

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021

#### July 2020 to June 2021



OCTOBER

JHANJIRA SAMAJ KALLYAN SANGSTHA

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## Message from Chairperson

JSKS-Jhanjira Samaj Kallyan Sangstha has completed another successful year aimed bringing at about sustainable changes in the lives of people especially the most marginalised, socially excluded vulnerable. JSKS is one of the national Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) in Bangladesh creating as well as strengthening the demand for human rights and good governance. This

Report gives a glimpse of the achievements and also challenges that JSKS faced in implementing different programmes from July 2020 to June 2021.

A significant portion of planned activities of JSKS during the reporting period was hampered by the outbreak have Corona Virus known as COVID-19. The whole world is fighting against the pandemic COVID-19 and many of us has lost our beloved one because of this virus. JSKS deeply mourns the loss of our friends, relatives and well-wishers. However, we hope the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic that we have been experiencing since March 2020 will be controlled allowing us to go back to our regular lives soon.

Besides supporting grassroot level people's organisations', JSKS was involved in a number of advocacy efforts. I believe that JSKS will contribute to ensure a better quality of life for the poor and extreme poor, socially excluded and marginalised people. I would like to express my gratitude to all stakeholders for their valuable support to JSKS in every area.

Md. Abdur Razzague

Annual

## Message from Executive Director

It is my pleasure to present JSKS's Annual Report FY 20-21, which gives a quick look of the programs and activities that the organization accomplished during the reporting year. JSKS as an organization rolled out its program including the strategic directions along with several new initiatives to address national and global development issues. JSKS beliefs that, objectives attainable efficient implementation is more important than quantity. So that JSKS was firmed on quality program implementation. In order to maintain the quality the JSKS developed managed and practices several compliances and also powered the process. We like to - Welcome to our Annual Report 2021 covering the activities



of JSKS

from July 2020 to June 2021. JSKS was and is striving for defending social erosion; eradicate poverty, illiteracy, combat violence against women and girls, preventing violent extremism, ensuring good governance and to foster human dignity. JSKS, the democratic and people oriented voluntary organization past away this year with some new dimensional creation, which are effective, potential and the best bolster for the marginalized, discriminated and under privileged people. It is renowned as active & potential development organizations especially for the people who are struggling with their meagre livelihood and mendacity. JSKS like to tread with them through learning Sharing learning (LSL) approach vertical & horizontally and supplementary & complementary supports to trample on multifarious problems towards aspirated goal and objectives as a development organization. By the commitment of JSKS' staffs & the all concerns we have successfully overcome the year. It has been possible for the struggle, sacrifice and dedication of all colleagues, members of all Executive Committee and General Council. We want to thanks to all for the glorious achievement for their kinetic supports. It is our best pride & we think it should be proud of all who are involved with directly or indirectly. At this moment we optimistically want to be more determined to attain the JSKS' vision. At that moment they should be more committee for the long run of this program.

We were also privileged to host a large number of visitors, donors, guests, and staff from various social development and research organizations of home and abroad continuing to work closely with its valued partners such as Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF), Asian University for Women (AUW), University of Victoria, Management Systems International, USAID, Plan International, PKSF and the Government of Bangladesh. Last but not least, again best compliments and sincere thanks to all for the passionate concern those who have minimum feelings for the destitute and ill-fated inhabitant of this locality.

Mustafa Kamal

## Acronyms

CAP	:	Community Action Plan		
CLI	:	Community Led Initiatives		
CY	:	Courtyard		
DD	:	Deputy Director/Direct Delivery		
DMC	:	Disaster Management Committee		
DPHE	:	Department of Public Health Engineering		
ECCD	:	Early Childhoods Care and Development		
EVAW	:	Ending Violence Against Women		
FF	:	Field Facilitator		
GA	:	Gender Analysis		
GAF	:	Gender Analysis Framework		
GO	:	Government		
GoB	GoB : Government of Bangladesh			
НН	:	Household		
HHN	:	Health Hygiene and Nutrition		
HR	:	Human Resource		
IGA	:	Income Generating Activity		
IY	:	Implementation Year		
IWD	:	International Women Day		
JSKS	:	: Jhanjira Samaj Kallayan Sangsthya		
LEB	B : Local Elected Body			
NGO	:	Non-Government Organization		
NNPC	:	Nari Nirjatan Protirodh Committee		
PEP	:	Poor and Extreme Poor		
PM	:	Program Manager		
SBK	:	Shishu Bikas Kendra		
PVE	:	Preventing Violent Extremism		
SO	:	Strategic Objective		
UDV	:	Union Disaster Volunteer		
UP	:	Union Parishad		
VDC	:	Village Development Committee		
AUW	:	Asian University for Women		
UV	:	University of Victoria		

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#### BACKGROUND AND LEGAL STATUS OF THE ORGANIZATION: Background of JSKS

JSKS is the acronym of "Jhanjira Samaj Kallyan Sangstha". It is a non-profitable, non-government; non-political, social development organization took birth at the village named Jhanjira of Sadar upazila under Dinajpur district in October 10, 1983 by the active initiative of a group of dedicated and benevolent social workers with a view to promote the livelihood status of the underprivileged and disadvantage peoples in Bangladesh. After establishing the organization and leading to the path of progress. But the founder General Secretary Mr. Khademul Hoque died in 1989, which eclipsed the activities of the organization for a long time. However, the management body controls the situation and the present Executive Director Mr. Mustafa Kamal took over the Leadership and restarted and continued the development activities of the organization again from December 1991. Later on, it was emerged as development organization and has got registration of Social Service Department and NGO Affairs Bureau, the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh as well.

Departments	Registration Number	Registration Date
Directorate of Social Service	334	March 09,1987
NGO Affairs Bureau	1214	November 12,1997

A group of committed professionals are contributing their intellectuality under JSKS since inception with a strong background in both academic as well as length of service. During the journey of JSKS confront existence in development; it has been implementing numerous development projects. Initially, it was started its activities at local level focusing Social Development and Humanitarian support.

#### Vision of JSKS:

We envisage an enlightened society of hope, tolerance and justice where all people are free from poverty, exploitation, discrimination and enjoy rights with dignity.

#### **Mission of JSKS:**

To promote rights and social justice, improve livelihoods, eliminate gender and wealth disparities and building resilience against climate change for marginalized and vulnerable people in targeted areas of Bangladesh.

#### Human Resource:

Nature of job contract	Male	Female	Total	
Full time	14	10	24	

#### **Background Situation**:

Rights of the ethnic minority people (Indigenous people) program is combined into the theme because the development issues, context, culture of the indigenous communities are different than other groups. So that JSKS is addressing the target and context specific issues aligned with the relevant international, national and local laws, policies, plans and instruments. Ethnic people are named in many different terms across the world -Janajati, Adivasi, native, aboriginal, and first nation. In Bangladesh, they are termed as "tribal", "minority", and "small ethnic minority" in the national constitution through the 15<sup>th</sup> amendment. However, given the vast diversity of the people, International Labour Organization (ILO) uses an inclusive terminology "Indigenous and Tribal Peoples" in C 107 (1957) and C 169 (1989), ILO Convention 169 reads:

"Peoples in independent countries who are regarded as indigenous on account of their descent from the populations which inhabited the country, or a geographical region to which the country belongs, at the time of conquest or colonization or the establishment of present state boundaries and who, irrespective of their legal status, retain some or all of their own social, economic, cultural and political institutions."

Social exclusion is a process through which individuals or people are systematically deprived of enjoying (or denied full access to) various rights, opportunities an resources that are normally available to the members of different groups, and which are fundamental to social integration and observance of human rights within that particular group. JSKS is working with the ethnic people in the northern-western part of Bangladesh.

JSKS is working to prevent the working children from all sorts of exploitation and discrimination and targeting to the vulnerable children involved in harmful labour-intensive activities in government identifies hazardous 38 sectors. JSKS is protecting the children from taking up child labour and also withdraw the children from harmful works. The overall objectives include vital pathways for the identification, investigation and treatment of multiple forms of abuses and adversities in a child's life.

To ensure security and rights of women and girls JSKS struggling to create an environment for women where they can take decisions, access public services and participate in political, social and economic activities equally without fear of violence and threats.

There are many different groups of people who face marginalization and discrimination. Disability is a cross cutting issue which is addressing JSKS with ensuring highest priorities. Almost 10-13% population are suffering with disabilities. An example of individual marginalisation in the context of Bangladesh may be the exclusion of individuals with disabilities from the labour force. On the other hand, marginalisation at the 'community' level results in massive exclusion of different groups in terms of religion, ethnicity, caste and occupational identity, particularly the population belonging to Dalit and sex worker communities. Marginalisation of these communities is a product of their minority situation in the country. As a result, these communities lose their land and abode, are forced into destitute areas, lose their sources of income, and are excluded from education, basic services and the labour market.

The populations which belong to disabled, landless, old aged, destitute women, widows, transgender (third gender), street children, etc. are also being treated with demeaning outlook from the State and society. They lead a miserable life without having access to basic facilities like housing, health, education, sanitation, employment, social safety-net or legal support.

Every country in the world is working in the light of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child to establish the rights of the child. Bangladesh is also working on the establishment of child rights in the light of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Bangladesh has also been working successfully to implement the Sustainable Development Goals. Bangladesh lags far behind in the of Sustainable implementation Development Goals 3 (Good Health & Well-being) and 5 (Gender Equality). JSKS is working to successfully implement these two goals. For this, JSKS is working with 3 outcomes. Outcome 1: Increased agency of young people, particularly girls and young women to act as change agents

on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) including prevention of SGBV. Outcome 2: Civil society, including child and youth led networks, have strengthened capacity and collaboration holding the state accountable on commitments made on SRHR and SGBV at national and district level. Outcome 3: Increased responsiveness and positive social norms among government duty bearers and community gatekeepers to implement policies and programs on young people's rights to SRH and protection from SGBV at national, district and sub-district level. Achieving these 3 is leading outcomes to the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals 3 and 5 as well as a achievement in establishing major children's rights.

Youth is the most viable and potential human resource not only in population structure but also in social structure. Without proper and integrated social development of the youth, a nation cannot achieve her human goals intended. Although the Government of Bangladesh has formulated policy, plans and programs for youth welfare and implementing these programs but face a lot of socio-cultural problems in which they cannot develop and empower themselves properly. As a result, they cannot play their significant roles in socio-economic development and change. JSKS is working in most poverty prone backward area in Bangladesh, 47.2% population lives under poverty. Both poverty and extreme poverty (30.5%) are much higher than the national average and it is increasing. Agriculture is

the main occupation and major part of the population work as day labourer. High dropout rate, early marriage & Violence Against Women is another phenomenon. Youths are the main victim of poverty, unemployment rate (10%) of youth is higher than the overall national unemployment rate 4.18%. Unemployment rate (12%) of young women also higher than men. Lack of employment skills, working environment & workplace security are the obstacles for decent employment of women & youth. Youth from the Alim & Kaomi Madrasa is unable to integrate with main stream work force due to lack of employment skills. In the other hand, lack of social integration of different groups of youth

increases isolation, lack of respect to other's opinion, believe & culture, intolerance and self-centred thinking of peoples. Violence extremism is a problem and increased in the region in recent years. JSKS study revealed that long lasting deprivation, exclusion, intolerance and threatening of identity/believe are the main driving factors of violence extremism.

Following this, JSKS, with the overall support of partner organizations like Plan International, MJF, has been implementing various activities. Each and every activity JSKS implemented with ensuring quality. As per the plan JSKS successfully implemented all the activities to achieve the outcome or targeted result.

#### STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS OF JSKS AND A SNAP SHOT:

JSKS formulated 4 (four) strategic directions which are focuses domains of the organization separately and independently.

#### **Snap Shot on Strategic Directions:**

## Strategic Goal 1: Promoting Rights and Protection

Creating opportunities to ensure rights and protection of the children, adolescents, youth and young adults through inclusive education, protection from abuse, child labor and trafficking in the society through agency building, creating awareness and sensitizing relevant authorities, agencies and increased participation in decision making on the issues related to rights and protection.

## Strategic Goal 2: Inclusive Governance and Social Cohesion

Preparing and ensuring of LGI's effective participation of communities and responsiveness to the needs and people (young and excluded) have opportunities to become active citizen and agents of progressive change.

#### Strategic Goal 3: Economic and Social Empowerment

Transform the lives of excluded poor and extreme poor households in most marginalized districts in Bangladesh by reducing their social and economic vulnerability.

#### Strategic Goal 4: Humanitarian Response and Building Community Resilience

Enhancing resilience of vulnerable women, men, children and persons with disabilities on DRR and CCA and reducing negative impact through improved knowledge and skills on preparedness and appropriate adaptation options.

To achieve the above Strategic Directions, JSKS is implementing the following project and the details of the projects are given below:

#### **Strategic Direction: Promoting Rights and Protection:**

#### Life skill Education:

JSKS's field staffs are responsible to conduct the sessions at field groups in each month. The main agenda of Life-Skill sessions are Introductions of Life skill, my rights, Setting my goal, Emotion management, communication skill, change yourself, we can, which the best for me, I can say 'No', nothing is impossible, good emotion bad emotion, I am the leader, compromise, public conversation, build the future, will cross the sea, extremism, stress management, deep thinking, networking skill, gender, violence against women & girls, social harmony & peace, we protect the environment and democracy and local government etc.

Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights: The life skill education of SRHR are Setting



Life skill Education Session at field level

my goal, my capacity and values, communication without hesitation and coping with stress, growing up as a women or а man, establishing relationships, division of labour, gender based discrimination and empowerment process, puberty, menstrual management and nutrition, early marriage and risks of pregnancy during adolescence, nightmares/dream defects and nutrition, sexual and reproductive health education, family planning method, sexual diseases and prevention, smoking and its harmful side, use of narcotic and its harmful effect, gender base violence and prevention mechanism, decision making, emotion management and anger control, adolescent friendly health assistance etc.

All of the sessions are conducting at field level on monthly basis like one discussion issue providing in a month. We are watching remarkable change within our targeted communities and their willingness, leadership, mobility etc. is increasing gradually.

#### **Orientation on Gender, Peace, harmony, tolerance, diversity:**

JSKS successfully organized the orientation on Gender, Peace, Harmony, Tolerance, Diversity. All the group leaders were participated to the orientation. This was really interesting discussion because JSKS experienced to work of preventing violent extremism since 2018. The orientation method was lecture, video demonstration, small group work, open house discussion etc.

#### **NCTF Meeting:**

In this reporting period 9 number of monthly NCTF meeting arranged by the JSKS. NCTF members are participated in this meeting. They are discussed and select the meeting agenda. Meeting agendum are Eligibility to become an NCTF member, create awareness to prevent drug use, awareness about child marriage, add new NCTF member, Task of

#### **Capacity Building for Marginalized Groups:**

- The NCTF members have gained a clear understanding of child rights, gender, advocacy and protective behaviour through this training.
- Through this training, NCTF members learned strategies on how to discuss

#### **Intergenerational Dialogue**

The Intergenerational Dialogue was inaugurated by Chief guest Mr. Dr. Md. Abu Nasar Nurul Islam Chowdhory, Deputy Director of Family Planning, Dinajpur by delivered a short speech. There was a short introduction session and after that Mr. Mustafa Kamal, Executive Director of JSKS delivered his welcome speech. Mr. Mustafa Kamal pays his sincere thanks and welcome to all participants for attends this Intergenerational Dialogue. He also explained the Y-Moves Project purposes and implementation strategies with a detail's relationships with Technical Partner Plan International Bangladesh and Donor organization SIDA with a view to promote participation of children and youth especially girls and advance their right to sexual and reproductive health. He sought the spontaneous participation

the NCTF, Identify the major problems facing adolescents in the area, make a plan to solve the problems, Conduct regular session from the Peer Educator manual on Sexual and Reproductive Health & Rights. What to do during the Covid-19 situation. The children spontaneously participated in the discussion of the meeting.

child rights, gender, advocacy and protective behaviour with others.

 NCTF members are committed to claim their rights in relevant service providing agencies.

and cooperation of all in the implementation of the project activities.

Mr. Dr. Md. Abu Nasar Nurul Islam Chowdhory, Deputy Director of Family Planning, Dinajpur said that, In a real sense JSKS has started working on a timely issue. Adolescent health care in the area is really neglected especially reproductive health care. Their goal and objectives are relevant to Bangladesh Government agenda. So, they are helping Government to create an enabling environment for the children & young people. He expressed his thanks to JSKS, Plan International Bangladesh & SIDA for organize this intergenerational dialogue and also thanks to all participants for given valuable time and presence. He also suggests a strategy plan. He said that; we have a manual about SRHR & SGBV. If possible arrange 4 days SRHR and SGBV training for High school teacher. Each high

school 2/3 teacher both male and female is attending in the training. Family Planning, Dinajpur will be providing technical support in this training. Trained teacher will discuss these topics in their classroom next. As a result, all the adolescence in the area will get a clear understanding about SRHR and SGBV at the same time. He confirmed that to implement the project, Family planning department of Dinajpur always extend their hand for any kind of support and I really want to create an enabling environment for children and young people. And also requested to all to ensure necessary cooperation to JSKS.

Special Guest Dr. Md Rezaul Haque, District consultant, Family Planning, Dinajpur said that, any time need technical support about this subject he will be try to provide them. He instructed the community clinic in the area to cooperate sincerely in this regard. He also highlighted the health risk of adolescents during this period.

#### Child Rights Week observation

JSKS celebrated the Child rights week and World girl child day 2020 in working areas with NCTF members and locals on 11 October 2020. A total of 24 NCTF and child members attend the program. Of which 18 were girls and 6 boys. To successfully celebrate World Girl Child day and Child Rights Week, Plan international Bangladesh organized an online discussion meeting on 06 October 2020. As per decision of the online discussion meeting, a special meeting was held with the NCTF members on 07 October 2020. The meeting with NCTF members sought

Others participant shared their views and experiences this regard. Everyone wants to see a enabling environment for protection, participation, and reproductive health for children and adolescents in the area through a good work. They all said to cooperate in this regard.

The Chair Person Mr. Mukul Chandra Roy, Chairman, Rajrampur Union Parishod, Birol, Dinajpur finally delivered his speech in this Inception Meeting. He said that, Rajarampur Union of Birol Upazila is a backward area in Bangladesh. As a result Children and youth are lagging behind. There is no participation of children & young peoples in development activities. Children and adolescence especially girls are the most affected by reproductive health, child marriage and various forms of abuse. He thanked to JSKS and Plan International Bangladesh for organizing such a program. Through this speech he ended the Intergenerational Dialogue with full of thanks to all participants.

opinion on what could be the event or activities of World girl child day and Child rights week. World girl child day and child rights week are observed on 11 October 2020. At the outset, NCTF members spontaneously decorated the venue with colourful balloon's, colourful flowers and coloured paper. The program was conducted by NCTF member Sullbanus Tudu. The main event began with the NCTF members attending the speech competition. The topic of the present speech was the role of the society in preventing child marriage. In this topic NCTF members Joya Hemrom said, Child marriage can be prevented very easily if parents and people in the society are aware of this. Speaking on the present speech competition, Golapi Hemrom, another member of the NCTF, said that everyone should be informed about the evils of child marriage. Besides, girls also have to protest against such issues.

Later the Essay competitions were organized among the children. The subject of the essay competition was child rights. At the end of various competitions World girl child day and child rights week are discussed. Mr. Mojes Murmo and Minoti Rany Roy were present as local representatives at the discussion. Mr.

#### Girls Take Over

JSKS celebrated the Girls takeover in Birol Upazila on 15 October 2020. Firstly we arrange a NCTF members meeting for Girls takeover program. In front of the NCTF members, the overall subject including what is the girl's takeover program, its goals, objectives and criteria for the child selected for the Girls Takeover are discussed. Opinions of the NCTF members Golapi Hemrom are selected for the takeover. Golapi Hemrom also agreed to takeover.

We selected the takeover position and talk to the Upazila social service Officer about the Girls takeover program. He agreed with us. The Girls takeover program was discussed with all the Officers and employees of the Upazila Social Services office and everyone cooperation was sought.

Before the takeover, Golapi Hemrom was prepared for the Upazila Social Service position. She was informed about the duties and responsibilities of an Upazila Social Services Officer. At the beginning of the Girls Takeover program, Upazila Social

Mojes Murmo said that while the area is more aware of various issues including child rights than before but more needs to be done to make everyone in the area aware. He thanked Plan International Bangladesh and JSKS for working on this. Minoty Rani Roy said that, if such events are held regularly, everyone in the area will be aware. Project officer Mr. Saiful Alam discusses the significance of World girl child day and Child rights week 2020. He called upon all to come forward for the realization of the rights of children, especially girls. He thanked everyone present including NCTF members, for join the program.

Services Officer Mr. Md. Anisur Rahaman briefed the audience about the on-going work of the Social Service Office. Then Golapi Hemrom set in the chair of the Upazila Social service Officer applauding everyone. Golapi Hemrom got acquainted with all the officers and employees of the Upazila Social Service Office. She urged all the officers of the office to present activity and progress of their work. Among them union social worker Md. Mofajol Islam and Mst. Rehana Parvin highlighted the progress of their work. Golapi Hemrom thanked them and urged them to do their own work. Then a poor helpless woman came to the social services office to help and asked Golapi Hemrom to provide services on behalf of the social services office. Golapi Hemrom asked her at the time if she received any government assistance. The poor woman said, she did not receive any assistance from the government. Golapi Hemrom assured her of cooperation on behalf of the social service office.

Finally, Golapi Hemrom again invited the Upazila Social Services Officer to sit in his chair and thanked the Upazila Social Service Office and JSKS for giving her such an opportunity.

Mr. Mustafa Kamal, Executive Director, JSKS thanked the Upazila Social service Officer and the Upazila Social Service Office on behalf of JSKS for their overall support to the Girls Takeover Program.

#### Experience sharing meeting :

After returning from the Upazila Social Service office, an experience sharing **Coordination Meeting with Leaders:** 

To sharing of progress and develop a plan for next quarter the Forums/Federations are organizing the Coordination Meeting at Union Level where participated grassroot level representatives including Union Parishad representative or duty meeting was organized with the NCTF members at Rajarampur Union. Golapi Hemrom shared her experience at the sharing meeting. She said, it is a different feeling for me that I have been able to sit in the chair of a government official. Now, I will definitely try to qualify for such position. She further told that if we try we will definitely succeed. The other girls present were also inspired and promised that they too would strive for a better position and a better man.

bearers. This meeting was very important where discussing the risk or vulnerability and taken decision/measure accordingly. During the reporting year JSKS successfully organized the coordination meetings.

#### Provide Support to Person with Disabilities:

Mobility and social inclusion play a key role in realizing the rights of persons with disabilities of all ages and JSKS is providing them with an adequate standard of living, a basic level of assistive device and income security; thus, reducing levels of vulnerability. Moreover, mainstreaming concerning persons with disabilities can have a major role in promoting their independence and inclusion by meeting their specific needs and supporting their participation social in а nondiscriminatory manner. These social protection measures include may vulnerability reduction, technical and financial support, social and health assistance, neighbour/friends support etc. and participation in social activities.

Being a right base organization and following completely rights-based approach must accommodate the needs

of persons with disabilities. Traditional disability-related social welfare schemes have mainly focused on poverty rather account specific than taking into challenges faced by persons with disabilities; particularly active participation in education, access to health and employment. Generally, of addressing benefits for persons with disabilities have shown limited progress in overcoming the deeply-rooted social structures and practices that hinder opportunities for persons with disabilities. Consequently, social inclusion needs to traditional move bevond welfare approaches to intervention systems that promote active citizenship, social inclusion and community participation while avoiding paternalism and dependence.

There are identified total 1521 Person with Disabilities are the direct beneficiaries of JSKS. JSKS is the technically sound organization to serve the disability sector. By this time JSKS **Leadership Training:** 

Development is a process that prepares people to navigate and realize their potential. An important aspect of targeted population's development is leadership skill. Leadership focus on targeted population developing the following:

- the ability to analyse his or her own strengths and weaknesses, set personal and vocational goals, and have the self-esteem, confidence, motivation, and abilities to carry them out (including the ability to establish support networks in order to fully participate in community life and effect positive social change) and
- the ability to guide or direct others on a course of action, influence the

developed individual plan of person with disabilities for improvement.

opinions and behaviours of others and serve as a role model.

While beneficiaries' development meets basic physical, developmental, and social needs, leadership seeks to position peoples as leaders in their community, to take positions of leadership. Through their leadership, children and young people gain the skills and knowledge to lead civic engagement and community organizing activities. Youth leadership is both an internal and an external process.

Through this project JSKS is trying to develop socially excluded population as active citizen. So that, JSKS developed module for Leadership Training and we have already been provided the leadership training.

#### **Strengthen Local Social & Cultural Organizations:**

after independent Before and of Bangladesh and as per our culture there some local and cultural organization were working for community development with self-motivation even organize cultural program also voluntarily. As per our plan, we are identifying those organizations and organize meeting to review their problems and to know that why they are not working properly. However, all of organization were participated **Community led activities:** 

Community led activities is the beauty of any program and we are facilitating them to organize different needful event in their own areas. By this time all of the Peoples Forums successfully organize the Dengue prevention work, cleaning, spontaneously and following the problems, we have facilitated to develop a plan to activate the organizations again. JSKS are ensuring follow up with those organization and gradually our leaders are involving with their activities and working together. During this period JSKS has ensured follow-up to those organization and the organizations are actively working for their community development.

awareness raising to prevent COVID-19, street drama on various issues, human chain to prevent all kind of violence against women and girls, preventing early marriage/sexual harassment, Blood Grouping Camp, Blood Donation Camp, Plantation, Road Reconstructions, Mask Distribution to prevent COVID-19, Hat/Bazar Cleaning to prevent COVID-19, Day Observations etc. Communities are

National/International Day Observation

JSKS successfully organized the significant days like International Women's Day, National Youth Day, Human Rights Day, International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, Rokeya day with a view to create awareness jointly with District and Upazila administration. The significant days are International Women day, Human Rights Day, National Youth Day and Victory Day which completely led by stakeholders and beneficiaries.

#### **Cultural Program**

During the reporting year JSKS facilitated the CBO's to observation the Independent Day. They have organized the Discussion meeting with cultural programmes and partially contributed to procure prizes for the winner of sports competition. Through this event our target was to build the

#### Gender Mainstreaming

Bangladesh, a signatory to the Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and Beijing Platform for Action (BPFA) has been committed in attaining the objectives of ensuring gender equality and empowerment of women.

Bangladesh Government has been actively engaged in formulating proactive policies and taking affirmative action for accelerating the implementation process in achieving the goal of holistic empowerment of women. JSKS like other development organizations are pioneer in participating spontaneously and we are watching some change in the working community.

JSKS also observed the day at the JSKS Office or community level with organizing Blood Donation camp where the Government relevant departments district upazila including and administration were present. Almost 100 of youth were participated to the discussion meeting and donated the Bloods to the Sondhani under Dinajpur Medical College.

organizing capacity and develop leadership of the organizers that they have ability to do anything and they completed successfully. Even the local elites, Union Parishad and other local actor were actively participated.

calling for Gender mainstreaming in every sphere of operation.

Their speedy awareness program and call for gender mainstreaming have made the government pro-active in recognizing the importance of gender integration. However, agreeing this it has also noticed that implementation of the concept of gender mainstreaming still remains uneven. JSKS have successfully channelled resources toward providing different services, but we have been less successful in integrating gender and addressing gender concerns. JSKS is trying to focus on their need to disburse support, meet targets, and demonstrate results. Also, JSKS tried to involve into planning and design, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation process of any project. However, as practice JSKS is developing gender budget, involvement of women/girls in every sphere of project

#### **Campaign- Equity through dignity:**

Basically, this a campaign of Equity through dignity. JSKS are discussing the issues at rural level and need base human chain, discussion meeting, rally, protest against any kind of violence is in practice

Through the believe that creating people's access to the rights and services make them empower thus can change themselves. JSKS initiates developing people's platform on the name of group, federation, CBO, self-help group and trying to develop their capacities. There are various instantiates to capacity building like training, meeting, exposure, input supports and other need-based supports ensuring through different projects. The CBOs are gradually developing themselves through leading their local planned development initiatives based priorities, on in mobilizing and exploring resources and available services. They are developing

#### Planning meeting;

Plan is very important of each and every work. JSKS are facilitating the event effectively where developing the yearly plan based on their reality. We are just facilitating the CBO's and through this plan the leaders are executing the actions life. JSKS designed project at least 40% beneficiary of women & girls and some project designed for 100% women & girls. Accordingly, JSKS developed necessary policy and procedures which is in practicing and periodic reporting are going on.

where community, local institutions are participated regularly and all the participating organizations are owned the campaign.

#### **Strengthen Community Base Organization/Peoples Organization:**

their Community Action Plan (CAP) based on their requirements and priories and implementing it utilizing local resources and keeping effective linkage with local administrations and service providers. It has found that the group, federation, CBO's and Self-Help Groups strengthened their capacities, becoming proactive, collecting information and capable to get rights and entitlements. The federations successfully demonstrating their capacities and leaders are ensuring participation of all members with ensuring transparency and accountability and promoting second line leadership who will shoulder the organization's work in future.

in their own area. Here also JSKS providing technical support for ensuring quality of each event.

#### Use of social accountability tools

Social accountability refers to promoting good governance by making ruling elites more responsive. In Bangladesh, where bureaucracy and legislature operate with little effective accountability or checks and balances, traditional horizontal or vertical accountability proved to be very blunt and weak. In the presence of such faulty mechanisms, ordinary citizen's access to information is frequently denied, and their voices are kept mute. It impasses the formation of an enabling environment, where activists and civil society institutions representing the ordinary people's interest are actively discouraged. They become vulnerable to retribution. Social accountability, on the other hand, provides an enabling environment for activists and civil society institutions to operate freely. Thus,

leaders and administration become more accountable to people. An enabling environment means providing legal protection, enhancing the availability of information and increasing citizen voice, strengthening institutional and public service capacities and directing incentives that foster accountability. Donors allocate significant shares of resources to encouraging civil society to partner with elites rather than holding them accountable. This paper advocate for a stronger legal environment to protect critical civil society and whistle-blowers, and for independent grant-makers tasked with building strong, self-regulating social accountability institutions. Key Words: Accountability, Protection, Legal Efficiency, Civil Society, Responsiveness

#### **Strategic Goal 2: Inclusive Governance and Social Cohesion**

#### Preventing Violent Extremism:

Context:

Bangladesh witnessed an incremental growth of violent extremism in recent years. It is observed that countryside or less developed areas face a number of violent incidents. Different state and nonstate actors usually pay attention to urban and semi-urban settings for designing countering/preventing violent extremism (CVE/PVE) interventions, thus, interventions targeting rural people are often not considered.

Local government agencies have a strong ground level infrastructure throughout

the country. The local government elected body (LGEB) is generally well connected with the community. They have trustworthy relationship with the mass people and the people also come to the them first whenever they face any problems. Union Parishad (UP) is the bottommost administrative strata and LGEB in Bangladesh. There are 13 issue based standing committees at each UP to functionalize UP's role and responsibility. These committees are formed by the elected-UP chairman, member, reserved women member along with selected citizen representatives (e.g. teacher, imam, priest, community elders, politicians, local elites etc.). But these committees are also often found inactive

#### Activity Summary:

This activity seeks to increase societal tolerance in the community by engaging selected standing committees of Local Government Elected Body (LGEB) at Union Parishad (UP) and Upazila Parishad (UPZ). JSKS organized PVE planning workshops with selected UP and UPZs, conduct a huge number of community engagement events community (e.g. dialogue, intergeneration discussion, courtyard meeting, debate, celebration of different festivals, inter and intra-faith dialogue, interactive popular theatre, film screening, sports competition etc.) at different educational institutions (school, college, madrasa etc.), religious institutions (mosque, temple etc.), and community institutions (irrigation committees, bazar committee, trade committee). In addition to the community JSKS engagement, organized one dialogues with divisional commissioner of the Bangladesh govt. in Rangpur division with high level govt. staffs along with civil society representatives to share project progress and recommendations.

There is insufficient knowledge and understanding of PVE, as an outcome of this Action, Civil Society actors are anticipated to get technically equipped to adapt and mainstream PVE to the specific community contexts based on the insights resulting from the cross-learnings and or less functional due to adequate skill and resources. Based on their influence and connectivity over the community, the UP could play a vital role to prevent violent extremism (VE) at the grassroots level.

institutional dialogue supported by this Action. The intervention implemented by the JSKS focuses on Civil Societies as repositories of value-based approaches to PVE that emphasize the importance of pluralism in practice and rule of law through community level capacity building and dialogue to create counter-narratives to prevent radicalization and promote tolerance and social cohesion across various social, political and religious divides. Mobilization of multi-sectoral organic groups, particularly religious and community youth as leaders interlocutors of counter narratives is a key aspect of the response.

JSKS implemented a series of community and local government-based activities to ultimately create a counter narrative for Violent extremism in different contexts, calling for sustainable action to maintain the same.

JSKS closely considered the contextual specifications and restrictions as well as public perceptions in the local context during implementing visibility activities, giving due attention to factors such as cultural sensitivity, sensitivity to beneficiaries and sovereign system and maintaining visibility and communication activities as appropriate. JSKS successfully organized the PVE Planning Workshop with local government institutions and civil societies. Each LGI's consisting of 13 Standing Committees and JSKS worked with Standing Committee members and civil society representatives. However, as implementation plan, JSKS organized the PVE Planning Workshops for

#### **Orientation to Prevent Violent Extremism:**

Violent Extremism is also a major problem in our working areas. Also, radicalization is also increasing where the youth community is involving in the extremism and radicalization process. To know the real situation, we set the objectives which are given below:

#### **Objectives:**

- To develop clear understanding about violent extremism;
- To analyse the threatened situation of Dinajpur district as

#### **Conducted Courtyard Assembly:**

Courtyard Assembly is one of the best events of community engagement events and it also cost-effective program. Initially our plan was that 105 courtyard assembly but actually we have successfully completed 73 numbers of Courtyard Assembly at rural level of working Organized Dialogues to Prevent Violent Extremism:

Civil society / Communities are more sensitized and organized and they are able to work as an actor to raise awareness and force multiplier effect in communities where violent extremism may occur. Local government and other civil society organization, CBOs, media, faith-based organizations and governments will opportunities for visibility arise, the project will seize the opportunity for its benefit.

the members of LGI's and civil society representatives. The participants include Chairman, Member Secretary, Female members, elites, teachers and civil society representatives. With a view to successful workshop and to ensure the quality of workshop, JSKS hired consultant who are experts on PVE issues and facilitation skill.

well as Bangladesh about violent extremism;

 To prepare a collective action plan and strategies to prevent violent extremism and share the responsibilities to all stakeholders.

The workshop participants were youth leaders, teachers, GoB representatives, duty bearers, journalists, religious leaders etc. and we have identified the risk level of our area and developed a plan to prevent violent extremism collectively.

areas. Mainly the participants were member of school management committee, member of religious institutions like mosque/ temple/pagoda; irrigation committee member; CBO's leader teachers, elites etc.

provide active support by developing comprehensive and effective mechanisms to prevent violent extremism and radicalization.

The purpose of Dialogue is to capture the knowledge of the participants about different type of Violence and extremism and discuss and help them come up with suggestions as to how individually, and collectively, they can play efficacious role in addressing these issues in order that such phenomenon can be trimmed off in the bud.

# After completion of participant's registration, the district dialogue on PVE **Organized Inter-Generation Discussion:**

A generation is one of the fundamental social categories who work as a change maker in a society. The segregation of people based on age differences has resulted in the serious breakdown of interactions among generations. The principles of intergeneration Discussion on Preventing Violent Extremism could promote the balanced distribution of resources and peaceful life opportunities between generations. Intergeneration perspective would help safeguard on PVE light of the interests of in the disadvantaged and future generations. The response to the increasing age segregation, which is exacerbated by increasingly age-segregated views and **Celebration of International Day for Tolerance:** 

International Tolerance Day is an international event that is observed each year by nations all across the world. 16th November Celebrating as an International Day for Tolerance every year is a great reminder to the people worldwide about the dignity and value of human being. It also encourages people to live peacefully. It offers more opportunity to evaluate the progress of whole year as well as highlight the areas required more awareness to make this world more tolerant and peaceful. In our society, people of different backgrounds, cultures and faith live together so, establishing tolerance and harmony has become more

issue began at 10.00 AM DC Office Hall room, Dinajpur. In this workshop Deputy Commissioner (DC) **of** Dinajpur district was the chief guest, Mr. Abdul Quddus, Consultant was the special guest and Mr. Mustafa Kamal Executive Director of JSKS was the chairperson.

idea relevant to intergeneration perspective on PVE which will promote to connect the elder and younger generations by identify activities through mutual understanding. In this Inter Generation Discussion, all generation individuals within the inter generation groups share common challenges that hamper their ability to participate on an equal balance with other groups in society. To address the issue of the 'Inter Generation Discussion on preventing Violent Extremism' will discover the forms of cooperation between young people and the elderly in the processes of peace and violence free society.

crucial and important; fostering mutual love and affection has become vital. We all have our unique characteristics and personalities that make us different from each other. Those characteristics, qualities and attributes - which are the bases for the betterment of society. Achieve a mutual understanding with another person and his family or friends. It is common, but sad, to hear that lots of conflicts happened between friends and family members because of even controversial political and social issues. Lack of tolerance leads to fighting, violence, and finally it destroys the peace and security of society. When people fail

their arguments, thev become in intolerant and then they use force and aggression to support their point of view. This is why we seek to prevent violent extremism through enhancing awareness about dangers of intolerance and its implications in maintaining the peace among people by observing the International Tolerance Day.

JSKS is doing good work for the society. Their goal and objectives are relevant to Bangladesh Government agenda. So, they are helping Government to create a peaceful society. He expressed his thanks to JSKS for organize this Divisional Round Table Dialogue of "Role and Responsibility for Local Government and Community" on PVE issue and also thanks to all participants for given valuable time and presence.

#### LGEB and Standing Committee members with knowledge of PVE

The Objectives targeted have achieved because of our workshop discussion issues were easy understandable and we were designed in consideration of LGEB leaders and standing committee members. Even the Pre and Post test result also shown that JSKS has achieved 100% target. Firstly, we have discussed about their present roles and responsibilities and later we have reviewed the actual responsibilities as per government acts/rules and tried to find out the gaps with а view to improve their responsibilities and accountability to the community. The participants known about only violence but they haven't knowledge about violent extremism. And the consultant made details discussion about violent extremism. its historical background, drivers, it's possible causes, threats in our society, strategies to identify the extremist and strategy to develop a peaceful society and how the Union Parishad & Upazila Parishad could play their role to create a peaceful society. They also realized the importance of LGEB as representatives of grass-root people living in far-flung rural areas, in planning and working out pragmatic action plans to prevent and counter VE. They also felt that small initiatives with the people at the grass-root levels could forge together

strong working forces who could play very effective and constructive roles in PVE/CVE. The exercise they undertook to draw up action plan provided them onexperiences for hand designing, developing action plans and mobilizing forces for implementation of such plans. During the event, JSKS conducted Pre and Post Test and the results we have documented and found that increased the knowledge of PVE almost hundred percent participant. And the participant also attended in different community engagement events and discussed about the PVE issues.

#### **Strategic Goal 3: Economic and Social Empowerment**

#### **Coordination Meeting with Training Institutes:**

JSKS wants to ensure vocational training for the socially excluded population. Basically, there are many organizations who are providing various skills development training. But there is not any coordination among the organizations, even they didn't know each other.

However, we have organized and conduct the coordination meeting and participated Government Organizations and NGOs Training providing Institutes. This was only program where Training providers were met through this event. Every Training

#### **Vocational Skill Development Training:**

JSKS organized the Training with the partic technical Support of BSCIC Dinajpur. JSKS Traini sending participants to the BSCIC and the the organization providing training and Centre Linkage with Bank, MFI & financial institutes:

With a view to establish linkage with the financial institutions JSKS is organizing meeting with the Banks, MFI's and other financial organizations who are providing services in our working areas. The initiative is really successful and we are linking with our beneficiaries from vulnerable communities will be able to get

#### Provide Training on Entrepreneurship:

Following the plan JSKS organized the training for 3 days on entrepreneurship to the beneficiaries as per their interest. JSKS and BSCIC were facilitated the training following their schedule and module. Total 2115 enthusiastic population were participated the training. All of the participants were developed their

business

Providers discussed their opportunities which we have documented.

During the reporting year huge participants got training from the different training providing organization and completed their course successfully. Mostly the courses were Tailoring, Motor Driving, Electrical House Wearing, Welding, Refrigeration, Computer, Automobile Servicing, Block Batik and Readymade Garments etc.

participated in the Entrepreneurship Training including Beekeeping provided by the organization at the JSKS Training Centre.

support from the financial institutions. Each and every organization presented their opportunities including terms and conditions which beneficiaries will follow in future if they want to get support for their financial solvency with a view to start their business or strengthen their existing business.

business plan which has been reviewed by the technical experts. Following the plan, the participants developed a plan for implementation. JSKS will ensure followup and technical support to made successful of their project in future.

#### Ending Violence Against Women & Girls (VAW&G):

JSKS has been working for women empowerment for long time aiming to develop women entrepreneurs for empowerment; to create economic women friendly enabling environment in the society; to establish women human rights; to reduce any form of violence against women and focused the measurable reduction of different forms of violence and creating their better access to the quality services and resources; enhanced income opportunities of the poor and vulnerable women by helping them to establish small scale entrepreneurship and escalating their capabilities. Following the strategy JSKS formed women and adolescents groups consisting of average 20-25 members each. То increase responsiveness to the community JSKS facilitated, reformed and strengthened the Nari Nirjaton Protirodh Committee (NNPC) and functional the committee; formed ward base Social Support Group (SSG) with a view to facilitate their activities and initiatives. Also assist them for technical support and necessary documentation. The SSG Members are retired teacher, UP Member, local elites and who are willing to involve at social work. Really the SSG worked to create an enabling environment for women also to combat violence against women. To combat early marriage was a remarkable success of SSG

To combat early marriage and stop sexual harassment JSKS conducted School Program at High School level and formed a committee consisting of 11 members. Awareness rising on early or child marriage had a positive effect on a radical change the mind-set of the children and parents. They combine have been taking initiatives to stop early marriage in their community. JSKS implemented several activities in this reporting period as follows:

Capacity Development of Project Staff and Organization Gender ToT on on Right Sensitivity, Training on to Information Act -2009, Domestic Violence (Protecting & Preservation) Act 2010; Formation of Entrepreneur Forum, Social Support Group (SSG), Local Bazaar Committee; lssue Based Courtyard Assembly [Issues of discussion (Basic & Refreshers): gender based division of labor, VAW, UP services, women's economic empowerment, women's rights, Right to Information Act -2009, Domestic Violence (Protecting & Preservation) Act 2010.]; Training for UP & SSG members on Gender Sensitivity, SSG group Meeting, Sharing Meeting with SSG; Training for Women UP & SSG members on Assertiveness; Nari Nirjaton Protirodh (NNPC) Committee NNPC meeting, Orientation.

Gender and Entrepreneurship Training (Basic) with Refreshers; SSG Workshop on the role of SSG to Women Economic Empowerment and reducing violence Against women; Conducting Human Chain on the right claiming/ movement for Sexual harassment and violence against women; Discussion meeting on the issues of sexual harassment & early marriage at educational institutions; Meeting with entrepreneurs on gender & VAW (Different selected issues); Sharing Meeting with Thana (Laws and order enforcement force) Court and Hospitals; Sharing meeting with Local Bazaar Committee

Counselling to and Referral of victims by violence; Early Marriage and Sexual Harassment Protection Committee Meeting; Discussion Meeting on Hindu Marriage Registration.

JSKS has been working for protecting all forms of violence against women where gender based violence is emphasized, protecting women human rights to empower women in family and society. The women's economic dependency on men determines her subordination, a major cause of gender violence. Violence women against is taking structural form in the family backed by unequal laws as well as enchanted by patriarchal culture and ideology. Since wealth and property is the source of all power and strength in which women do not have access and as a result, they are powerless and remain under control of powerful men.

JSKS Observed of International Women's Day, in different levels from community to district

## **Strategic Goal 4: Humanitarian Response and Building Community Resilience**

#### **Special Activities for COVID-19 Outbreak and Prevention:**

#### The Situation:

Coronavirus has spread all over the world and due to densely populated country Bangladesh is in riskier situation. However, the Government of Bangladesh were announced lockdown all the public offices. and private The Local Administration is ensured social distancing and implementing other precautionary measures. People have also been advised not go out their home unless they need to collect food, medicines or receive treatment. All of transport has been shut like Bus, Train, Airlines even anv communication all over the Bangladesh during lock down period.

Rangpur division is situated at the northern part of Bangladesh and the people are equally affected and lives and livelihoods of millions have been disrupted. The vulnerable marginalized communities, informal workers, daily earnings women & men, person with disabilities, small business holders are mostly affected as this is having a serious economic impact in our working areas.

The local communities are following the Government rules and basically the people were in completely home due to declaration of Lockdown. The Law enforcing agencies were continued their duties and tried to create awareness among the community. JSKS also created awareness through publication of Leaflets which distributed in our working areas through our CBO's. Our working area are focused on rural area and due to nonindustrial area maximum are day labourer, Van & Auto Driver, Hotel Labour, Bus/Truck labour small business holder were faced lot of problem.

The local communities are following the health instructions by the Government of Bangladesh and basically the people were in their house. The Law enforcing agencies including stakeholders are continuing their duties and tried to create awareness among the communities.

#### Campaign: Spread Harmony- Not Virus, Wear Masks and Stay Healthy



JSKS started a campaign to prevent corona virus with the active participation of youth

#### **Emergency Food Support:**

With the strong coordination of Upazila and District Administration JSKS successfully implemented the relief operation, sanitization of public places and awareness raising activities in working areas. Consideration the situation JSKS mobilized resources and distribute lot of

#### **Emergency Cash Support**

The COVID-19 pandemic in Bangladesh has caused serious ramifications on income opportunities for rural communities due to a total system breakdown. The breakdown of the system is the repercussion of the nationwide lockdown to hinder the spread of the virus. This lockdown, on the other hand, resulted in several things. For example, a demand-supply mismatch in the labour market due to scarcity of agricultural labour

because of unavailable transportation and unequal distribution of farm labourer group and Md. Mahmudul Alam, Deputy Commissioner, Dinajpur inaugurated the campaign on 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2021 with the aiming to raising public awareness on prevention of COVID-19 and protection of harmony. The enthusiastic youth group continued the campaign covering the full month of February 2021. They created awareness and distributed Masks to the mass community by visiting the religious institutions, local offices, hat/bazar's etc. and hanged the posters in front of all offices and distributed leaflets.

Leaflets and distributed the Food Package to the COVID-19 affected population (1 Package consisting of 7 Kg. Rice, 3 Kg. Potato, 1 Kg. Pulse/Dal, 2 Detergent Soap) Food support and covered 400 vulnerable families.



The Cash distribution committee members are distributing cash support to the selected beneficiaries: Pic: Bijon

across the country, plunge in demand for transportation by companies and

consumers because of restrictions on movement, etc.

Most vulnerable groups in Bangladesh primarily rely on daily income sources, and the loss of these income sources has required them to resort to negative coping mechanisms which will have longterm implications. Further specific needs and vulnerabilities around gender, disability, ethnicity (indigenous age, groups), returnee migrant workers, income level sand employment type continue to emerge and will increase with time. While it is difficult to predict all downstream impact so of the pandemic

#### **Livelihood Support:**

The COVID 19 pandemic has resulted in huge economic fall out for millions of people in Dinajpur as well as Livelihoods Bangladesh. of low income and marginalized people have been badly damaged. Nearly two third of household now face income hardship due to the pandemic. According to the South Asian Network on Economic Modelling (SANEM), Bangladesh's poverty rate may have doubled to 40.9% from the rate prior to the onset of the pandemic. Another study by Centre for Policy Dialogue

(CPD) shows that Bangladesh's national poverty rate rose to 35% in 2020 from 24.3% in 2016 due to the adverse impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, the impact of COVID 19 pandemic has led to an urgent need for financial support to existing and 'new' poor specially women facing additional challenges due to the pandemic. situation, early planning and preparation for emerging and known challenges will be critical for the humanitarian sector to be prepared to mobilize and respond in a timely manner.

JSKS is continuing responses for the sufferer population in the working areas people in disabilities, ethnic, Dalit, widow/destitute, violence victims and women survivors.

We have surveyed again and collected data within our direct beneficiaries to identify the beneficiaries who will get cash support Tk. 7500 each and covered 300 beneficiaries.



Morzina Rupa, PC-JSKS explaining the beneficiary selection and distribution process to the Additional Deputy Commissioner, Dinajpur. at the JSKS Office. Picture taken by: Shakil

As in the emergency cash transfer case, JSKS followed a strong multi-tier selection process to determine the target beneficiaries and make sure that livelihood support goes to women who need it the most and able to use it effectively.

TheNationalSocialSafetyNetProgrammes (SSNP) is focused on meetingimmediate needs of the most vulnerable

and, therefore, does not always serve the marginalized and socially excluded people, such as Dalits (untouchable community), ethnic minorities, persons with disabilities, fisherfolk, women violence victims or survivors, single destitute women, although a number of persons with disabilities and widows do get a nominal monthly allowance.

In planning for livelihood support, JSKS selected the right persons. Following the previous experiences of Cash Support Program, JSKS selected the Livelihood Support Beneficiaries in consultation with the group leaders and primarily identified beneficiaries using the set of criteria of JSKS. As in the cash transfer case, overlapping with government or other such programs has to be avoided. People already listed in government social safetynet services (e.g. VGD, disability allowance, maternity allowance, old aged, widow allowance) for receiving support as Covid-19 affected population has not been included. Moreover, people receiving similar support from other **Day Observations:** 

JSKS successfully organized the significant days like **International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction** with a view to create awareness jointly with District and Upazila administration.

JSKS also observed the day at the JSKS Office or community level with organizing various events like discussion meeting, rally where the Government relevant DRR and CCA:

Bangladesh is widely recognized as one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change in the world. Geographically, the country is characterized by low-laying

support services from the government or NGOs has also been excluded. Based on consultation with other group members, JSKS developed the list of this livelihood supports. JSKS has followed а participatory consultation process with leaders and community volunteers engaged in local-level social mobilization work. Criteria for inclusion have been established for consistency and clarity and to address those with the most need. JSKS's Monitoring teams made physical verification after completing the initial beneficiary lists.

The lists have been scrutinized and verified by the Union Parishad (the lowest tier of local government) and shared with the Upazila & District Administrations to check for duplication and ensured endorsement from the Upazila administration. JSKS provided **459 socially excluded vulnerable population Tk.7,000** (seven thousand) with a view to improve their livelihood status and strengthen their small business.

departments including the representatives of district and upazila administration were present. Almost 1000 of community people including DMC's and Disaster volunteers were participated to the discussion meeting.

delta formed by the three major rivers i.e. the Brahmaputra, Ganges and Meghna which is widely known as GBM System. More than 90% of the land is low-lying flood plain. In addition, the country lies between the Bay of Bengal in the south and an active Himalayan tectonic belt in the north. Thus, the country is inherently at high degree of risk to a range of natural disaster. The whole central part of the country is highly prone to flood and erosion, the southern part is prone to salinity intrusion and cyclone, the north western part is prone to drought and north-eastern part is prone to flash flood. In addition, the whole country has been experiencing some emerging hazards for last few decades which include densely fog, heat wave, cold wave, seasonal variation of temperature, precipitation and so on. The major elements of climate change including temperature and precipitation has been gradually changing over the period. Observed data indicates that the temperature is generally increasing in the monsoon season (June, July and August). Average maximum and minimum temperatures in monsoon period show an increasing trend annually at the rate of 0.05OC and 0.03OC respectively (MOEF, 2005). On the other hand, average maximum temperature in winter season (December, January and February) shows an increasing trend annually at the rate of 0.041°C while minimum temperature shows an increasing trend annually at the rate of 0.026°C which reflects winter is also becoming warmer (Atiq et al., 2007). Various models also show an increasing trend of temperature and the seasonal variation. There is also significant variation in temporal distribution of rainfall. Observed data shows that both

number of days without rainfall and annual total rainfall is increasing, which means more rain is occurring in short duration. It also reflects erratic behaviour of rainfall.

Overall impacts of climate change on Bangladesh would be significant. It is estimated that climate change could affect more than 70 million people of Bangladesh due to its geographic location, low elevation, high population density, poor infrastructure, high levels of poverty high dependency on and natural resources1. It was found that the population living in the coastal area is more vulnerable than the population in other areas (Alam and Laurel, 2005). Coastal resources upon which the most people depend are likely to be affected severely due to climate variability and change2. It is predicted that for 45 cm rise of sea level may inundate 10-15% of the land by the year 2050 resulting over 35 million climate refugees from the coastal districts3. Ultimately adverse impacts have the potential to undermine poverty reduction efforts and could compromise to achieve the national target on development. The OECD and World Bank also estimated that 40% of the Overseas Development Assistance (ODA) to Bangladesh may be climate sensitive or at risk.





UNO-Birol, Dinajpur is delivering her speech to the Dialogue on Child Rights as the Chairperson

Rally to observation of International Women's Day 2021 at Upazila level with Government Administration.



NFTF Meeting



ED-JSKS is addressing the welcome speech at the district level International Women's Day Observation at Dinajpur



Observation of Child Rights Week 2020 with the ethnic children



ToT on SRHR for High School Teachers.

#### Initiatives to reduce the risks of disasters

Targeted community members and government institutes are better prepared for, mitigate and respond to disaster and adapt to climate change adverse impacts. Dinajpur and Niphamari is a disasterprone area as per geographical causes and occurs different types of natural disasters every year and face losses of structures, roads. Field crops, livestock and sometime human losses. The Peoples of this district compromise with the disaster as a part of their regular life. They have been facing the disasters day after day by their

#### JSKS Developed Risk and Resource (R&R) Map:

Risk and Resource (R&R) map indicating the vulnerability status of an area has been developed. JSKS facilitated the UP to develop R&R map with the assistance of UDMC, UDVs, LEBs and VDCs and finally R&R map is finally produced and 20

Working for Women in Rohingya Refugee Camps in Cox's Bazar:

The organization started to work for Rohingya Communities since 2018 to different research projects led by the Asian University for Women in Rohingya Refugee camps in Cox's Bazar and other parts of the country. One of the research projects explored the waste and sanitation-related hazards in the camp areas. Well-trained human resources have been provided to work with the Asian University of Women (AUW) research team led by Dr. Sayed Mohammad Nazim Uddin, funded by the Center for Asia Pacific Initiatives (CAPI) at the University of Victoria, Canada.

previous experience, knowledge and capacity. Climate change adds a new dimension to community risk and vulnerability. Realization of this authenticity, JSKS has undertaken a lot of activities to reduce vulnerability of human lives and community through disaster risk management. As part of disaster risk management, JSKS organized different meetings/training to increase capacity/ knowledge and skill of the people and strengthening capability of DMCs and UDVs.

billboards having Risk & Resource information erected at the Union Parishad premises and other strategic location of the unions so that the people of different walk can see and informed about risk and resources.

Another research work unpacked the water security challenges in Rohingya refugee camps and host communities and compared two scenarios for improving the water supply systems in the camps and the host communities. This research provided strong policy recommendations for the RRRC to improve the health and water supply across the camps and host communities.

JSKS was also involved in a capacity development mapping project led by AUW and funded by Oxfam and UNHCR to assess the capacity of the local organizations in the WASH sector in the camp and host communities. This ambitious research project proposed several training sectors that need to be developed to enhance the capacity of the WASH sector organization in the camps and the host communities.

Moreover, JSKS supported AUW in developing a few more research proposals in health communications, NCDs, disaster

management, and exploring local training centers different locations in in Bangladesh, including the Rohingva refugee camps and CHT areas. JSKS believes that strong collaboration with higher education institutions can empower local communities and their wellbeing when a development sector is linked with the research institutions.

## **Case Studies:**

#### Feeling from Shibani Roy

Shibani Roy and she has secured her Masters Degree from Dinajpur Government College. She is living in Kalikapur village under Sandarban Union of Dinajpur Sadar Upazila. Her father's name is Uday Chandra Roy and Mothers Name is Shefali Rani Roy. Shibani is the elder out of 4 sisters. Her father is a day laborer and haven't food availability without work. They are living with extreme poverty. Shibani trained in sewing and she was working at village level. Apart of these, she was teaching to students and was worked with a Kinder Garten School.

During the Lockdown they has been finished their savings and closed the Shibani's private school including tuition and stopped all the income sources including her father. By this time her father was suffering various diseases and admitted to Hospital. To ensure proper treatment Shibani sold her sewing machine and finally her father was saved and returned to house. Shibani's monthly income was 1500-2000 from sewing which has stopped for her father's treatment.



Shibani is the active member of JSKS Youth Forum and JSKS selected her to provide IGA/Livelihood Support. She is very happy for that she will purchase a Sewing Machine which she lost earlier. Shibani told that this support will help them to turn around and on last 27th February 2021 JSKS transferred Tk.7000/= to her account. She conveys her sincere thanks to JSKS, MJF and UKAID for their support to the excluded and vulnerable youth beneficiaries. JSKS is providing technical support to procure the sewing machine and also ensure follow up in future.

#### Reshma Wants to Continue her Education:

Reshma Khatun a Person with Disabilities and she is suffering in Cerebral Palsy (CP). She is 20 years old and living in Purbo Saintara Village of Saintara Union under Chirirbandar Upazila. She was born with the CP. She couldn't walk or standing. After her birth, father and mother left her and went to Dhaka. They were divorced and father married to other and mother is staining at Dhaka. Reshma's grandmother (Nani) was taken responsibility to ensure food & other support. But her grandfather's (67 years old) main sources of income are cycle mechanic and also living with extreme poverty.

Once JSKS was implemented Promoting Rights and Access to Inclusive Education for Children with Disabilities Project and the present PC of JSKS YOUTH Project Morzina Rupa was the



Project Officer of the Project. However, Ms. Rupa identified to Reshma that she was in her village but Reshma and her grandmother does not think about the Reshma's education. Rupa admitted her in the nearest primary school namely Purbo Saintara Primary School and she started her education. JSKS ensured follow up to Reshma and provided necessary assistive device for schooling like Tri-Cycle. JSKS provided several times the devices. And now Reshma is reading in Okrabari College and she is the HSC exam. candidate. And it was possible due to Reshma and her grandmother's commitment.

Reshma involved with the project since its inception. She is attending Life skill Sessions regularly. Due to COVID-19 and lockdown, people are not moving to other places. So that Reshma's grandfather is also suffering from food crisis. The Union Parishad helps them but it was too small amount. When Reshma known the decision that she will get Tk. 2500, she and her grandmother were so excited and happy to know that JSKS is always with them. Obviously, it will help to continue her education.

Reshma wants to complete her education and want to be a teacher. We wish her success in future. She also thanks to JSKS to support her and expect that she will get more support from the organization in future.

#### Liton wants to continue his education

Yes, I am saying about the Liton Roy. He is reading in the HSC at the Ramdubi Hat High School & College. Liton is suffering from Cerebral Palsy (CP) by birth. His fathers name is Lolit Chandra Roy and mothers name are Nomita Rani Roy. Liton's have only one sister. His father Mr. Lolit Chandra is a day laborer and mother is a housewife and living with extreme poverty. They haven't any land except homestead 1-2 DM. Without selling labor, they didn't manage their daily food and other cost.

Being a local organization JSKS is working since long time and during the implementation of Promoting Rights and Access to Inclusive Education Project (2009 to 2011), JSKS's Project Officer identified to Liton that a Children with Disabilities are in Hargaon



village under Sundarban Union who is not coming to School due to his disability. However, after necessary assessment, JSKS advocate to school and admitted him to nearest Government Primary School and developed the school infrastructure as disable friendly school. By this time JSKS provided necessary training to teachers and education related officials also.

Yes, the project has been finished but JSKS was always with Liton and now he is reading at college level. Due to his disability of CP, Liton always using low trolly and his friends help him to pull the trolly during schooling. Even they haven't financial capacity to purchase the Low trolly and always JSKS provided him the low trolly.

Liton is the direct beneficiary of the project. During the lock down period Liton's family was suffered from food crisis. When JSKS started the Cash support programme, Liton was selected as beneficiary and he got support 2 times already. Liton including his parents is so happy for the support and it is helping to continue his educational cost. Due to physical growth, Liton's need a Low Trolly but the trolly's price is very high and it is not possible to manage the amount from these small amounts. JSKS is trying to manage the fund for low trolly. We wish Liton's success in future.

#### Golapi Hembrom dreaming to be a Government Officer;

Golapi Hembrom, an adolescent from a poor and ethnic family in a remote



Golapi Hembrom conducting a meeting with her colleagues as Upazila Social Service Officer, Birol, Dinajpur.

community. She hasn't any dream for her life. By this time JSKS started to implement Y-Moves Project in Rajarampur Union by the support of Plan International Bangladesh and she has involved as NCTF member and playing active role and attending regular meeting/training and participating various events organize by the project. In girls takeover program Golapi Hembrom played her role as Upazila Social Service Officer (USSO), Birol, Dinajpur for an hour. Primarily she was nervous to conduct a meeting with the sub-ordinate but after an excellent facilitation by the USSO, she conducted a staff meeting successfully. The other NCTF members were also present in this event. Now she is dreaming to be a government Officer and started continue her education carefully like other friends. She

also thinking that when she will be a government official, obviously she will

work for ethnic disadvantaged people with others population. she Gradually is developing as leader and she doesn't develop alone rather she also inspires to other girls to claim their rights and continue their education. She is playing an active role to raise awareness among all parents about the importance of reproductive health care for adolescents in the

area, the harmful effect of child marriage and the terrible consequences of abusing women and children. Now she is also very focused to her studies to achieve her dream.

We believe that Golapi Hembrom will be able to achieve her dream if she gets the enabling environment and cooperation. We wish Golapi Hembrom success.



#### DEDICATED TO

THE PEOPLE WHO ARE DISADVANTAGED & DISTRESSED, ABUSED, LIVE WITH DOWN TRODDEN LIVELIHOOD, EXCLUDED OF THE RIGHTS AND REMAINED UNDER POVERTY LINE. THEY ARE WOMEN, CHILDREN, ADOLOSCENT, YOUTH AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES, OLDAGE MAN & WOMEN.

ACKNOWLEDGED BY | General Council & Executive Committee of JSKS

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