to men in all affairs including livelihoods. Emphasizing on this notion today we achieved commendable success in changing our past lifestyle that was full of feuds and conflicts.
- Previously we used to think of increasing our income by engaging our children in various labour intensive works. But taking lessons from our miserable lives we now send our children to school. Similarly, we no longer depend on village quacks and go to the hospital for illnesses although the hospitals often fail to provide necessary service.

5.6.2 CHANGE IN SOCIO-POLITICAL PERSPECTIVE:

- We earlier were scattered, now are united through our landless organisation and could have a strong base in society as an effective force of masses.
- We were non-existent in any socio-developmental activities of our localities earlier. Now we inevitably have plenty of opportunities to participate in various social and governmental activities.
- Earlier party candidates used to control voters because of their disunity. But today we are united as voters. We allow our franchise as per our choice. Because of this unity today many of our candidates are also being elected in union councils, school and bazaar committees etc.

5.6.3 CHANGE IN SOCIO-ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVE:

- The vested interest groups used to exploit the poor taking advantage of their innocence. Due to concerted effort of the landless organisation today we are united and active. So in having share of crops, due price of our products, government services and access to resources we now are in advantageous position in comparison to that of previous periods.
- In the past we were compelled to sell our properties or borrow loans from moneylenders or NGOs in case of household repairs, marriage, meeting day-to-day needs or illness. Against these loans huge interests used to be charged by the lenders. Today we are able to borrow money without any interest from our own fund saved with the organisation. In addition, through joint economic activities, we are earning profit as well. We are progressing well in attaining self-reliance by gradually overcoming dependency on others.

5.6.4 CHANGE RELATING TO LOCAL PROBLEMS AND HUMAN RIGHTS:

- In comparison to that of previous periods incidences of violence against women, forgery, humiliation, robbery and other atrocities have become fewer in the groups' working areas.
- Due to groups' collective effort today we are able to protest and organise mass movement/struggle against any sort of social injustices, atrocities, humiliation, intimidation and other human rights abuses. If any human rights violation takes place even outside our working areas we immediately can take it up due to groups' strength and support from other civil society members.

5.6.5 CHANGE AT CONCEPTUAL LEVEL IN UNDERSTANDING ISSUES:

- Previously we had shallow ideas about local issues and were unable to understand pros and cons of all the issues. Nowadays alongwith local issues we are trying our best to understand issues of national and international importance and perspectives. We know how the multinationals and their allies in the poor countries like us are applying the techniques of exploitation, how various development projects of multilateral agencies are destroying our lives and livelihoods, indigenous production system and the environment. We also know how we are gradually being caught in the debt trap of the multilateral agencies.

(Note: The above views of the group members have been compiled based on discussions held during group meetings in several working areas of Nijera Kori).

***C*CHAPTER SIX: ANNEX**

CASE STUDY	23-25
ORGANOGRAM – ANNEX – A	26
PLANNING, MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REPORTING SYSTEM – ANNEX – B	27
FLOW CHART: LANDLESS ORGANISATION OF NK – ANNEX – C	28
SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT- ANNEX – D	29
MAP AND GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF PROGRAMMES OF NIJERA KORI – ANNEX – E	30-31
LIST OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS – ANNEX – F	32
DETAIL ACTIVITY TABLE NO (02 TO 23)	33-43

CASE STUDY:**Government registration: Illegal occupation by feudal elites for 30 years, the movement of grassroots for rights.**

Attack at midnight instigated by feudal elites: loot of 15 acres of paddy, setting ablaze houses, ransacking, extortion, and violence on women. 14 male and female seriously wounded.

ABOUT THE AREA:

Dharmapur, where the incident took place, is a 'mouza' of Bhatirtek union under Sudharam upazilla of Noakhali district. It is 12 miles away from the upazilla town. About 40/45 years ago this sandy strip rose out of the riverbed of Meghna.

POLDER: THE LANDLESS AND THE FEUDAL ELITES:

In early sixties thousands of people being affected by river erosion started pouring into the sandy lands of Dharmapur mouza in search of shelter. They came from the areas i.e. Hatia, Ramgoti, Shahbazpur, Bhola and so on that usually get affected by river erosion. Gradually there came into being a feudal ruling class along the sandy strips. For the sake of staying alive these hapless people had to abide by the rules and control of this feudal class. They resigned to the fact that the year-long starvation is their ultimate fate promoted by natural calamities on one hand, and usurping 90% share of their produced crops by the elites on the other. Years of struggle of the landless for life thus continue. From the very creation of any sandy strip the illegitimate claim of the feudal elites on it begins. When the landless grassroots try to establish their natural and legitimate right on the land the situation becomes conflicting.

GOVERNMENT'S VIEW CONCERNING LAND:

In the aftermath of independence, in 1972 the government of Bangladesh by dint of President's Ordinance started activities on determining maximum ceiling limit, identifying khas lands and ensuring their distribution among the landless free of cost and with proper registration. Under this program the government declared 382 acres of land in Dharmapur mouza as khas land. Afterwards the successive governments, both civil and military, amended the land laws. As a result specially because of change in river SHIKOSTI & POYOSTI laws and its time limit, today the whole land management system became jeopardised completely.

LEGAL STATUS OF LAND: LANDLESS AND THE FEUDAL ELITES:

Following a governmental declaration the programme of free khas land distribution was undertaken among the landless in the year 1972. Under this programme a total of 75 landless families of Dharmapur mouza obtained registration on 104 acres of khas land. In exchange, the landless families have been paying taxes regularly as per existing rule to the government. Despite all these the 70 landless families till date did not obtain their actual 'possession' on the distributed lands except a piece of paper. The responsibility of ensuring this possession lies on the concerned authority in the government as per rule.

DEMAND FOR BAYA:

As per record of land administration, a total of 382 acres of land were declared khas under Dharmapur mouza in 1972 by dint of the President's Ordinance of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh. Therefore, no question of demanding Baya right on these khas lands arises. But in contrary to this, under the leadership of some Hafez Ali, who lives in Khulna town, a vested group of 125 persons has been continuing with illegal occupation on these 382 acres of khas land. Their demand is that, long before the river erosion, they purchased these lands from some Santosh Narayan and so they are the original owners of these lands. Since the raising out of this Dharmapur mouza from the riverbed of Meghna they have been claiming their ownership on these lands as the original owner vide their purchase claim.

WHAT IS BAYA RIGHT?

Whenever a land ceases to exist due to river erosion and the same again becomes existent within the stipulated time frame then the demand of ownership on that very land by the previous owner is called Baya right. In seventies the stipulated time frame, as per concerned law, was limited to 24 hours only, which in eighties through an amendment was made to 20 years. Again in nineties the said law had been amended and the stipulated time frame fixed as 30 years and afterwards the same had been brought back to 20 years again. However, if the government declares a newly raised out polder a khas land for special reason, then the demand of Baya right on it ceases to exist.

PREVIOUS INCIDENTS AND PROTEST:

No sooner had the polder risen out of the riverbed, its ownership went under the control of feudal elites. In 1972 the government of Bangladesh distributed 104 acres of land in Dharmapur mouza among the 75 landless families out of its total 382 acres of khas land in the area, but the distribution could never ensure actual possession of the landless on it except giving a piece of paper. Despite repeated submission by the landless to the concerned administration for years the government yet took no initiative of delivering rightful possession of these allotted lands to the landless families. As a result conflict between the feudal elites and the landless is increasing alarmingly. Every year whenever the landless peasants produced crops on allotted lands the feudal elites forcefully took away their produces. In around 1982 the landless women and men started uniting themselves and established the landless organisation. Gradually this organisation expanded and got strengthened through various movements and struggle. During last agricultural season the landless started a movement against the feudal elites, which turned into an all out resistance this year and the same is being intensified day by day.

LANDLESS WOMEN AND MEN IN PADDY PLANTING:

Based on previous terrible experiences the landless organisation newly undertook extensive preparation during the activity year for planting paddy crops. Other marginal farmers and grassroots poor too joined their hands with the initiative and struggle of the landless groups. On last 25 June 2001 about 200 women and men discussed the strategy for planting crops in the allotted lands in a meeting. As per decision, on 23 July 2001 the landless strengthened with 500 women and men collectively started their mission first through ploughing the land at dawn time. Within just two hours the goons of Baya right claimer Hafez Ali and allies armed with locally made lethal weapons attacked the landless. But confronting strong resistance from hundreds of landless the *lathial* goons compelled to flee away. The landless successfully completed their ploughing.

ATTACK ON THE LANDLESS:

The landless organisation after successful ploughing decided to plant paddy on the land. On last 1 August 2001 thousands of women and men started paddy planting. At around 10 am the goons of Hafez Ali and allies attacked on the landless. More than hundred armed musclemen started throwing bombs one after another and also spraying chilly powder around. The landless were just helpless and fallen caged under such situation. At first female members came forward to resist the goons. Then the male members joined the line. In the face of united resistance the goons had to move back. But again in half an hour they being strengthened by more miscreants who joined from Noakhali town attacked quickly on the landless. Facing constant bombing and shooting the landless group members have been compelled to move back. Afterwards the miscreants started setting fire on the huts of landless, ransacking and torture on their women and children. This time the goons looted household goods and other properties from 10 houses along with many livestock and poultry. Total 39 landless members were injured in the attack and 3 huts

REMARKS

<p>Ms. Jarica Khatun (35), with a knife pierced at her stomach and profuse bleeding uttered towards the fellow landless members present, "I am nearing to my last breath, even after my death you please never quit the possession on our land". Also Ms. Jahanara Begum (26), almost fell unconscious due to repeated beating uttered towards the attacking goons, "Thou beat me up till my death, I will never give up and leave my house".</p>

completely burnt to ashes. After this barbarous attack the goons even set barricade on the roads to hospital as ordered by feudal elites. However, the news reached soon to the fellow members of landless organisation at Nabagram and Bhatir Tek mouza who accordingly came forward to resist the attackers and dismantle barricades from the surrounding areas. The landless submitted memorandum to local administration, gheraoed the police station, organised press conference, mass procession and held campaigns, meetings in and around the village, local public places and thus generated support from the people in favour of their just movement. Journalists,

intellectuals and professionals from various walks of life extended their support to the landless. As per decision of the landless organisation paddy planting started again from 12 August 2001. Facing and foiling numerous attack everyday from the goons hundreds of landless women and men just within a week made their paddy planting possible on 104 acres of land. The feudal elite Hafez and his allies though were seemed to be weak overtly but in disguise they continuously conspired to loot the ripped paddy of the landless.

LIST OF SERIOUSLY WOUNDED GROUP MEMBERS
1. <i>Amena Khatun</i> (50) received serious injury on her knees by fishing spear.
2. <i>Jahanara Begum</i> (25) received injury on her abdomen and waist by Raksha (a locally made heavy spear).
3. <i>Jarina Begum</i> (26) received injury on her hands and the back by fishing spear.
4. <i>Bibi Rehana</i> (40) had a severe hit of iron rods on her waist.
5. <i>Jarica Khatun</i> (35) had severe hit by stick and spade on the back and hands.
6. <i>Jarina Khatun</i> (30) had severe hit by stick, spade on her waist and the back.
7. <i>Noorjahan</i> (30) had severe hit by stick and whip on her face and chest.
8. <i>Jarina Khatun</i> (25) had severe hit by stick on her waist and chest.
9. <i>Bibi Keslam</i> (35) received serious injury on her back and chest by rod and knife.
10. <i>Abdul Hafez</i> (30) received serious injury on his hand and legs broken by rod and spade.
11. <i>Nuruzzaman</i> (35), his hand and leg got broken by the attack.
12. <i>Yusuf</i> (25) had injury by knife on his abdomen and the back.
13. <i>Abdul Momen</i> (35) received injury on the back by stick and spear.
14. <i>Abdul Haque</i> (30) received injury on his face and the back by fishing spear.

LANDLESS AND FEUDAL ELITES IN CONFRONTING STAND TO REAP PADDY CROPS:

At the beginning of paddy ripping season the feudal elites and their goons used to move around. With a mission to kill the landless leader Yusuf, the armed goons attacked him at midnight on 23 August 2001. When at the sound of shooting hundreds of landless women and men came out of their houses the attackers fled away. Here the villagers (landless) could catch one of the attackers along with a gun and 12 bullets and handed him over to local police station. After the media reports on the incident and gherao of district administration offices by the landless the concerned officials of the district such as Upazilla Nirbahi Officer (UNO), Thana Officer-In-Charge, and Superintendent of Police respectively visited the area. The landless too beefed up security measures in their area through day night patrolling by rotation. On last 29 November 2001 about a hundred musclemen started paddy reaping deep at night. Upon sensing their presence thousands of landless women and men when came to resist them the goons fled away but burning to ashes 5 houses of the landless. In such circumstance the landless organisation initiated to reap the paddy at their fields. Facing lots of such ructions and through rigorous movement the landless could successfully complete the paddy reaping, which they once planted.

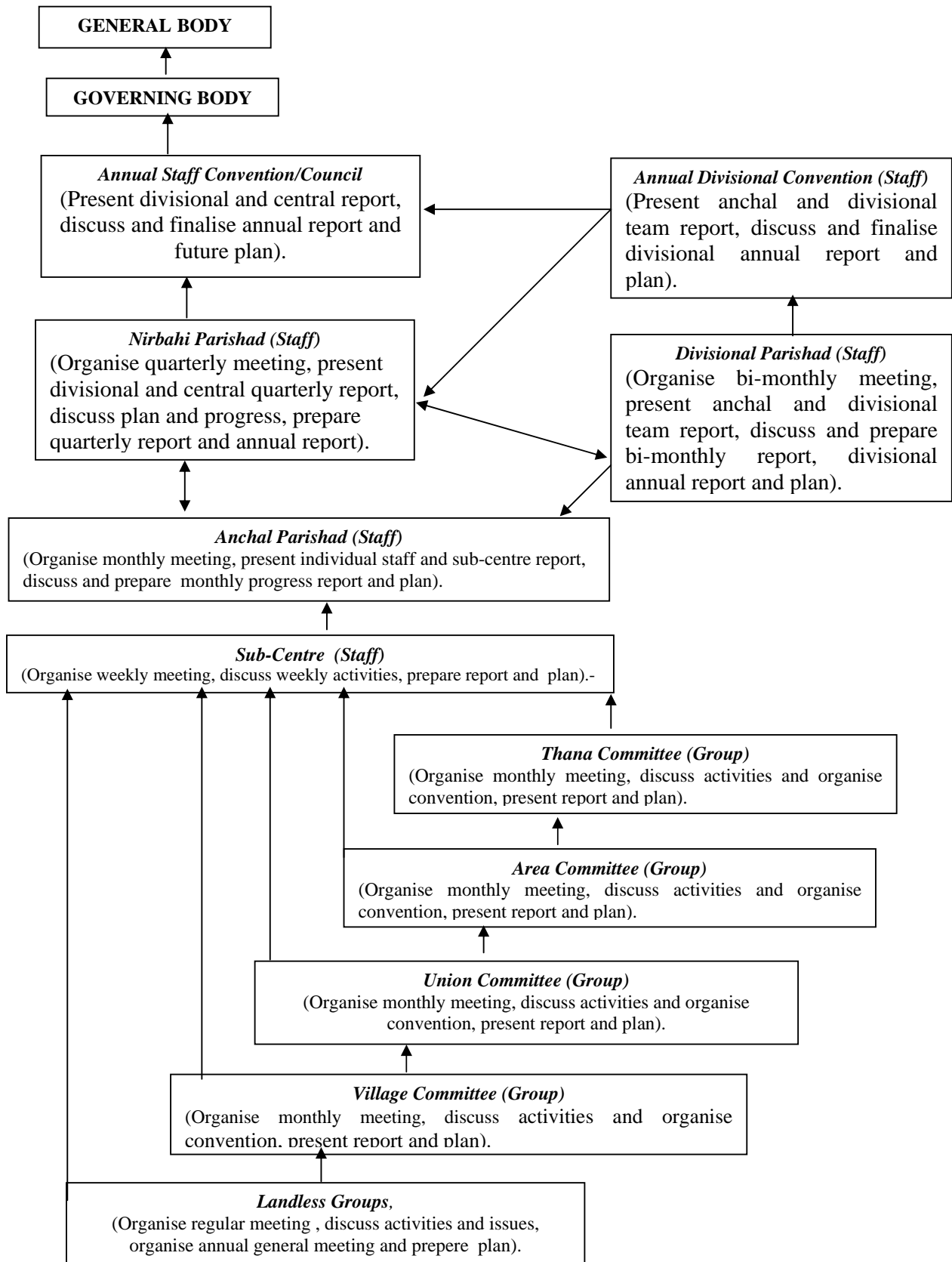
ROLE OF THE ADMINISTRATION AND FILING OF CASES:

From the very beginning of agro-season the landless informed local administration repeatedly about the likely attacks on them by the feudal elites and their goons. They urged the authority several times to provide protection in such situation. But at initial stage no measure was taken on part of the local authority. It is only the illustrated reports in media, besiegement of district administration offices by the landless and their rigorous movement, which compelled the district officials to visit the area. Due to this visit the police administration itself had to file a firearm case as complainant against the attackers. As a result a total of 14 accused including the feudal elite Hafez have been arrested till date. Landless organisation too filed a case against the miscreants for torching their houses and usage of explosives. In contrary to this the opponents also filed 4 cases accusing a total of 109 landless members. These cases are now undergoing investigation and awaiting legal action.

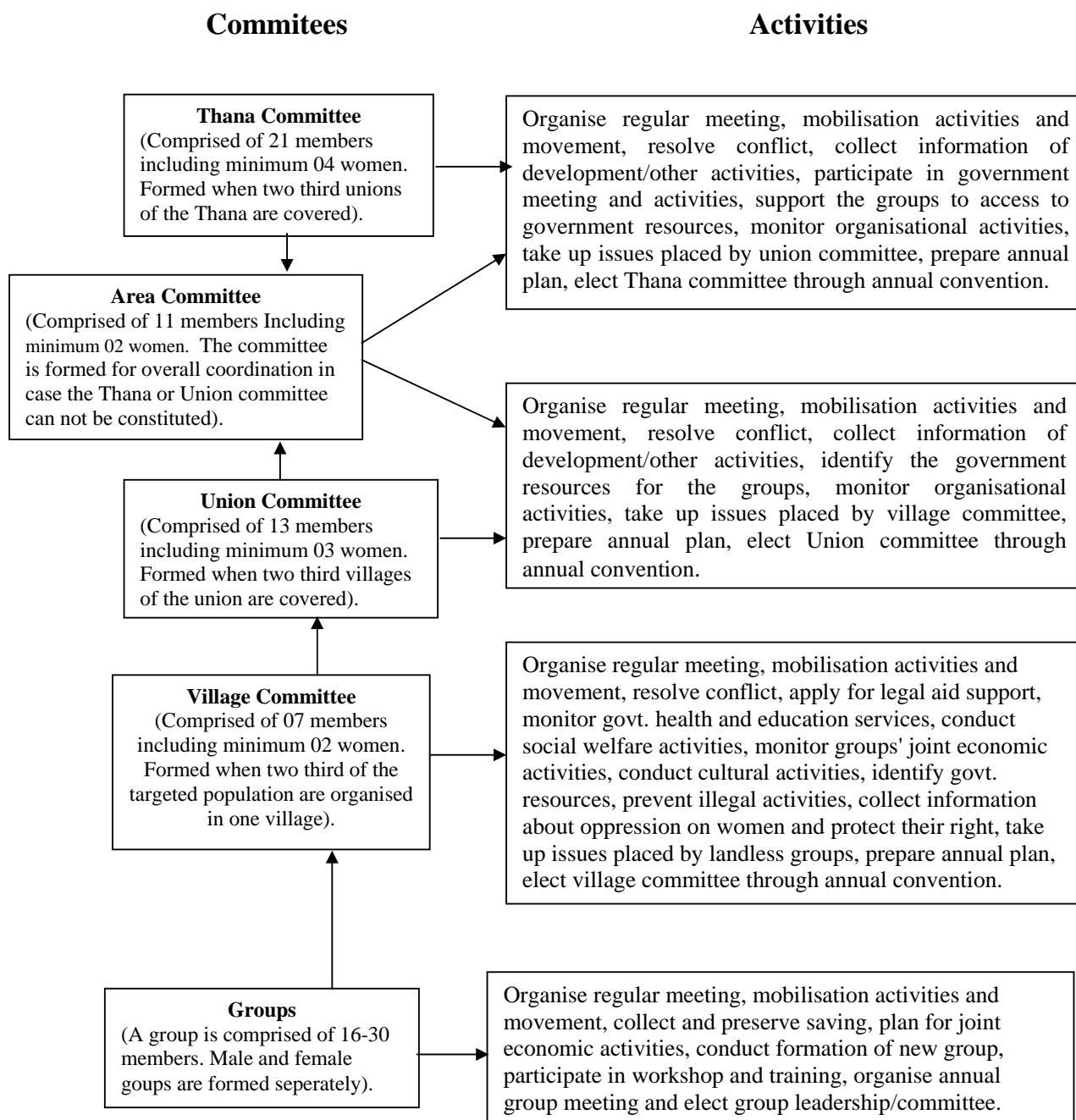
RESULT:

The landless could establish their right on 104 acres of land that were once allotted to them way back in 1972. Also the process of establishing rights of the landless on the remaining khas lands in Dharmapur mouza has been expedited. The landless organisation could create an image as alternative force that resist illegal occupation and might of the elites. The role of the organisation is being acclaimed by the general masses and the organisation is being received cordially in the society. Specially due to positive role of the organisation today the masses are welcoming participation of women in society as a leading force alongside that of men.

PLANNING, MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REPORTING SYSTEM – ANNEX - B



FLOW CHART: LANDLESS ORGANISATION OF NK ANNEX - C

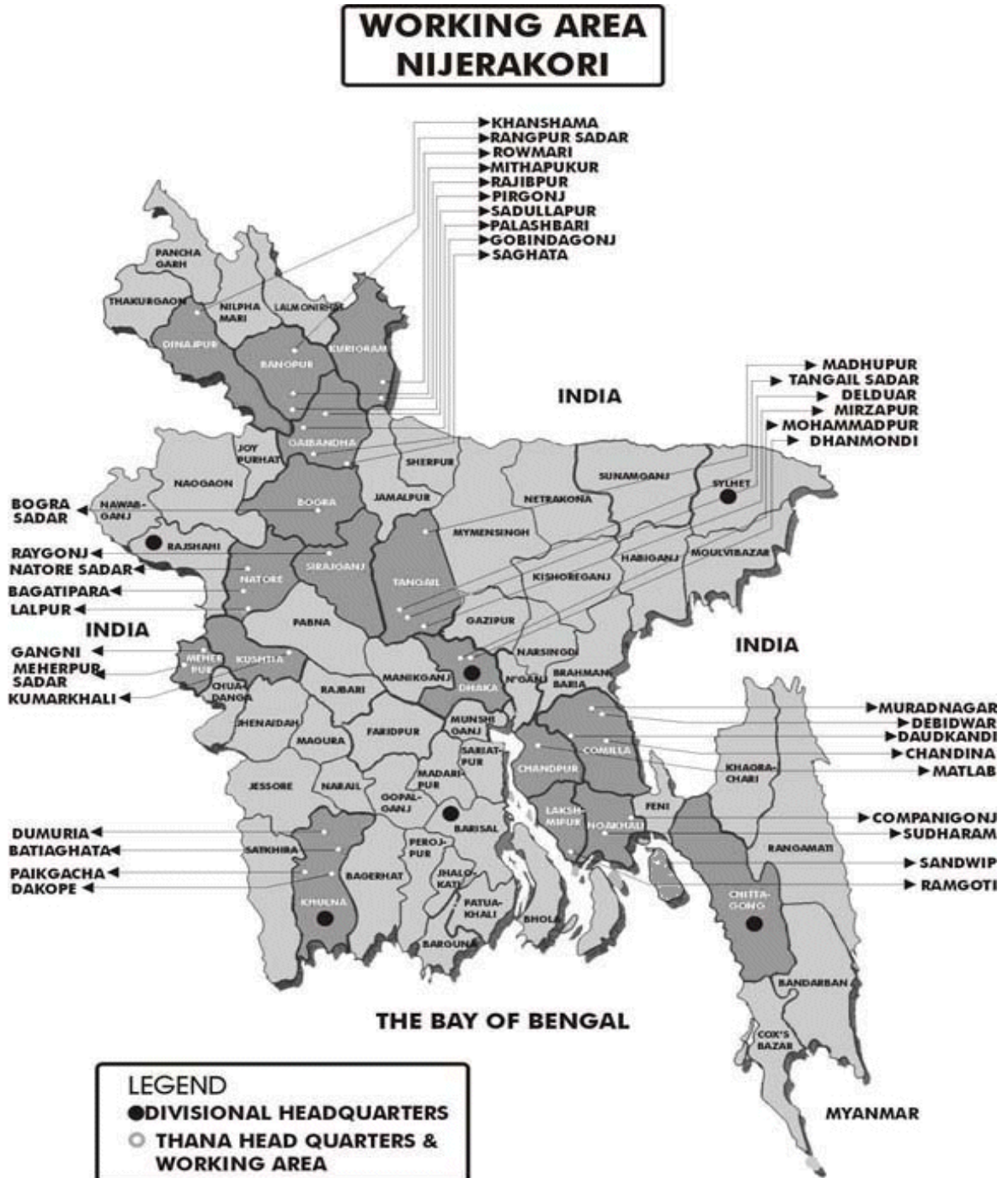


ANNEX - D

NIJERA KORI
RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
SOCIAL MOBILISATION, VOICE AND DEMOCRACY
SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2002

<u>PARTICULARS:</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Opening Balance - 01.04.2001		6,040,203.28
Add: Fund Received From:		
D.F.I.D	45,974,851.00	
E.Z.E. Germany	16,652,003.37	
Christian Aid	6,311,012.40	
Interpares	1,032,923.00	
I.C.C.O	2,280,807.82	
The Swallows	2,261,539.04	
Global Green Grants Fund	<u>124,300.00</u>	74,637,436.63
E.Z.E. Germany for ISA Net Programme		308,846.60
Other Receipts	228,428.92	
Advance Realised	24,000.00	
Loan Realised	<u>50,000.00</u>	<u>302,428.92</u>
		81,288,915.43
Less: Transferred to ISA Net Programme		308,846.60
Advance Office Rent		1,115,000.00
Advance Personal		24,500.00
Loan Refunded		10,000,000.00
Expenditure as per Annexure A -1		<u>53,964,019.39</u>
Closing Balance - 31.03.2002	Taka	<u>15,876,549.44</u>

ANNEX-E



ANNEX-E

TABLE – 01: Geographical Location of Programmes of Nijera Kori

Sl. No	Division	District	Area	Thana	Expansion in 2002		Total up to March 2002		Sub-centre
					Union	Village	Union	Village	
01.	Chittagong	Comilla	Comilla	Chandina	02	05	28	125	05
				Daudkandi					
		Debidwar	--	--	08	40	05		
		Muradnagar							
		Matlab							
Noakhali	Charjabbar	Sudharam	02	02	06	26	02		
Lakshmipur	Ramgoti	Ramgoti							
Chittagong	Sandwip	Sandwip	--	--	14	34	04		
01	05	04	09	04	07	56	225	16	
02.	Dhaka	Dhaka	Dhaka City	Dhanmondi	--	--	06	12	01
		Tangail	Tangail	Mirzapur	--	--	11	71	03
			Delduar	--	04	11	104	02	
01	02	03	06	--	04	28	187	06	
03.	Khulna	Kushtia	Kumarkhali	Kumarkhali	02	05	06	44	01
		Meherpur	Gangni	Meherpur Sadar	--	--	07	42	03
		Khulna	Paikgacha	Paikgacha	--	--	17	158	09
01	03	03	07	02	05	30	244	13	
04.	Rajshahi	Sirajgonj	Noongola	Raygonj	--	02	5	69	03
		Bogra		Bogra Sadar					
		Rangpur	Rangpur	Rangpur Sadar	--	04	11	80	03
		Dinajpur		Mithapukur					
		Kurigram	Rowmari	Rowmari	--	--	7	75	02
		Gaibandha	Gaibandha	Palashbari	--	03	23	184	04
Natore	Bagatipara	Saghata	--	08	10	130	03		
01	07	05	15	--	17	56	538	15	
Total	04	17	15	37	06	33	170	1,194	50

ANNEX - F**LIST OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

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

TABLE – 02 (Group Formation)

Division	UP TO MARCH 2001			Plan			Implementation			Total up to March 2002		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
Rajshahi	1,242	1,459	2,701	111	137	248	80	135	215	1,322	1,594	2,916
Dhaka	512	692	1,204	83	104	187	31	32	63	543	724	1,267
Khulna	580	890	1,470	75	80	155	24	26	50	604	916	1,520
Chittagong	1,150	1,469	2,619	167	135	302	107	126	233	1,257	1,595	2,852
Total	3,484	4,510	7,994	436	456	892	242	319	561	3,726	4,829	8,555

(M=Male, F=Female, T=Total)

TABLE – 03 (Group Member)

Division	Up to March 2001			Plan			Implementation			Total up to March 2002		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
Rajshahi	27,935	28,757	56,692	2,220	2,740	4,960	1,665	2,909	4,574	29,600	31,666	61,266
Dhaka	11,563	14,089	25,652	1,660	2,080	3,740	595	574	1,169	12,158	14,663	26,821
Khulna	14,186	18,978	33,164	1,500	1,600	3,100	543	627	1,170	14,729	19,605	34,334
Chittagong	26,513	28,443	54,956	3,340	2,700	6,040	2,159	2,688	4,847	28,672	31,131	59,803
Total	80,197	90,267	170,464	8,720	9,120	17,840	4,962	6,798	11,760	85,159	97,065	182,224

(M=Male, F=Female, T=Total)

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

Division	Plan for Group Meeting attended by Staff			Implementation of Group Meeting attended by Staff			Implementation of Group Meeting attended by Group alone			Total implementation of Group Meeting (Group and Staff)			Implementation of Annual Group Meeting		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
Rajshahi	25,980	32,110	58,090	12,337	21,537	33,874	7,825	5,986	13,811	20,162	27,523	47,685	408	494	902
Dhaka	9,708	13,968	23,676	4,508	8,324	12,832	3,125	2,149	5,274	7,633	10,473	18,106	156	209	365
Khulna	11,196	18,288	29,484	13,544	15,747	29,291	2,214	2,424	4,638	15,758	18,171	33,929	177	253	430
Chittagong	27,748	33,340	61,088	8,013	15,227	23,240	3,507	2,756	6,263	11,520	17,983	29,503	471	535	1,006
Total	74,632	97,706	1,72,338	38,402	60,835	99,237	16,671	13,315	29,986	55,073	74,150	129,223	1,212	1,491	2,703

(M = Male, F = Female, T = Total)

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

Division	Workshop				Representative Meeting		Implementation of Joint Group Meeting
	Plan		Implementation		Plan	Implementation	
	Number	Participant	Number	Participant			
Rajshahi	20	500	30	869	257	126	126
Dhaka	11	275	07	195	73	65	62
Khulna	21	525	14	387	160	113	239
Chittagong	28	700	44	1,181	322	251	74
Total	80	2,000	95	2,632	812	555	501

TABLE – 06 (Formation of Structural Committee)

Division	Up to March 2001				Plan				Implementation				Total up to March 2002			
	Name of the Committee				Name of the Committee				Name of the Committee				Name of the Committee			
	Village	Union	Thana	Area	Village	Union	Thana	Area	Village	Union	Thana	Area	Village	Union	Thana	Area
Rajshahi	27	10	01	05	07	04	0	02	03	--	--	--	30	10	01	05
Dhaka	20	05	01	03	03	02	0	01	--	--	--	--	20	05	01	03
Khulna	25	01	--	04	05	03	0	01	--	--	--	--	25	01	--	04
Chittagong	46	--	--	12	05	04	01	01	06	--	--	--	52	--	--	12
Total	118	16	02	24	20	13	01	05	09	--	--	--	127	16	02	24

TABLE – 07 (Committee Meeting and Group Convention)

Division	Committee Meetings								Group Convention							
	Plan				Implementation				Plan				Implementation			
	Name of the Committee				Name of the Committee				Name of the Committee				Name of the Committee			
	Village	Union	Thana	Area	Village	Union	Thana	Area	Village	Union	Thana	Area	Village	Union	Thana	Area
Rajshahi	325	121	06	60	238	105	06	55	28	06	01	02	19	07	01	02
Dhaka	191	40	11	36	110	37	11	36	18	04	01	02	11	01	01	02
Khulna	257	12	--	48	114	01	--	40	23	0	0	06	03	--	--	--
Chittagong	602	--	04	144	444	--	02	112	45	0	0	08	41	--	--	08
Total	1,375	173	21	288	906	143	19	243	114	10	02	18	74	08	02	12

TABLE – 08 (Group Saving)

Division	Up to March 2001			Plan			Implementation			Distribution			Total up to March 2002		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Rajshahi	2,815,348	3,776,073	6,591,421	617,256	606,768	1,224,024	1,275,070	1,474,559	2,749,629	614,284	1,075,811	1,690,095	3,476,134	4,174,821	7,650,955
Dhaka	2,422,855	1,747,243	4,170,098	197,592	244,080	441,672	412,538	347,661	760,199	3,200	6,300	9,500	2,832,193	2,088,604	4,920,797
Khulna	1,928,271	3,437,075	5,365,346	248,808	352,248	601,056	596,872	1,471,748	2,068,620	35,000	162,920	197,920	2,490,143	4,745,903	7,236,046
Chittagong	4,437,185	6,300,037	10,737,222	522,096	581,832	1,103,928	1,019,551	1,644,267	2,663,818	606,265	710,266	1,316,531	4,850,471	7,234,038	12,084,509
Total	11,603,659	15,260,428	26,864,087	1,585,752	1,784,928	3,370,680	3,304,031	4,938,235	8,242,266	1,258,749	1,955,297	3,214,046	13,648,941	18,243,366	31,892,307

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

Division	Bank Account									Position of Group Saving		
	Up to March 2001			Implementation			Total up to March 2002			Total up to March 2002		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Bank	Cash	Investment
Rajshahi	155	368	523	26	41	67	181	409	590	3,299,272	1,149,620	3,202,063
Dhaka	60	96	156	30	56	86	90	152	242	2,051,803	1,055,966	1,813,028
Khulna	74	220	294	23	41	64	97	261	358	6,288,616	336,720	610,710
Chittagong	348	567	915	24	39	63	372	606	978	3,501,696	3,638,247	4,944,566
Total	637	1,251	1,888	103	177	280	740	1,428	2,168	15,141,387	6,180,553	10,570,367

TABLE – 10 (Training)

	Rajshahi	Dhaka	Khulna	Chittagong	Total

Subject	Rajshahi				Dhaka				Khulna				Chittagong				Total			
	No	Participant			No	Participant			No	Participant			No	Participant			No	Participant		
		Male	Female	Total		M	F	T		M	F	T		M	F	T		M	F	T
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT TRAINING																				
Basic																				
Up to March 2001	--	1,748	1,680	3,428	--	567	828	1,395	--	891	837	1,728	--	1,650	1,797	3,447	--	4,856	5,142	9,998
Plan	14	175	175	350	10	125	125	250	10	125	125	250	12	150	150	300	46	575	575	1,150
Implementation	14	154	158	312	10	106	108	214	10	97	103	200	12	117	163	280	46	474	532	1,006
Total up to March 2002		1,902	1,838	3,740		673	936	1,609		988	940	1,928		1,767	1,960	3,727		5,330	5,674	11,004
Advanced																				
Up to March 2001	--	545	621	1,166	--	314	360	674	--	399	396	795	--	387	569	956	--	1,645	1,946	3,591
Plan	04	55	45	100	02	25	25	50	03	40	35	75	03	40	35	75	12	160	140	300
Implementation	04	50	49	99	02	19	19	38	03	26	27	53	03	30	31	61	12	125	126	251
Total up to March 2002		595	670	1,265		333	379	712		425	423	848		417	600	1,017		1,770	2,072	3,842
Higher Selection																				
Up to March 2001		136	106	242		81	75	156		96	60	156		85	75	160		398	316	714
Plan	02	25	25	50	01	25	0	25	02	25	25	50	02	25	25	50	07	100	75	175
Implementation	02	22	19	41	01	19	--	19	02	16	20	36	02	17	27	44	07	74	66	140
Total up to March 2002		158	125	283		100	75	175		112	80	192		102	102	204		472	382	854
Higher																				
Up to March 2001		09	06	15		06	04	10		07	03	10		07	02	09		29	15	44
Plan																	01	15	10	25
Implementation		05	01	06		03	01	04		04	02	06		05	02	07	01	17	06	23
Total up to March 2002		14	07	21		09	05	14		11	05	16		12	04	16		46	21	67
OTHER TRAINING																				
Production & Management																				
Up to March 2001																				
Plan	01	08	17	25	01	08	17	25	01	10	15	25	01	10	15	25	04	36	64	100
Implementation	01	22	01	23	01	10	04	14	01	17	07	24	01	15	10	25	04	64	22	86
Total up to March 2002	01	22	01	23	01	10	04	14	01	17	07	24	01	15	10	25	04	64	22	86
Leadership Development																				
Up to March 2001																				
Plan	01	12	13	25	01	12	13	25	01	12	13	25	01	12	13	25	04	48	52	100
Implementation	01	22	02	24	01	13	16	29	01	19	07	26	01	14	12	26	04	68	37	105
Total up to March 2002	01	22	02	24	01	13	16	29	01	19	07	26	01	14	12	26	04	68	37	105
Right & Excess to Information																				
Up to March 2001																				
Plan	01	12	13	25	01	12	13	25	01	12	13	25	01	12	13	25	04	48	52	100
Implementation	01	14	06	20	01	12	13	25	01	17	07	24	01	13	11	24	04	56	37	93
Total March 2002	01	14	06	20	01	12	13	25	01	17	07	24	01	13	11	24	04	56	37	93

TABLE – 10 (Training)

Subject	Rajshahi			Dhaka			Khulna			Chittagong			Total							
	No	Participant		No	Participant		No	Participant		No	Participant		No	Participant						
		M	F		T	M		F	T		M	F		T	M	F	T			
Livestock(Basic)																				
Up to March 2001		153	13	166		--	--	--		299	343	642		142	34	176		594	390	984
Plan	02	25	25	50	--	--	--	--	04	50	50	100	02	25	25	50	08	100	100	200
Implementation	02	25	25	50	--	--	--	--	03	29	46	75	02	36	16	52	07	90	87	177
Total up to March 2002		178	38	216		--	--	--		328	389	717		178	50	228		684	477	1,161
Livestock(Advance)																				
Up to March 2001		75	07	82		--	--	--		55	42	97		32	02	34		162	51	213
Plan	02	25	25	50	--	--	--	--	02	25	25	50	--	--	--	--	04	50	50	100
Implementation	02	18	23	41	--	--	--	--	02	33	13	46	--	--	--	--	04	51	36	87
Total up to March 2002		93	30	123		--	--	--		88	55	143		32	02	34		213	87	300
Paralegal																				
Up to March 2001		44	111	155		--	--	--		240	175	415		--	--	--		284	286	570
Plan	05			125	05			125	10			250	10			250	30			750
Implementation	05	90	40	130	05	72	60	132	10	117	125	242	10	115	134	249	30	394	359	753
Total up to March 2002		134	151	285		72	60	132		357	300	657		115	134	249		678	645	1,323
Cultural(Basic)																				
Up to March 2001		15	--	15		36	--	36		37	14	51		09	--	09		97	14	111
Plan	01			20	01			20	01			20	01			20	04			80
Implementation	01	15		15	01	19	--	19	01	19	--	19	01	19		19	03	72	--	72
Total up to March 2002		30		30		36	--	36		56	14	70		28	--	28		150	14	164
Cultural(Advance)																				
Up to March 2001		02	--	02		05	--	05		--	--	--		--	--	--		07	--	07
Plan																	01			20
Implementation		04		04		--	--	--		05	--	05		03	--	03	01	12		12
Total up to March 2002		06		06		05	--	05		05	--	05		03	--	03		19	--	19
Cultural(Higher)																				
Up to March 2001	--	07	01	08	--	06	02	08	--	04	01	05	--	04	01	05	--	21	05	26
Plan	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Implementation	--	07	01	08	--	03	02	05	--	05	03	08	--	04	0	04	01	19	06	25
Total up to March 2002		14	02	16		09	04	13		09	04	13		08	01	09	01	40	11	51

TABLE - 11 (Refresher Training and Training Forum)

Division	Refresher Training				Training Forum		Forum Meetings	
	Plan		Implementation		Up to March 2001	Up to March 2002	Plan	Implementation
	No	Participant	No	Participant				
Rajshahi	19	475	26	599	15	15	180	177
Dhaka	08	200	07	166	03	03	36	33
Khulna	14	350	13	300	08	08	96	91
Chittagong	21	525	25	567	09	09	108	101
Total	62	1,550	71	1,632	35	35	420	402

TABLE – 12 (Cultural Activity)

Division	Cultural Group		Cultural Activity							
	Up to March 2001	Up to March 2002	Plan				Implementation			
			Meeting	Discussion	Drama	Padajatra	Meeting	Discussion	Drama	Padajatra
Rajshahi	18	18	180	30	47	01	176	18	55	--
Dhaka	12	12	108	18	36	01	95	29	132	02
Khulna	11	11	110	24	44	01	104	09	26	01
Chittagong	06	06	66	16	26	01	64	43	43	--
Total	47	47	464	88	153	04	439	99	256	03

TABLE – 13 (Joint Economic Activity)

Description		Agri-Farming	Fishery	Livestock	Rickshaw/Van	Shallow/Crasher	Small Business	Total
Up to March -2001								
Group	M	289	110	62	26	07	57	551
	F	196	12	28	--	--	129	365
	T	485	122	90	26	07	186	916
Member	M	6,462	1,658	1,417	584	150	1,166	11,437
	F	4,110	296	548	--	--	2,997	7,951
	T	10,572	1,954	1,965	584	150	4,163	19,388
Quantity		254.74 (Acre)	166.35 (Acre)	165	105	08	--	--
Investment in taka		3,831,619	854,950	457,452	347,246	49,877	1,707,733	7,248,877
Increase in April 2001- March 2002								
Group	M	150	09	20	34	04	280	497
	F	141	24	35	07	--	415	622
	T	291	33	55	41	04	695	1,119
Member	M	3,121	265	371	575	122	5,118	9,572
	F	2,813	479	796	138	--	8,662	12,888
	T	5,934	744	1,167	713	122	13,780	22,460
Quantity		118.51 (Acre)	50.00 (Acre)	55	41	14	--	--
Investment in taka		1,634,380	650,698	276,000	249,585	108,623	2,052,000	4,971,286
Decrease in April 2001- March 2002								
Group	M	25	30	09	05	04	43	116
	F	11	01	--	--	--	87	99
	T	36	31	09	05	04	130	215
Member	M	502	480	201	83	66	966	2,298
	F	201	16	--	--	--	1,807	2,024
	T	703	496	201	83	66	2,773	4,322
Quantity		39.58 (Acre)	89.35 (Acre)	17	33	05	--	--
Investment in taka		250,225	175,349	54,205	33,000	30,000	1,107,017	1,649,796
Total up to March 2002								
Group	M	414	89	73	55	07	294	932
	F	326	35	63	07	--	457	888
	T	740	124	136	62	07	751	1,820
Member	M	7,869	1,443	1,587	1,076	206	5,318	17,499
	F	6,552	759	1,344	138	--	9,852	18,645
	T	14,421	2,202	2,931	1,214	206	15,170	36,144
Quantity		333.67 (Acre)	127.00 (Acre)	203	113	17	--	--
Investment in taka		5,215,774	1,330,299	679,247	563,831	128,500	2,652,716	10,570,367
Profit in cash		1,108,607	945,669	15,595	25,072	8,580	166,494	2,270,017

TABLE – 14 (Live Stock Development Programme)

Description	Poultry Vaccine		Livestock Vaccine		Livestock Treatment	
	Plan	Implementation	Plan	Implementation	Plan	Implementation
Rajshahi	41,560	18,600	20,000	8,720	2,150	1,836
Khulna	8,000	6,950	2,000	1,120	1,500	1,256
Chittagong	5,000	3,416	3,850	1,306	800	453
Total	54,560	28,966	25,850	11,146	4,450	3,545

TABLE – 15 (Legal Aid Activity)

Division	Cases up to March 2001	New Cases	Total Cases	Cases Settled	Result		Cases on Appeal	Remaining Total Cases	NK run Cases	Group run cases
					Favour	Against				
Rajshahi	57	20	77	16	13	03	01	62	26	36
Dhaka	41	08	49	08	06	02	01	42	29	13
Khulna	79	46	125	38	36	02	15	102	66	36
Chittagong	110	53	163	41	38	03	20	142	85	57
Total	287	127	414	103	93	10	37	348	206	142

TABLE – 16 (Level of Group Consciousness)

Description	Rajshahi			Dhaka			Khulna			Chittagong			Total		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
Secondary Level															
Up to March 2001	103	55	158	10	04	14	117	71	188	167	158	325	397	288	685
Plan for April 2001 – March 2002	26	14	40	15	12	27	22	18	40	21	11	32	84	55	139
Implementation in April 2001 - March 2002	21	16	37	02	02	04	05	06	11	18	09	27	46	33	79
Total up to March 2002	124	71	195	12	06	18	122	77	199	185	167	352	443	321	764
Final Level															
Up to March 2001	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	03	--	03	03	--	03
Plan for April 2001 – March 2002	08	04	12	03	01	04	05	04	09	07	05	12	23	14	37
Implementation in April 2001 - March 2002	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Total up to March 2002	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	03	--	03	03	--	03

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

Description	PARTICIPATION		CONTRIBUTION			VOLUNTARY LABOUR	BENEFICIARY FAMILIES		
	No of Group	Support Provided To	By Group (Taka)	By Non-Group (Taka)	Total (Taka)	By Group Member	Among Group	Outside of Group	Total
Village Convention	1,149		19,640	--	19,640	118	40,050	--	40,050
Union Convention	196		8,260	--	8,260	44	27,300	--	27,300
Thana Convention	152		12,278	--	12,278	60	20,900	--	20,900
Regional Convention	613		16,580	--	16,580	50	15,900	--	15,900
Social Movement/Struggle	126	08	6,546	--	6,546	--	Grassroots People		
Cultural Programme	111	01	47,220	--	47,220	--	3,000	--	3,000
Observance of National/International Day	1,472		26,281	--	26,281	111	Grassroots People		
Conducting Case	1,067	142	125,572	--	125,572	--	2,513	--	2,513
Help to Family of arrested Member	421	18	41,572	--	41,572	05	45	--	45
Medical Support	1,032	129	63,235	6,500	69,735	105	117	33	150
School Repairing	07	02	--	--	2,400	85	680	725	1,405
Educational Support	136	126	11,410	48	11,458	--	124	02	126
Marriage without Dowry	1,092	215	69,251	6,250	75,501	408	199	16	215
Bridge Repairing/Construction	87	38	--	--	7,123	399	3,231	399	3,630
Road Repairing/Reconstruction	31	06	--	--	2,900	152	1,240	680	1,920
Household Repairing	42	26	4,670	600	5,270	50	25	01	26
Tree Plantation	20	386	3,725	--	3,725	30	444	--	444
Cremation	147	40	2,805	2,000	4,805	80	05	35	40
Total	7,901	1,137	459,045	15,398	486,866	1,697	115,773	1,891	117,664

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

Description	Rajshahi				Dhaka				Khulna				Chittagong				Total			
	No	M	F	T	No	M	F	T	No	M	F	T	No	M	F	T	No	M	F	T
Union Parishad/Pourasava till March 2001	15	14	08	22	07	08	3	11	09	10	08	18	08	18	10	28	39	50	29	79
School Management Committee till March 2001	13	24	12	36	06	07	02	09	16	80	40	120	23	248	49	297	58	359	103	462
Left out after Expiry of Term	13	24	12	36	06	07	02	09	16	80	40	120	23	248	49	297	58	359	103	462
Contested in School Committee during 2001-2002	79	107	14	121	09	26	07	33	68	124	31	155	82	172	57	229	238	429	109	538
Elected in School Committee till March 2002	48	52	05	57	06	13	02	15	46	69	16	85	45	121	17	138	145	255	40	295
Market Committee till March 2001	19	45	-	45	02	03	-	03	25	40	-	40	23	79	10	89	69	176	-	177
Left out after Expiry of Term	19	45	-	45	02	03	-	03	25	40	-	40	23	79	10	89	69	176	-	177
Contested in Market Committee in 2001-2002	39	53	06	59	07	11	02	13	31	48	05	53	66	81	11	92	143	193	24	217
Elected in Market Committee till March 2002	27	29	01	30	03	07	0	07	17	25	0	25	39	56	0	56	86	117	08	125
Sugarcane Purchase Committee till March 2001	02	03	-	03	-	-	-	-	01	12	-	13	-	-	-	-	03	10	06	16
Left out after Expiry of Term	02	03	-	03	-	-	-	-	01	12	-	13	-	-	-	-	03	10	06	16
Nominated till March 2002	03	03	0	03	0	0	0	0	01	02	0	02	0	0	0	0	04	05	0	05
Project Management Committee till March 2001	10	11	08	19	-	-	-	-	09	18	06	24	14	27	08	35	33	56	22	78
Left out after Expiry of Project	10	11	08	19	-	-	-	-	09	18	06	24	14	27	08	35	33	56	22	78
Nominated till March 2002	14	17	05	22	04	05	01	06	03	04	02	06	16	19	0	19	37	5	8	3
Social Movement Committee till March 2002	14	39	08	47	04	30	10	40	06	72	18	90	06	24	06	30	30	165	42	207
Health Watch Committee till March 2002																				
Thana Level (Member from Landless Group)	01	03	03	06	01	01	03	04	01	02	03	05	01	01	02	03	04	07	11	18
Union level (Member from Landless Group)	02	06	05	11	02	05	05	10	02	06	05	11	02	06	06	12	08	23	21	44

TABLE – 19 (Participation in Local Shalish)

Description	Total Shalish of Last Year.	Total Shalish of Current Year.	Member attended the Shalish		Nature of Participation in Shalish			Landless Leader as Judge/Mediator			Result		No of Court Cases on Unsettled Shalish
			Male	Female	Shalish at Self-initiative of Land Less Leader (NK)		Shalish under Joint Leadership of Landless and Village Authority	Male	Female	Total	No of settled Shalish	No of unsettled Shalish	
					By emale Leader	Jointly by Male & Female Leader							
Women Issue (dowry, divorce, polygamy, rape, kidnapping, physical assault, fundamentalism and religious indictment)	278	235	2,344	899	39	143	53	463	158	621	210	--	25
Illegal Possession of Property from the Landless	300	270	1,313	268	118	125	27	457	28	485	239	23	08
Fundamentalism	46	33	430	172	06	20	07	58	13	71	30	01	02
Family Feud	662	932	6,338	3,593	751	137	44	1,566	401	1,967	917	--	15
Issue of Injustice and Oppression	20	152	1,375	347	42	71	39	234	32	266	130	--	22
Theft, Burglary and Hijacking	56	57	557	194	04	26	27	119	05	124	57	--	--
Local Corruption	129	97	990	337	05	52	45	216	28	244	93	01	03
Social Conflict	--	152	1,029	386	15	87	45	295	48	343	147	--	05
Total	1,691	1,928	14,376	6,196	980	661	287	3,408	713	4,121	1,823	25	80

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

Subject	Khas Land (Acre)						Water Body (Acre)			
	No of Group Member	Land Registered	No of Group Member	Land Leased	No of Group Member	Land Possessed	No of Group Member	Water Body Leased	No of Group Members	Water Body Possessed
Up to March 2001	1,811	6,641.47	80	69.30	1,014	940.04	259	33.30	805	176.19
Increase in April 2001-March 2002	467	693.21	266	39.00	507	308.06	127	63.60	361	123.06
Decrease in April 2001-March 2002	0	0	0	0	09	2.11	17	1.36	23	0.67
Total March 2002	2,278	7,334.68	345	108.30	1,512	1,245.99	369	95.54	1,143	298.58

TABLE – 21 (Recuperation of Properties of the Landless and Marginal Farmer from Illegal Possessor)

Description	No of Movement for Reclamation of Illegally Occupied Land	Win in the Movement and Quantity of Recuperated Land		No of Present Movement	Beneficiary Family
		No.	Amount of Land (Acre)		
Last Year	83	74	240.57	09	74
Current Year	124	101	314.07	23	1,603

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

Issue of Social Movement/Struggle	No of Movement in Last Year	Issue raised by Organisation of Women/Men	Division wise Movement/Struggle in 2000-2001					Total No of Movement in Current Year	No of Movement won	Ongoing Movement till date	Group's Participation in Movement of others
			Chittagong	Dhaka	Khulna	Rajshahi	Total				
Women issue: dowry, divorce, polygamy, rape, kidnapping, physical assault, fundamentalism and religious indictment	130	Women	35	23	21	29	108	321	62	46	40
		Men	41	13	12	17	83		56	27	
Resistance of 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 realisation of money and false cases.	109	Women	03	05	02	10	20	187	13	07	02
		Men	24	11	01	22	58		37	21	
Establishment of rights on local resources: establishment of rights on khas land, water bodies, regaining possession of disposed land	111	Women	27	0	02	08	37	309	17	20	03
		Men	130	05	13	13	161		126	35	
Environmental Issues: resisting commercial shrimp aquaculture, creating public support against excessive use of chemical fertiliser and pesticides.	16	Women	07	0	0	0	07	38	06	01	0
		Men	10	0	05	0	15		14	01	
Resistance to action and oppression of reactionary groups: resisting eviction of lands less from land, looting away ripe paddy, burning the houses, physical assault.	76	Women	04	0	01	06	11	121	07	04	0
		Men	18	0	09	07	34		10	24	
Resisting illegalities and irregularities of micro credit	33	Women	09	04	03	18	34	97	19	15	0
		Men	09	11	03	07	30		14	16	
Fundamentalism	44	Women	03	07	14	02	26	99	04	22	06
		Men	14	08	04	03	29		16	13	
Grand Total :	519	Women	88	39	43	73	243	1,172	128	69	51
		Men	246	48	47	69	410		273	137	
		Total	334	87	90	142	653		401	206	

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

Description	Initiative by Government /Landless Group	Govt Resource	Commercial Shrimp Aqua-culture	Food for Education and Work	Local Development Activity	Local Govt Corruption	Health	Environment and Water logging	Oppression on Women	Paddy Plantation and Harvesting	Falls Cases and Harassment	Fundamentalism	National/ International Day
Deputy Commissioner	By govt:	04	0	0	0	0	0	01	01	01	0	01	0
	By group	48	17	08	04	04	04	05	10	02	05	0	09
Land Administration	By govt:	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	02	0	0	0
	By group	118	06	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	0	0	0
Upazilla Administration	By govt:	15	02	04	03	01	0	06	0	06	06	0	06
	By group	125	04	18	05	40	16	42	34	34	22	01	27
Police Administration	By govt:	05	0	0	0	01	0	0	02	11	02	0	0
	By group	21	0	04	0	15	0	0	49	40	27	01	20
Candidate of National Election	By candidate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	By group	04	0	06	04	0	0	0	02	0	0	0	0
Parliament Member	By member	02	02	0	0	0	0	01	04	02	0	0	03
	By group	11	03	15	15	04	04	05	13	08	05	0	12
Union (parishad) Council	By council	06	0	13	08	06	01	04	02	06	06	01	0
	By group	157	0	47	60	85	05	32	80	72	26	09	32
Health Administration	By govt:	0	0	0	0	0	07	0	0	0	0	0	0
	By group	0	0	0	0	0	80	08	04	0	0	0	04
Education Administration	By govt:	0	0	02	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	By group	0	0	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	03
Press Club	By club:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	02	0	02
	By group	22	0	01	08	06	04	02	34	11	20	08	24
Bar Council	By council	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	By group	05	0	0	0	08	0	0	19	03	08	01	06
Women Organisation	By org:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	05	0	0	0	0
	By group	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	06	0	0	03	06
GRAND TOTAL	By govt:/ other:	48	04	19	11	08	08	12	14	28	16	02	11
	By group	511	30	123	96	162	113	94	252	182	112	23	143
	TOTAL	559	34	142	107	170	121	106	266	210	128	25	154