

# Land and Agrarian Rights Movement

## CAMPAIGN UPDATE (Volume-32)

### Campaign for the Timely Distribution of Identity Card

National Land Rights Forum(NLRF) in co-ordination with District Land Rights Forum(DLRF) in various districts, the campaign for the timely distribution of identity card has been carried out nationwide. The alerting campaign was an awakening process showing an opposition on the pending process of Landless Problem Solving Commission with regard to distribution of identity card for landless people. As per which the delegation, rally, sit-in and procession was followed to create the constant pressure demanding for the speedy action and implementation. Consequently the Landless Commission has expressed their commitment and solidarity towards the campaign to address the stated demands.

#### Key Demands Include:

- Distribution of identity card by identifying real landless people
- The representation of landless people in the process of distribution of identity card
- Protection and effective action against the forceful eviction



Campaign for the distribution of Identity card for landless people

### Regional Tenants Conference of Eastern Region

February 9 and 10, 2013 Regional Tenant Conference was held in joint conjunction with DLRF Sunsari, Jhapa, Morang, Dhankuta and Sankhuwasabha in Itahari municipality of Sunsari District. There was a participation of total thousand tenant farmers from various five districts. Land Act 1964 has stated the tenancy right for those who till the land. But the fourth amendment in the act endorsed in 1997 has resulted 4.5 lakh non-registered tenants. The fourth amendment put an end to the trend of tenancy right in the name of ending up the dual ownership. This initiative not only terminated the rights of tenants but although being the real tenants they are not called as legal tenants and are compelled to become squatters.

## Regional Tenants Conference Declaration, 2013

### Our Promise

- We promise to provide *Kut* (land tax) only with written agreement
- We will not allow others to till the same land without the consent of tilling tenants
- We will collect the detail data of tillers/tenants in respective VDC, ward, municipality and safely keep it in the people's organization
- We all of the village level tenants and tillers will get organized in one group for claiming our rights
- We will ensure the rights of tilling tenants by getting organized with all of the underprivileged groups in the respective community
- We will advocate legally, preventing from the exploitation and injustice through people's organization



Regional Tenants Conference, Sunsari

### Nine Point Demands and Declaration

1. The government should prepare the data of tillers and tenants and keep record in the local agencies and municipality. Further it should be updated regularly in five years.
2. The local agencies must have a proper record of tilling tenants and distribute the tilling certificate with it.
3. If landowner refuses to provide the *Kut* (land tax) then VDC must address this and with written agreement the *Kut* (land tax) must be provided. Moreover the local agencies must collect the petition and ensure that they have tilling rights.
4. Nobody shall be allowed to be forcefully evicted from tilling over land
5. The distribution process of tenancy land must be commenced upon by mobilizing the team
6. The government should form and mobilize a team to collect the tenancy data and distribute it subsequently following the section 52 of Land act 1964
7. The government should implement the practice of providing half share of tenancy land and provision of loan with no interest
8. The act stating, providing share of land to favorable person of landlord must be abolished. The tenancy rights must be ensured to all. Similarly there should be definite system of providing compusorily the land as per the land acquisition through tenancy rights and ensure that transaction is not made in the cash form.
9. There has been an increasing trend of utilizing productive land in the name of plotting and commercial farming. By which small farmers and tenant farmer have been deprived of their rights. The effective policy must be enacted in preventing the use of agricultural land for non-agricultural purpose.

## Conduction of Research Study

CSRC is conducting a study on 'Women's Access to Land and Land Grabbing' in collaboration with NLRF. The study is being supported by Oxfam being focused on Jogbudha of Dadeldhura, Paduka of Dailekh and Saahare of Surkhet respectively. Besides this other districts have been selected as per the collection of impact case study. Following this an Inception Workshop was carried out on 21 December, 2012 with the participation of Mr. Krishna Raj B.C from Ministry of Land Reform and Management along with the representatives from various NGO/INGO and strategic partners. The workshop has provided a feedback and suggestion for further effective planning and deepening the context and content of the research.



Inception Workshop on 'Women's Access to Land and Land Grabbing'

Similarly, another study subjected on the Misuse of the Land and its Impact on Marginal Farmers in Dhading, Bara and Morang is also being commenced in co-ordination with Nepal Coalition for Food and Water (NCFAW).

## Study on the Issue of Membership

NLRF has initiated the study on the ongoing process on NLRF pattern of membership with an aim to ensure the accuracy with it and effective monitoring of membership distribution and renewal. The field site has been focused on Saptari and Bardiya district. The study has made aware all of the community members about systematic procedure to be followed in membership distribution and renewal as per the NLRF statute ensuring its credibility.

## Publication of Advocacy Materials

- A book 'Stories of Displacements' has been published.
- Code of Conduct of National Land Rights Forum has also been designed and published.

