

Project No. 8

JUSTICE AND PEACE PROGRAM (JPP)

Principle:

Respect for human rights is a pre-condition for justice and peace.

Objectives:

The main objectives are:

- To bring social teachings of the Church to the village people and parish committees;
- To educate Christian laity and the leaders of other faiths in human dignity and rights;
- To promote peace and reconciliation in the situation of conflicts and violence;
- To provide legal assistance to the victims of injustice; and
- To promote pastoral care to migrants.

Background:

Justice and Peace Program (JPP) formerly known as Human Rights Education Program (HREP), started in January 2002. The third phase of JPP is for three years covering the period from July 2008 to June 2011. The reporting year is the first year of the third phase of the project.

Staff strength:

Regular staff: Total: Two (Male-one, Female-one)

Donor:

Caritas Italiana.

Expenditure:

Foreign Partner's Contribution: Tk. 2,114,349

Beneficiaries No:

a) Direct: Male: 4,262 Female: 2,552 Total: 6,814

The target and achievements:

The target and achievements of the project are as below:

| Sl. | Activities | Achieved as on June '08 | | Target | | Achievement | | | Cumulative as on June '09 | |
|-----|---|-------------------------|--------|--------|--------|-------------|--------|-----|---------------------------|--------|
| | | Batch | Partic | Batch | Partic | Batch | Partic | % | Batch | Partic |
| 1 | Residential seminar in moffusal parishes for two days | 102 | 4842 | 12 | 600 | 11 | 657 | 92 | 113 | 5499 |
| 2 | Day seminar in parishes | - | - | 12 | 600 | 15 | 1345 | 125 | 15 | 1345 |
| 3 | Half-a-day seminar/ gathering in parishes: (observance of the special days) | - | - | 36 | 2880 | 36 | 3612 | 100 | 36 | 3612 |
| 4 | Orientation on the DCJP and JPP activities for the Agents of Justice and Peace at Diocese level for one day | - | - | 6 | 300 | 4 | 173 | 67 | 4 | 173 |
| 5 | Inter-religious Dialogue of Action on Justice and Peace Issues for one day | 12 | 450 | 6 | 480 | 4 | 346 | 67 | 16 | 796 |
| 6 | National Consultation or workshop on Relevant Issues for two days | - | - | 1 | 80 | 1 | 80 | 100 | 1 | 80 |

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|---|----|-----|----|-----------|----------|-----------|-----|----|-----------|
| 7 | Financial assistance to the victims of injustices | 44 | | 12 | 12 | 24 | - | 200 | 68 | - |
| 8 | Legal consultations: Diocese/national levels | - | - | 6 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 67 | 4 | 4 |
| 9 | National consultation/workshop on migrant issues | 9 | 772 | 1 | 80 | 1 | 105 | 100 | 10 | 877 |
| 10 | Orientation on migrant issues and problems for the agents of justice and peace at diocese level for one day | - | - | 6 | 300 | 3 | 222 | 50 | 3 | 222 |
| 11 | Data collection, statistical information and documentation | - | - | 6 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 33 | 2 | 2 |
| 12 | Meeting of Project Implementation Committee (tri-monthly) 7 members | 40 | - | 4 | 28 | 4 | 26 | 100 | 44 | - |
| 13 | Meeting of the Executive Committee (Four monthly) 9 members | 14 | - | 3 | 27 | 3 | 24 | 100 | 17 | - |
| 14 | Training for justice and peace activists | - | - | 1 | 40 | 1 | 70 | 100 | 1 | 70 |
| 15 | Six monthly: ECJP Newsletter | 7 | - | 2 | 2400 copy | 2 | 2400 copy | 100 | 9 | - |
| 16 | Annual Supplement to Weekly Periodical | | | 1 | | | | | | |
| 17 | Posters on Human Rights issues | - | - | 1 | 1200 copy | 1 | 1200 copy | 100 | 1 | 1200 copy |
| 18 | Bangla Translation of the Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | on going | | 100 | | |

The above Table indicates there were 100% achievements under ten Heads (2,3,7,9,12-15, 17, 18) while there were less than 100% achievements under six (1,4,5,8,10,11) Heads for some unavoidable reasons i.e. under serial No. 4 target was six but the achievements was four. It happened because in two Dioceses 'Orientation' was merged with a two-day long Seminar. National Consultation Workshop under serial No. 6 will be held on 29 August 2009.

Impacts:

- Parish Justice and Peace Committees (PJPC) have been formed in six Dioceses. The PJPCs take initiatives to solve the local problems/ conflicts.
- The PJPCs have been able to identify their problems. They also can study and analyze the causes of their problems; such as drug addiction, lack of social harmony, conflict between husband and wife, land grabbing by the influential, unjust judgment, communal conflict, illicit marriage, etc.
- The village leaders organized inter-religious dialogue at the local level and in this way they made friends with parish leaders, who assist them actively in mediation and peace building work.

Conclusion:

The Episcopal Commission for Justice and Peace (ECJP) and Caritas Bangladesh have been jointly implementing Justice and Peace Program (JPP) for several years. The grassroots level people have been sensitized to the Universal Declaration of human rights, fundamental rights inscribed in the constitution, land laws, application of laws in human rights activities. As a result, the notion about family, social unrests/ dispute, woman's rights, child's rights, etc, has been changed. The project demands sincere involvement of the community to improve human rights situation in Bangladesh. Therefore, we should strengthen our communication and cooperation with the Diocesan Commission for Justice and Peace (DCJP), Parish Priest and Parish Justice and Peace Communities (PJPCs) to reach our aspired goal.