

Rural Land Market

A Study in Three Upazilas of Bangladesh



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Abbreviations

AACP	Annual Agricultural Credit Program
ABL	Agrani Bank Limited
AC	Assistance Commissioner
BADC	Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation
BB	The Bangladesh Bank
BDT	Bangladesh Taka
BKB	Bangladesh Krishi Bank
CHT	Chittagong Hill Tracts
CS	Case Studies
DCI	Data Collection Instrument
EPA	Enemy Property Act
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GOB	Government of Bangladesh
HDRC	Human Development Research Centre
JBL	Janata Bank Limited
KII	Key Informant Interview
LDT	Land Development Tax
MJF	Manusher Jonno Foundation
MoL	Ministry of Land
NCB	National Commercial Bank
NGO	Non-Government Organization
NSB	National Specialized Bank
PPS	Probability Proportional to Size
RAKUB	Rajshahi Krishi Unnayan Bank
RLM	Rural Land Market
RLRM	Rural Land Rental Market
RLSM	Rural Land Sales Market
RNF	Rural Non-Farm
RS	Revisional Survey
SAAO	Sub-Assistant Agriculture Officer
SALE	Sustainable Access to Land Equality
SBL	Sonali Bank Limited
SME	Small and Medium Enterprise
UP	Union Parishad
VPA	Vested Property Act

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The multifarious utilization of land has grown into a development apparatus in the rural living and livelihood. Land has great economic implications since it is one of the elements of production in addition to its social impacts on human life. A common perception has grown that local elite people in Bangladesh dominate rural land market. Moreover, it is also assumed that rural poor and marginal households cannot access the market in an appropriate manner to establish their rights. Considering this predominant thinking, the underlying study of the book was commenced to understand the status and constraints of rural poor households to access local land market.

This book, to best of our knowledge, is the first of its kind, which endeavors to study the nature of rural land market, though in a smaller geographical extent of only three upazilas of the country, in terms of market factors and subjective as well as objective motivations, actors and their functions, access issues, access avenues of the marginal households as well as their access constraints, and interlinkages of the land sales and land rental markets with other rural markets in a unified spectrum. The book is an outcome of continuous and committed contribution of numbers of individuals of around two years who were involved from the conceptualization of the study to the end of publishing this book. All of them deserve our heartfelt thanks, though we have to be unwillingly selective.

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Finally, we believe, the commitment and efforts put in the production of this book would be significant to eradicate the disparity in accessing rural land market by poor people and would help to turn it into an efficient and inclusive market.

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