

**CARE Bangladesh
Integrated Food Security Program (IFSP)
SHAHAR Component**

**Annual Time Series Survey of Vulnerable
Households in Urban Areas of Jessore and Tongi
FY 2002**

Annual Survey Report

**Designed and Commissioned by
Integrated Food Security Program (IFSP)
CARE - Bangladesh**



Conducted by
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 1997, CARE initiated SHAHAR project aimed at establishing household livelihood security for vulnerable urban households. It has been expected that some of SHAHAR activities will directly influence some of these livelihood security areas while activities together will indirectly address all of the security areas. Using relevant indicators, the project intends to assess changes in various household livelihood security measures that are expected due to the interventions.

The SHAHAR has its own project goal, having three objectives with four major components on which variety of activities with performance indicators were identified.

A Baseline Survey was conducted in 2000 in slums and low-income settlements within the municipal areas of Jessore and Tongi where 563 and 557 households respectively were randomly selected from a completed listing done as part of a census.

It was initially planned to carry out Annual Time Series Survey, and accordingly a survey was conducted in 2001 wherein 720 households from Tongi and 924 households from Jessore were surveyed.

In 2002, the second Annual Time Series Survey was initiated and was conducted in Jessore and Tongi with a sample size of 964 and 720 respectively. However, finally 773 and 541 interviews were completed fully, the rest being either partially completed or migrated or dwelling vacant, or household not available.

The same questionnaire that was used during the First Annual Time Series Survey i.e of 2001 was also used in the second round of the survey of 2002.

Key finding from the survey are presented below bearing in mind the Baseline and Annual Time Series Survey 2001 on the one hand and objective of the SHAHAR project on the other.

STATUS OF KEY INDICATORS AT A GLANCE

Indicator	Jessore IGA			Tongi IGA		
	2000	2001	2002	2000	2001	2002
Demographic:						
Household size	4.77	5.11	5.21	4.63	4.84	5.28
School enrollment	79.8	81.2	79.0	60.2	70.3	71.9
Literacy rate (7 yrs.+)	60.2	64.8	62.6	49.6	54.2	55.3
Economic:						
Per capita income (Tk.)	9147	11483	10595	9421	10488	10761
Household saving(Tk.)	5987	6003	6738	2157	2397	3099
Outstanding loan(Tk.)	4984	5568	8377	8491	5654	7816
Health and Hygiene:						
Incidence of diarrhea (% member)	3.5	2.6	4.7	4.5	3.9	5.4
Hand washing practice (%)	50.7	74.9	80.2	58.4	76.9	89.5
Disposal of garbage	65.2	89.4	95.2	83.9	77.9	93.3
Dietary habits:						
Pregnant and lactating mothers food consumption(Complete meal)	N/A	1.20	1.20	N/A	1.27	1.25
Infrastructure:						
Physical condition of houses: Poor	28.2	22.6	15.0	3.8	2.3	2.1
Community activities:						
% of HH received quality of services from Poursavas	N/A	71.7	80.5	N/A	71.1	81.5

KEY FINDINGS

Background Characteristics of the Samples

Household composition:

In 2001, the mean size of household members in Jessore was slightly higher than that of Tongi. Over the periods i.e. 2001 and 2002, the size of household members has increased in both the sites but relative increment is more in Jessore and with **IGAs**.

Number of married people in sample household increased slightly in Jessore in 2001 but dropped in 2002 and both the phenomena is caused by **IGAs**, but in Tongi, the scenario is reverse though the cause is same i.e. **IGAs**. Number 'separated' decreased in 2001 but increased in 2002 in Jessore and the former is more in **IGAs** while the latter in **NIGAs**. Again in Tongi, number 'separated' decreased over periods and in 2001, it was more in **NIGAs** but in 2002 it was more in **IGAs**. Number of 'widowed' in Jessore in 2001 is less than it was in 2000 though it was higher in 2002 and the situation is reverse in Tongi. The brunt has more been borne by **NIGAs** than **IGAs**. Number of 'abandoned' in Jessore has increased over the years and more with **NIGAs**, the number declined in 2001 but increased again in 2002, the cause being **NIGAs** than **IGAs**.

Education

Enrollment in schools by male and female of different age groups in Jessore was higher than Tongi in 2000. The trend remained similar in Jessore but changed substantially in Tongi over the periods and with **IGAs**.

Literacy level among the male and female members of household aged 7 years or above shows that the number who 'can read only' is increasing in Jessore but not that in Tongi, but 'can sign name only' has increased in faster pace in both the areas, 'can read and write' has also increased in both the areas, more in Jessore than in Tongi, 'neither read nor write' is more with **NIGAs** than **IGAs** in Jessore and similar is true for Tongi.

Economic Security

Employment status of household members aged 10 years and above, shows that both male and female of **IGAs** in Jessore and Tongi had improved over the periods excepting the rise of **NIGAs** in Tongi in 2002. Drive for employment was more with **IGAs** of Jessore over the periods but the reverse is true for **IGAs** of Tongi. Number of students has risen with **NIGAs** in Jessore and Tongi. Beggars are more reported by **NIGAs** than **IGAs**.

'Salaried' works are more with **NIGAs** than **IGAs** while work 'without salary' is equally more but 'self-employed' is more reported by **IGAs** than **NIGAs**.

Primary occupation being categorised as (a) wage labor (b) salaried worker and (c) self-employed; agricultural wage labor has increased in 2002 with **IGAs**. Transport workers has increased in 2002 with **IGAs** in Jessore and the same is true for construction worker. Government, NGOs and other jobs are more served by the **NIGAs** but **IGAs** are making a head way.

Agricultural works by **IGAs** are more being done by themselves and traders of all types are rising with **IGAs** in comparison to **NIGAs**.

IGA-female of both the areas made a spectacular progress in receiving business-related training.

Average monthly income of all occupational categories has risen in both the areas over the period of time. The rise was more in Tongi than in Jessore.

Number of working 'days lost' has been increasingly reported by both the groups from both the sites and more reported by **IGAs** than **NIGAs**. 'Sickness' is cited as one of the reasons, other being 'bad weather'.

In both Jessore and Tongi, in 2001, the mean income of the **IGAs** was higher than that of **NIGAs**. The situation reversed in 2002. This is presumably because of the fact that **IGAs** are drawn from the poorer segments and there was an initial boost in 2001.

As compared to the Jessore **IGAs**, the **IGAs** in Tongi has shown a steady growth in household income. This be explained through the differential nature of the low-income people in Tongi than in Jessore.

The steady increase in income of the **IGAs** in Tongi than in Jessore can be explained through declining share of low income household in Tongi (about 29% earned less than Tk.2000 in 2001, which has gone down to 20% in 2002). This situation was reverse in Jessore. This implies that in order to ensure steady rise in income of the **IGA** members, the low income groups deserve more programmatic attention.

In both Jessore and Tongi, there has been over 30% annual growth in income among the **IGAs** implying positive impact of **IGA** intervention.

Jessore-**IGA** reported more earnings from non-employment sources in 2002 while Tongi - reported more in 2001.

Total monthly household income for **IGA** Jessore and Tongi in 2001 was more than that were in 2000. But in 2002, **NIGAs** earned more than **IGAs** and **IGA** Jessore showed poorer performance than **IGA** Tongi. 'Sickness' and 'bad-weather' were cited as reasons for 'working-days lost' during 2002 by **IGAs** - could this explain the fall of income?

IGA households' access, ability and use of land for agricultural activities in both the sites over the periods appeared to have increased. Moreover, it can also be claimed that **IGAs** were able to diffuse the technology to the **NIGAs** and thereby making them equally enthusiastic about vegetable gardening and other agricultural activities.

Poultry and livestock are reared in greater numbers by **IGAs** than **NIGAs** in both the sites.

Number of savers in **IGAs** are greater than **NIGAs** in both the sites and savers prefer institutions like 'PNGOs' or 'other NGOs' than non-institutions like friends or relatives. However, the average amount of savings is more by **NIGAs** than **IGAs**.

Number of borrowers from **IGAs** is more than **NIGAs** and the number has been increasing over the period. 'Other NGOs' and 'money lenders' are also used by **IGAs**. Rate of interest on institutional and non-institutional loans is reducing over the periods. Borrowed money, however, has more been used for productive purposes by **IGAs** than **NIGAs**.

Habitat Security

IGAs have owned more land than **NIGAs** particularly in Jessore. On the other hand, number of those **IGAs** who do not own any land yet live without rent is decreasing in faster pace in Tongi than in Jessore. Again, ownership of house by **IGAs** are increasing in both the sites. Number of living rooms in these houses are also increasing over the years. Floors of these houses are growingly being made of earth, while concrete is also being used. CI sheets are growingly being used by **IGA** Tongi than **IGA** Jessore for roofing purposes. Walls are being made either by bamboo/wood or by concrete/brick.

The general quality of dwelling units in Jessore are better than Tongi - as there are some 'poor' quality units in Tongi. But, apart from that, medium and good quality housing are increasing with the **IGAs**.

Water logging in and around the household was more a problem for Jessore than Tongi. However, the problem still persists in Jessore than Tongi.

Garbage disposal system as such was poorer in Jessore than Tongi. However, the system improved over the periods and more for **IGAs** than **NIGAs**. Moreover, the mean distance between the residence and disposal point increased over the period of time and payments for disposal of garbage was more made by **IGAs** than **NIGAs**.

Tube-well is overwhelmingly used for drinking in Jessore and Tongi, while ring-well is mentioned by a few in 2002 from Jessore. Tubewell water for cooking is increasingly used by **IGAs** of both the sites. Interestingly, municipality supplied water is more used for cooking than drinking and more in Jessore than in Tongi.

Purification of drinking water is not really practised but boiling of water is moderately practised in Tongi than Jessore and **IGAs** have a moderate share in the same.

Type of latrine such as open field is more being used in Tongi than Jessore and was more in 2001 than 2002. **NIGAs** are using the same than **IGAs**. Water sealed latrines are more used in Jessore than Tongi and more by **IGAs** in Jessore and more by **NIGAs** in Tongi. Unsealed latrine is more used by **IGAs** of Jessore than that of Tongi. But, the use of hygienic latrine is being more widely adopted in both the sites by both the groups. Mean distance to latrine is reducing for Jessore and the same is true for **IGAs** but for Tongi the distance is not reducing for **IGAs** as it is for **NIGAs**. More people are sharing the same latrine in Tongi than in Jessore and more by **IGAs** in Tongi and Jessore.

Hand washing practice after defecation is increasing with **IGAs** than **NIGAs** in both the sites. On the other hand, there are still considerable percentages of people in **IGAs** in both the sites, who are using dirt to wash their hands.

Food security

Daily frequency of food intake like cereals, roots/tubers, pulses, fish, vegetable, sugar, oil etc. has increased over the period in both the sites. Among the **IGAs** of both the sites, increasing intakes of different items are visible. Security with respect to food is fairly present among the sample population and particularly among the **IGAs**. Vulnerability of women toward food has decreased considerably over the time.

Health Security

Diarrhoea and other illnesses: Diarrhoea were more prominent in both the sites in 2002 than 2001 and both the categories had equal sufferings. On the other hand sickness other than diarrhoea were more reported by **IGA** Jessore than **IGA** Tongi.

Treatment were sought for diarrhoea more by Jessore than by Tongi and particularly Government hospital, pharmacy and doctors has more been frequented by **IGAs** than **NIGAs**. For illnesses other than diarrhoea, mixed picture appear from both the sites wherein both **IGAs** and **NIGAs** have been found to have consulted different sources.

Health and Nutrition related Knowledge of Mothers: Knowledge on continuation and discontinuation of breast feeding on different ailments shows that Tongi **IGAs** by and large are more knowledgeable than Jessore **IGAs**. Over the period of time, **IGAs** of both the sites are gaining more knowledge.

Health seeking behavior related to pregnancy shows that graduate doctors were more consulted by **IGA** Jessore than Tongi, on the other hand, non-graduate doctors were more consulted by **IGA** Tongi than **IGA** Jessore. TBA were more consulted by **IGA** Jessore than **IGA** Tongi. Average numbers of visits for Antenatal Care were more made by Jessore than Tongi, but in 2002 both **IGA** and **NIGA** made most visits. TT Vaccines were taken twice by most, and Tongi **IGAs** ranked over Jessore **IGAs** in this respect. Reasons as to why ANC visits were not made, a huge number of **IGA** Jessore 'did not consider it' necessary, similar is somewhat true for Tongi **IGAs**. Among the persons attending delivery, untrained TBA were more used in both the sites and more by **NIGAs** than **IGAs**. Again trained TBA were also used and more by **NIGAs** than **IGAs**. Registered doctors were more used for Postnatal care in Jessore than Tongi and more by **IGAs** of Tongi in 2002. A huge numbers are there who did not venture any treatment.

Social Networks

Institutional affiliation of **IGA** households of both the sites are far more greater than that of **NIGA**. Again **IGA** individuals' affiliation with institutions and particularly with PNGOs are equally greater.

IGA groups received greater supports in Jessore than Tongi from PNGOs.

IGAs appeared more involve in community meetings than **NIGAs** in both the sites and they are more satisfied with community services than **NIGAs**. **IGAs** of Jessore sought fewer services from the pourashava in 2001 than 2002 while **IGAs** of Tongi sought more services in 2002. More service has been reported to receive by **IGAs** than **NIGAs** and the level of satisfaction with the services is higher with **IGAs** than **NIGAs**.

Greater awareness with higher magnitude is visible about the workings of pourashava, CRMC and PNGO - with **IGAs** than **NIGAs**. It is clear that the awareness is raising over the years.

Concluding Piece

Jessore and Tongi settlements are quite different from one another. As a result, comparison between **IGAs** of two sites as well as between **IGAs** and **NIGAs** are a bit uncomfortable.

Different teams of surveyors conducted the Baseline and subsequent surveys. Same groups of surveyors would have possibly yield better and uniform results.

The baseline data, now (2003) can be desegregated for better comparison between **IGAs** and **NIGAs**.

As SHAHAR focussed primarily on Hygiene, Assets and Revenue - it emerged from the surveys that there are positive impacts of different magnitude on the targets. Few of the impacts are not quantifiable again others take time to emerge in quantitative terms. Therefore, one should refrain from jumping to conclusions. The general picture of the project beneficiary is encouraging enough to continue the intervention in a sustained way.