



FOR THE YEAR 1996

BANGLADESH LEGAL AID AND SERVICES TRUST

141/1 Segunbagicha, Dhaka-1000, Phone: 837185

Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust

141/1, Segunbagicha
Dhaka - 1000

Tel: (02) 837185

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Composed by: Md. Anisur Rahman Mollick

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PREFACE

Since its inception in 1993 and beginning of activities in 1994, Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust has been providing legal aid, assistance and advice to poor and marginalized people. The Trust has also been active in advocacy, training, education and research.

The Annual Report details the steps, measures, actions, endeavours and success of the Trust during 1996, along with its occasional failures.

We treat legal aid as an integral part of the social welfare activities of the society. The role of our state in providing legal aid for litigation is, however, extrinsic to the needs. It is in this milieu of unfulfilled demand for essential legal aid that Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust has taken upon itself the task, as far as possible, of making the judicial system accessible to the poor and the marginalised by furnishing legal aid for their essential litigations.

The Report is a product of collaborative efforts of the staff at the Head Office and Units. Dr. Yasmin Hossain prepared the draft of the report with data, information and other detail provided by Advocate Farida Yeasmin who was also responsible for collecting and amassing statistical details provided in the tables and appendices to this Report. Advocate Abdul Mannan Khan, Advocate Shahnaj Babli, Advocate Ponkaj Kumar Kunda and Advocate Sarwat Binte Islam undertook the painstaking task of culling these information's from monthly reports of the Unit Offices. Sharmin Morium and Nikhil Chandra Shaha supplied relevant information concerning administrative and financial matters. Computer inputs were mostly provided by Anisur Rahman. Dr. Shahdeen Malik finalised the Report.

The Coordinators of Unit Offices have supervised litigations in their respective areas. The panel lawyers of the Supreme and District Court Bar Associations have been the primary activists of the Trust without whose involvement it would have been impossible to realise our aims and objectives.

Needless to say, the guidance, supervision, advice and instructions of the Trustees have been one of the most important factors in the successful implementation of the aims and objectives of the Trust. Particularly, Dr. Kamal Hossain and Mr. Justice Naimuddin Ahmed, Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Trust, respectively, have devoted considerable amount of their very valuable time to constantly supervise and advise us in implementing our programme as well as monitor the routine activities of the Trust.

The Ford Foundation and The Asia Foundation, with support from the Democracy Partnership Project of the USAID, have rendered financial assistance to the Trust.

Lastly, the Trust welcomes advice, suggestions as well as criticism to help us realise our objectives better and more efficiently, in the future.

Fazlul Huq
Executive Director

1. SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

1. Bangladesh Legal Aid And Services Trust [BLAST] provides legal aid for establishing valid claims of and protection for the marginalized and the poor through the judicial system of the country. BLAST has now established Unit Offices in 11 districts and 2 Law Clinics in Dhaka.

2. In 1996 BLAST has filed a total of 1037 cases in the Supreme Court of Bangladesh and various District and Subordinate Courts of the country, of which 171 cases have already been decided and the rest are pending at various stages of the judicial process.

Of these 1037 cases, 907 were filed by different Units during 1996 while the Head Office filed another 119 cases in the Supreme Court of Bangladesh. The Head Office also filed 11 cases in districts in which BLAST does not yet have a Unit Office.

3. In 1996 BLAST engaged a total of **390** lawyers from different parts of the country to litigate on behalf of its clients/beneficiaries.

Mr. Justice Krishna Iyer delivered the Aminul Haque Memorial Lecture on "Human Rights, The Judicial Process and Social Action/ Public Interest Litigation" on Saturday 28 December, 1996.

Of all the workshop, lectures and seminars arranged during the year, this was the most inspiring and enlightening one, particularly for our young colleagues who have read many of Justice Iyer's pathbreaking and precedent-setting judgements but never heard the living legend speak.

4. The 2 Law Clinics in Gopibag and Mohammadpur areas of Dhaka have undertaken substantial legal literacy and awareness campaigns and arranged mediations of local disputes.

5. The Trust has arranged 1 training course on HOW TO USE

UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMPLAINT PROCEDURE. 3 more workshops were arranged in Sylhet, Khulna and Dhaka. *Ain-O-Shalish Kendra*, BLAST and the Madaripur Legal Aid Association jointly organized a two day national workshop on Public Interest Litigation.

6. The Mediation Project of the Trust started functioning from October, 1996. The working areas of the project are Barisal, Khulna and Sylhet. Under this project BLAST has initiated a total of 225 mediations during the year. Of these 111 have already been settled.

7. The Public Interest Litigation Project of the Trust started functioning from August, 1996. Under this project BLAST organised three seminars and a number of issues of public concern has been identified in consultation with a number of NGOs and are being prepared for undertaking appropriate legal actions.

8. The 1037 cases filed presupposes 1037 direct beneficiaries of the legal aid in litigation activities during the year, counting plaintiffs or defendants as beneficiaries. However, in most of these cases the

number of actual beneficiaries is much more. For example, in a case for maintenance of a deserted wife, it is not only the plaintiff-wife who benefits but her children (in almost all of our maintenance cases children are also involved), her parents or immediate family who, in the absence of maintenance from her husband, bear the burden of her upkeep. Similarly, in a civil, criminal or writ case, the ostensible beneficiary

Writ Petition no. 1694 of 1996

12 year old Shazedul Islam was arrested by the Tangail police on 14.03.96. He was a student of class seven of Khash Shahzani M.A..Karim High School, Tangail. An order for his detention for one month under the Special Powers Act, 1974 was issued on 18.3.96 and the detention order was extended for another three months on 17.4.96. The detention order was again extended for another two months on 17.7.96.

For BLAST, advocate Jaglul Haider Afric filed a writ of *habeas corpus* on behalf of Shazedul Islam and his detention was declared illegal by the High Court Division and he was released from detention.

recorded in our registrars may be one, but a successful outcome of the litigation directly and immediately benefits the whole family. In mediations, both the sides benefit.

More importantly, by enabling these beneficiaries to access the judicial system, BLAST is helping to foster rule of law in the country and that, ultimately, is the primary justification for BLAST's activities and programmes.

9. By directly involving elected office-bearers of 11 Bar Associations of the country through our Unit Offices, BLAST has succeeded in engaging the most important traditional organisation of the lawyers in institutional legal aid activities and this certainly augers well for the future of legal aid in the country.

2. INTRODUCTION

Since its inception in 1993 the goal of the Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST) has been to open up the judicial system to the disadvantaged in Bangladeshi society. Far beyond the need to “do good”, the ideology against which the legal aid work is carried out relies heavily on the principle of the rule of law, its importance in creating a social welfare system and its significance, in turn, in creating a strong democracy. In practical terms its function revolves round legal issues related to the monitoring and upholding of human rights, specifically with reference to the marginalised. It is understood that an accessible judicial system is unfeasible for the disempowered since the state exempts only the “pauper” from legal costs and extends its legal aid and assistance only to criminal cases in which the accused may face a sentence of capital punishment. Apart from this, the complicated procedure for qualifying for the state legal aid system, recently set up to assist the poor, result in the meager 'legal aid' funds being returned to the national exchequer as “unspent”. It is against this background that BLAST is committed to providing legal aid and legal services for the poor.

Mode of Operation: The work of BLAST is carried out from its headquarters in Dhaka; six divisional headquarters; and five district units; three of which were opened during 1996. There are also two law clinics in Dhaka which not only operate as part of the process of making accessibility to law easy and unthreatening but also carry out some

Civil Revision No. 356 of 1995 [F.M.]

The applicant Mr. Meher Ali filed a case no. 61/95 in the Subordinate Judges Court for declaration that the private medial practice of Dr. Fatema is *malafide*, illegal and against the interests of the common people of Bangladesh.

The order dated 11.9.95 granting a temporary injunction in Revision No. 356/95 [F.M.] was filed in the Supreme Court of Bangladesh. For BLAST, advocate Moazzem Hossain contested the civil revision in the Supreme Court of Bangladesh.

mediation work of their own and refer cases to the headquarters.

The importance of the training of lawyers for work in this field, particularly with reference to mediation work, cannot be over emphasized. BLAST has, throughout the year under review, sent many of its workers on training programmes, and has itself held work-shops and conferences, at times in coalition with other

organisations such as *Ain O Salish Kendra*, Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association, Bangladesh Mohila Parishad, Madaripur Legal Aid Association, Bangladesh National Women’s Lawyers Association and a number of others, a list of whose names are provided in a section below.

It is encouraging to note that the statistics recording the work done at the divisional and district levels compare well with the Dhaka head office, which is more established and benefits from the experience of lawyers trained in this field. This is demonstrative of the fact that the principle of decentralized units can function effectively without constant monitoring. The organization is anxious to avoid becoming top heavy with the Dhaka head office acting as consultant to its divisional headquarters. It would appear that the vigour with which many of the district organizations have attacked their work leave little space for entertaining such fears. BLAST is fortunate to be able to draw from a pool of

inspired and hardworking team of lawyers and administrators, and the success of the organization is a tribute to their vitality. It is, however, recognized that most of the training of BLAST workers so far has been based in Dhaka and perhaps the slight discrepancy in the figures relating to the activities of the divisional and district units in comparison with the volumes handled by the Dhaka head office maybe explained by this imbalance. BLAST seeks to remedy this in its training programme for 1997.

The **significance of the work** carried out by BLAST cannot be over emphasized. Whilst there are other NGOs who are increasingly realizing the importance of legal aid, and are creating cells for addressing issues of advocacy, legal literacy and campaign, law reform, women's rights, human rights education and other essential components of a general developmental agenda, **BLAST is the only organization to focus primarily on litigation.** Its decision for this rests on the realization that without meaningful access to

**GR No.255(2)1995; Thana 5(7)1995, Widow
Jahura (30), (Mymensingh):**

Jahura, from village: Kumra Sasan, Po: Ishwarganj, District: Mymensingh, being a poor widow, worked as a maid servant and sometimes received *zakat*. Being enterprising she also lent money to subsidize her income. "Bangladesh Manabdhikar Samannay Parisad" forwarded her case to BLAST after she had been beaten with a stick and bear fists as a result of the decision taken by her local Union Council Chairman, to whom she had sought justice for the initial assault and defamation of character by two young men to whom she had lent money. They along with their companions assaulted her when she reminded them of their obligation to return the money with interest.

The Mymensingh Unit of BLAST initiated legal proceedings and the case was compromised through the court on 30.9.95.

the judicial system for the redressing of specific wrongs these other programmes remain untested in reality. Viewing its work as part of a wider social welfare scheme that goes towards empowering the marginalized by making the legal system fair and accessible, the wider interests of this organisation is in contributing towards the creation of a cohesive, stable and democratic society, based on the rule of law.

The **purpose of this report** is to evaluate the efficacy as well as the shortcomings of the organization in 1996. As a fairly new and fast growing organization BLAST has been tremendously successful but by the same token it is, naturally,

suffering certain growing pains and by examining these it hopes to apply the right remedies. Whilst a solid, well planned work programme and a dedicated work force are essential for the success of any organization, the means for the realization of future plans, however, remain uncertain, as funding patterns continue to be a cause for continuous insecurity. It is hoped that through a process of accountability and transparency this organization can continue to build on the support of its well-wishers and sponsors.

3. BLAST AT A GLANCE

3.1.ORGANISATIONAL PROFILE

Registration as a non-profit Trust	6 May, 1993
Registration under the Foreign Donation Ordinance, 1978 with the NGO Affairs Bureau	11 December, 1993 Registration No. 786
Head Office	141/1 Segunbagicha, Dhaka - 1000 Phone: 837185
Divisional Unit Offices [Six]	Barisal Chittagong Dhaka Khulna Rajshahi and Sylhet
District Unit Offices [Five]	Comilla Jessore Mymensingh Noakhali Rangpur
Law Clinics	Gopibag, Dhaka, Mohammadpur, Dhaka.
Projects	Legal Aid in Litigation and other Services: Mediation in rural areas of three Units; and Public Interest Litigation;
Personnel	
Staff	94 (full and four part-time)
Engaged Lawyers	390

3.2. ACTIVITES PROFILE

1. Complaints Received and Assessed	1793
2. Cases Filed	
In the Supreme Court	119
In District & Subordinate Courts	918
Total case pending	1483 ¹
3. Training Programmes Conducted	
Number of Courses	01
Number of Participants	17
4. Conferences Organised	
Number of Conference	03
Number of Participants	890
5. Seminars Arranged	
Number of Seminars	03
Number of Participants	280
6. National Workshops Held	
Number of Workshop	01
Number of Participants	240
7. Mediations Undertaken at Unit Offices	
Mediations Initiated	276
Disputes Settled	117
Mediations Pending	159
8. Mediations in rural areas undertaken by the Mediation Project (Oct.-Dec. '96)	
Mediations Initiated	225
Disputes Settled	111
Sent To the Units	11
Mediations Pending	103

3.3. NETWORKING PROFILE

With its nationwide perspective BLAST is keenly aware that it cannot work in isolation and recognises the importance of working with other relevant organisations. A process of consultation and liaison are crucial for carrying out work in a meaningful way, with reference to developments in related areas. The following is a list of NGOs and other organisations with whom BLAST maintains strong links:

¹ Includes cases filed during previous years and pending from those years (1995, 1994).

Ain-o-Salish Kendra
Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association
Bangladesh Jatiya Mohila Ainjibi Samity
Bangladesh Mohila Parishad
Bangladesh Nari Pragati Sangha
Bangladesh Society for Enforcement for Human Rights
Coordinating Council for Human Rights in Bangladesh
Department of Women's Affairs, GoB
Jatiya Ainjibi Parishad
Madaripur Legal Aid Association
Odhikar
Sommilita Nari Samaj

3.4. DONOR AGENCIES

The Ford Foundation
The Asia Foundation
US AID

With its commitment to accountability and transparency this annual report will provide a breakdown of its accounts for the fiscal year which, in our case, coincides with the calendar year. BLAST is conscious of keeping overheads down in order to be more effective in providing the services it is created to render. The consequences of this are limited work space, phone lines and office equipment, yet harmonious teams in its different offices enable the different units to operate smoothly. The growth rate means that in 1997 new premises will need to be found for the planned projects on Advocacy, Public Interest Litigation and Women Workers' Rights.

3.5. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

(1 January to 31 December 1996)

<u>Income</u>	<u>1996</u> <u>Taka</u>
Grant	
The Asia Foundation	----
The Ford Foundation	10,503,450.00
	10,503,450.00
Expenditure	
Court Cases	2,564,825.00
Salary and Staff Benefit: Programme	1,909,219.00
Salary and Staff Benefit: Administration	789,278.00
Depreciation	348,553.00
Office Rent	315,160.00
Consultancy and Evaluation	284,498.00
Printing and Stationery	224,477.00
Law Clinics: Trainee Advisor	122,800.00
Utilities	107,055.00
Travel	93,098.00
Other Operating Expenses	84,629.00
Group Insurance	81,624.00
Law Clinics: Trainee Travel	71,500.00
Local Staff Training	61,750.00
Training and Workshop	56,726.00
Postage	37,956.00
Law Clinics: Messenger Salary	35,565.00
Support to Client	28,675.00
Contingencies	24,644.00
Publication	22,900.00
Legal Opinion	22,050.00
Meeting	15,160.00
Equipment Operating Expenses	14,200.00
Repair and Maintenance	13,300.00
Investigation Expenses	9,230.00
Paper and Periodicals	7,949.00
Recruitment Expenses	6,450.00
Software Development	2,000.00
Audit and Tax Fees	20,000.00
Total Expenditure	<u>7,375,271.00</u>
Excess of Income Over Expenditure	<u>3,128,179.00</u>

It needs to be mentioned that as the grants from The Asia Foundation were received for projects and activities starting from July and September, 1996, the statements for these grants will not be incorporated in our Annual Report for 1997 as audits for these grants will be undertaken only after completion of one calendar year of activities, i.e., in the last quarter of 1997.

4. OBJECTIVES OF THE TRUST

The Main Objectives of the Trust are:

- a. to ensure that the operation of the legal system promotes access to justice; to provide, in particular, free legal aid by suitable schemes; to ensure that opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen or person by reason of economic or other disabilities;
- b. to administer a Trust fund in order to establish and maintain legal aid and services units to be supported by the grants from the Trust;
- c. to establish legal aid or assistance and human rights protection units in Bar Associations and in different localities of the country, including rural areas;
- d. to conduct special training programmes and courses for lawyers and others;
- e. to coordinate work of such units with other bodies including NGOs working in related fields.

5. THE TRUST

5.1. FORMATION

At the national conference of lawyers held in 1992 under the auspices of the Bangladesh Bar Council, the idea of establishing an organization for providing legal aid and its proposed structure was mooted. Later, in pursuance of this idea certain steps were taken for establishing a legal aid organization as a non-profit Trust under the name of the Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust and the same was incorporated on the 26th May, 1993 with the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies of the Government of Bangladesh as a company limited by guarantee. Later the Trust was registered as a NGO with the NGO Affairs Bureau on 11.12.1993 with registration number 786.

5.2. BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Founder members of the Board of Trustees were:

01. Mr. Sheikh Razzak Ali
Advocate, Supreme Court of Bangladesh;
Former Speaker, Bangladesh Jatiya Sangshad
02. Late Aminul Huq
Former Attorney General of Bangladesh;
03. Mr. Syed Ishtiaq Ahmed
Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of Bangladesh;
Former Attorney General and Advisor to the Caretaker Government (1996)
04. Dr. Kamal Hossain
Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of Bangladesh;
Former Minister of Law and Foreign Affairs
05. Mr. Md. Amir-ul Islam
Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of Bangladesh; Chairman, Executive and Legal Education Committees of Bangladesh Bar Council
06. Ms. Salma Sobhan
Advocate, Supreme Court of Bangladesh;
Executive Director, *Ain-O-Shalish Kendra*
07. Mr. Abdul Muntaquim Chaudhury,
Advocate, Supreme Court of Bangladesh.

According to the Articles of Association of the Trust, the Chief Justice of Bangladesh nominated two more Trustees:

08. Mr. Justice (Rtd.) Anwarul Huq Chowdhury
Supreme Court of Bangladesh
09. Mr. Justice Naimuddin Ahmed
Member, Law Commission of Bangladesh

The Board of Trustees in its first meeting co-opted two more Trustees under Article 8 of the Articles of Association of the Trust:

10. Mr. Fazlul Huq

Advocate and Secretary, Madaripur Legal Aid Association

11. Ms. Sigma Huda

Advocate, Supreme Court of Bangladesh; Member, Bangladesh Bar Council;
and Secretary General, Bangladesh Human Rights Enforcement Committee

The Trustees unanimously elected Dr. Kamal Hossain and Mr. Justice Naimuddin Ahmed as the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Trust, respectively.

5.3. ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Articles of Association provides for review of activities of the Trust by an Advisory Council. Accordingly, an Advisory Council was formed with the following members:

01. Mr. M. Hafizullah, former President, Supreme Court Bar Association

02. Professor R. Ahmed, Neurologist, IPGMR

03. Dr. Md. Yunus, Managing Director, Grameen Bank

04. Mr. Ataus Samad, Journalist

05. Mr. Mahfuz Anam, Editor, The Daily Star

06. Dr. M. Enamul Huq, Ex. I.G. of Police, Bangladesh

07. Ms. Ayesha Khanam, Secretary, Mohila Parisad

08. Mr. M. A. Mazed, Chairman, Bangladesh Medical Association

09. Dr. M. Shahjahan, Chairman, Institution of Engineers

10. Mr. Fakruddin Ahmed, Executive Director, Bangladesh Institute of Law and International Affairs

11. Dr. Quazi Farouk Ahmed, Chairperson, ADAB

12. Dr. M. Ershadul Bari, Dean, Faculty of Law, Dhaka University.

5.4. HEAD OFFICE AND UNIT OFFICES OF THE TRUST

In 1994, the national Head Office of the Trust was established in Dhaka along with five divisional Unit Offices in Dhaka, Chittagong, Khulna, Rajshahi and Barisal. In 1995 BLAST expanded its activities by establishing a divisional Unit Office in Sylhet and two other district units in Mymensingh and Noakhali. Three district Unit Offices in Jessore, Rangpur and Comilla were founded this year in order to further realize the Trust's nationwide objectives. In addition to the Head Office, the Trust, thus, has 11 Unit Offices. In the near future Unit Offices will be established in all the 19 'old' districts of the country, followed by offices in all other districts.

The address of the Unit Offices of the Trust are given in the BLAST directory at the end of this document, in Appendix A.

The Unit Offices of the Trust have been functioning under the supervision of Management Committees of the Unit Offices. The members of the Management Committees are the members of the Local Bar Associations. The Presidents and the Secretaries of the respective Bar Associations are ex-officio members of the Management Committees of the Unit Offices.

The Trust conducts its cases through its panel of lawyers selected by the local Management Committees. The fees for the lawyers and other expenses are paid on case-basis as sanctioned in the budget.

5.5. PERSONNEL

At the end of the year a **total of 94 persons** were working for the Trust, of which 11 were working under part-time arrangements. During the year another 6 law students were engaged on short term contracts for specific tasks.

As already indicated, the Head Office is responsible for over all supervision of the activities of the Trust (Unit Offices and Law Clinics) as well as litigation in the Supreme Court of Bangladesh. Besides, liaison with various NGOs, GO agencies and institutions, national human rights movements and campaign, participation in policy forums and other related activities are carried out by the Head Office. As such administrative and management personnel are based at the Head Office. In addition, the three lawyers for the Public Interest Litigation Project and the management and account staff of the Mediation Projects also carry out their responsibilities from the Head Office. The following personnel were based at the Head Office in December, 1996. :

GR 4/96, 11/96 Thana dated 3.2.96 Under Sectio
367/322/109. Bangladesh Penal Code: Mujibur
Rahman (Sylhet)

Mujibur Rahman, the son of late Azgad of village: Nayagaon, PS.: Kotwali, District: Sylhet, was taken to India by Numumia, in whose house he worked as a servant. The purpose of the trip for Mujibur Rahman was to attend to his sick employee. Once in India, however, it became transparent to Mujibur Rahman that he had been fraudulently abducted for the purpose of extracting one of his kidneys, which was forcefully done and transplanted in his previous employee's body.

A case was filed in Kotwali thana and BLAST directed its Sylhet Unit to provide the necessary legal aid for the case.

TABLE 1: PERSONNEL AT THE HEAD OFFICE

Name of the Post	Actual Positions	Sanctioned Positions
Main Project (legal aid and services)		
Executive Director	1	1
Advisor	1	1
Assistant Director	2	3
Senior Accountant	vacant	1
Accountant	1	1
Assistant Accountant	vacant	1
Secretary to the Trust	1	1
Staff Lawyer	1	1
Jr. Staff Lawyer	2	2
Librarian	1	1
Computer Operator	1	1
Media Officer	1(part time)	1
Office Assistant	1	1
Store In-charge	vacant	1
Vehicle Operator	vacant	1
Messenger	2	2
Main Project Total	15	21
PIL Project		
Senior Staff Lawyer	1	1
Staff Lawyer	2	2
PIL Project Total	3	3
Mediation Project		
Project Coordinator	1	1
Accountant	1	1
Office Assistant	1	1
Messenger	1	1
Mediation Project Total	4	4
TOTAL AT THE HEAD OFFICE	22	28

The **Unit Offices** of the Trust are of two categories: Divisional Unit Office and District Unit Office, with four and three personnel, respectively. The following table depicts the personnel position at the Unit Offices:

TABLE 2: PERSONNEL AT UNIT OFFICES (SIX DIVISIONAL AND FIVE DISTRICT UNIT OFFICES)

Name of the post	Numbers at the Post		
	Division Units	District Units	Grand Total
Co-ordinator	6	5	11
Accountant	6	Nil	6
Office Assistant	6	Nil	6
Accountant-Office Assistant	Nil	5	5
Messenger	6	5	11
Total at Unit Offices	24	15	39

In addition to the main project of legal aid and services, a total of 24 personnel of the mediation project are attached to the three unit offices of Barisal, Khulna and Sylhet.

TABLE 3: MEDIATION PROJECT STAFF IN BARISAL, KHULNA AND SYLHET OFFICES

Name of the Post	Numbers at the Post	
	At each Unit	Total at three Units
Mediation Supervisor	1	3
Mediation Worker	7	21
Total for Mediation Project	8	24

The Trust also runs two legal aid clinics with the following personnel

TABLE 4: STAFF POSITION AT THE TWO LEGAL AID CLINICS IN DHAKA

Name of the Post	Numbers at the Post
Trainee Advisor	2 (Part Time)
Trainee	6 (Part Time)
Messenger	2 (Part Time)
Total for Legal Clinics	10

TABLE 5: TOTAL STAFF AT HEAD OFFICE AND UNIT OFFICES

Main Project	14
Legal Aid Clinic	10
PIL Project	3
Mediation Project	4
Unit Office	24
Mediation Project at 3 Unit	39
Grand Total for the Trust	94

5.6. STAFF TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

Training is seen as a crucial aspect of the work of BLAST. It not only develops skills, improves knowledge and attitudes but acts also as a motivational factor, thus increasing

overall effectiveness of staff performance. During the year the following staff participated in various training Programmes:

Ms. Sharmin Morium, Assistant Director (Operations), participated in the programme on '**Development Management**' (capacity building and leadership) organized by the Socio Legal Aid Research and Training Centre, Calcutta, February 3 - 11, 1996. The

objective of the Programme was to prepare the executives of the voluntary/developmental organisations to the work for sustainable development of their organisations.

Mr. Md. Abdul Mannan Khan, Staff Lawyer, participated in the course titled '**Institute of Human Rights**' (law, fundamental rights, human rights). organized by Ecumenical Christian Centre Whitefield, Bangalore, May 6 - 15, 1996. The purpose of the training was to understand the concept and philosophy of human rights, human rights work, human rights education, goals, contents and methodology.

Ms. Taufiqah Rahman, Secretary to the Trust, attended a program on '**Women's Development**' (Women's Studies), organised by the Socio Legal Aid Research and Training Centre, Calcutta, September 15 - October 9, 1996. The objectives of the course was to train participants in communication, managerial skills, leadership potentialities, project planning for women's activities, social, cultural, political and legal rights of women and planning towards self sustenance and economic independence.

Twenty-four (24) mediation supervisors and mediation workers of the Mediation Project, attended a training programme on '**Law and Mediation**', organised by BLAST, at the Madaripur Legal Aid Association Training Centre, Madaripur, October 5 - 11, 1996.

GR 41/95 Under Section 366 (A)/376/34 and 4 ©

Women Repression Act. 1983. (S.P. no.39/96.

Jahanara Begum (9) (Hobiganj)

Nine year old Jahanara Begum, daughter of Farid Mia of village Ali Nagar, P.S.. Madhbpur, District Hobiganj. She was abducted and violently raped by Abdul Basir on 25.12.95. Later, in order to stop the bleeding, three potatoes were inserted in her vagina.

This tragedy came to the nation's attention when on 14.1.96, the Daily *Janakantha* publicized the crime.

Jahanara's mother, Saleha Khatun filed a case even after a *fatwa* had been issues by local religious leaders against the family.

Even though BLAST does not have a Unit Office in Hobiganj, it was able to assist Jahanara through the Bar Association of that district. The case was conducted by the secretary of the Bar Association. The case is now being handled by the BLAST panel advocate, Mr. Abul Khaer.

Mr. Pankaj Kumer Kundu, Junior Staff Lawyer, attended a training course on **‘The Use of UN Complaint Procedures’** conducted by Dr. Ilka Baily-Wiebecke, organised by BLAST, October 20 - November 4, 1996.

Ms Sarawat Binte Islam, participated in a **‘Trainer’s Training’** course jointly organized by *Nari Pokkha* and CEDAW (Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women) Forum and *Bangladesh Mohila Parishad*, at the Bangladesh Rural Development Academy (BARD) in Comilla, November 25 - 30, 1996.

Ms. Sarawat Binte Islam, Junior Staff Lawyer and Ms. Sanka Ghosh, Panel Lawyer of Mymensingh Unit attended a five day Training course on **‘Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women, (CEDAW)**, organised by Bangladesh National Women Lawyer’s Association, December 17 - 21, 1996.

Mr. Rafiqzaman, Staff Lawyer, completed a three month course on **‘Life Skills, Social Survey, Lifestyle’**, organized by Democracy Watch, October to December, 1996.

Ms Farida Yeasmin, Assistant Director (Legal), and Mr. Ashoke Kumar Sarker, Ex-Senior Accountant, completed a two month **‘General English Course’** organised by the British Council, December 8 1996 - 31 Jan. 1997.

Mr. Ali Akber, Office Assistant, was admitted to a three months **‘Spoken English’** course in December, 1996.

In addition to developing professional skills the following staff have been admitted to different courses designed to enhance their professional qualifications.

Ms Taufiq Rahman, Secretary to the Trust, Mr. Anisur Rahman Mollick, Computer Operator and Mr. Osman Sarwar, Librarian-cum-Documentation Officer were admitted to **LL.B course.**

Mr. Osman Sarwar, Librarian cum Documentation Officer, was admitted to an one year Diploma course on **‘Library and Information Science’** .

5.7. LIBRARY

A comprehensive library is essential for all legal establishments. By gradually expanding the library facilities it is hoped that not only can the access to law for lawyers be quick but also the training of staff can be done much more on an in-house basis. Borrowing facilities for other organizations, particularly with whom BLAST works, is intended to open up information with greater effectiveness as these institutions, generally speaking, aim to meet common goals.

6. ACTIVITIES OF THE TRUST

6.1. LEGAL AID SERVICES

During the year 1996, a total of one thousand five hundred and ninety six (1596) complaints were received and one hundred and ninety seven (197) complaints were carried over from the previous years by the BLAST, making a total of 1793 complaints handled during the year.

One thousand and thirty seven (1037) cases were actually filed. Of these, one hundred and seventy one (171) cases were settled and eight hundred and sixty six (866) cases are pending.

Ninety (90) complaints were settled through mediation. Another one hundred and ten (110) complaints are now pending for mediation.

The Trust was unable take up three hundred and thirty nine (339) complaints for reasons such as nonattendance, financial solvency of the clients, the engaging of private lawyers by the clients and so on.

Sixty nine (69) complaints are pending for filing and fifty five (55) complaints are pending due to the lack of documents.

A comprehensive list of the reasons are to be found in appendix Forty eight (48) complaints were sent to the Head Office by the Unit Offices of the Trust for filing in the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh and forty five (45) complaints were sent to the Unit Offices by the Head offices.

Following are tables and graphs explaining the statistics of the cases as they stood at the end of 1996.

TABLE 6: TOTAL COMPLAINTS RECEIVED 1996 BY THE TRUST

	Settled	Pending	Total
Case Filed	171	866	1037
Mediation	90	110	200
Not processed for various reasons	339		339
Kept Pending (lack of papers etc.)		124	124
Sent to the Head and Unit Offices		93	93
Total	600	1193	1793

In 1996 one thousand and thirty seven cases (1037) were actually filed whilst the remaining eight hundred ninety two (892) cases were carried over from 1994 and 1995. In 1996 out of these one thousand nine hundred twenty nine (1929) cases, four hundred and forty six (446) cases were decided. Of these, in two hundred and twenty six (226) cases the court verdicts were in favour of our clients, while in one hundred and thirteen (113) cases court verdicts went against our clients and one hundred and seven (107) cases were withdrawn by the clients as mutual compromises were reached by the parties to the dispute. At the end of 1996 one thousand four hundred and eighty three (1483) cases remain pending at the Supreme Court of Bangladesh and various District and Subordinate Courts of the country.

TABLE 7: STATUS OF CASES FILED IN THE SUPREME AND SUBORDINATE COURTS

DISTRICT AND SUBORDINATE COURTS					
Types of cases	Carried from previous year	Filed in 1996	Total for the year	Settled this year	Total Pending
01. Family Matter	206	341	547	102	445
02. Family Appeal	5	5	10	4	6
03. Criminal cases	387	396	783	182	601
04. Criminal Appeal	10	7	17	3	14
05. Bail cases	5	20	25	14	11
06. Cr. Motion & Revision	13	9	22	5	17
07. Session trial cases	15	10	25	11	14
08. Land Cases	83	58	141	25	116
09. Decree execution	12	24	36	4	32
10. Labour Court	1	2	4	0	4
11. Miscellaneous	81	46	126	20	106
Sub-Total	818	918	1736	370	1366
SUPREME COURT					
12. Detention	17	57	74	62	12
13. Criminal Revision	7	15	22	4	18
14. Criminal Appeal	12	3	15	3	12
15. Writ	4	5	9	1	8
16. Writ[Service]	1	7	8	1	7
17. Civil Revision	30	31	61	4	57
18. Civil Appeal	1	1	2	0	2
19. Ad. Tribunal Court	2	0	1	1	1
Sub-Total	74	119	193	76	117
Grand Total	892	1037	1929	446	1483

A total number of two thousand two hundred and twenty three (2223) cases were filed in the period of 1994 to 1996. The fact that out of these twenty one (21) cases were decided in 1994, two hundred seventy three (273) cases were decided in 1995 and four hundred forty six (446) cases were decided in 1996 demonstrates the pace with which the Trust is growing. By the end of 1996 one thousand four hundred and eighty three (1483) cases remain pending at the Supreme Court of Bangladesh and various District and Subordinate Courts of the country.

TABLE 8: TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES FILED, SETTLED AND PENDING

Year	Filed	Settled				Pending
		1994	1995	1996	Total	
1994	459	21	166	69	256	203
1995	727		107	206	313	414
1996	1037			171	171	866
Total	2223	21	273	446	740	1483

In the period of 1996 Trust had engaged three hundred ninety (390) panel lawyers for one thousand thirty seven (1037) cases. Out of these three hundred ninety (390) panel lawyers, one hundred and eighty two panel (182) lawyers were already engaged in 1994 and 1995, and two hundred and eight (208) panel lawyers were newly engaged in 1996.

TABLE 9 : NUMBER OF LAWYERS ENGAGED BY DIFFERENT UNITS

Unit Office	Total engaged Lawyers	Engaged Lawyers from previous year	New engaged Lawyers during this year
Head Office	41	12	29
Barisal Unit	51	37	14
Chittagong Unit	79	34	45
Dhaka Unit	40	16	24
Jessore Unit	14	0	14
Khulna Unit	30	26	4
Mymensingh Unit	32	9	23
Noakhali Unit	28	0	28
Rajshahi Unit	55	47	8
Sylhet Unit	20	1	19
Total	390	182	208

Following are the office-wise details of legal services rendered:

6.1.1. Legal Aid and Services by the Head Office

A total number of two hundred and twenty seven (227) complaints were received during the year 1996 and fifty six (56) complaints were carried over from the previous years by the Head Office, making a total of two hundred and eighty three (283) complaints handled during the year.

The Supreme Court of Bangladesh

At the Head Office in Dhaka one hundred and thirty two (132) complaints were received in this year and thirty three (33) complaints were carried over from the previous years, making a total of one hundred and sixty five (165) complaints for redress through the Supreme Court.

During the year one hundred and nineteen (119) cases have been filed. Of these , fifty four (54) cases were settled and sixty five (65) cases are pending.

The Trust was unable to take up twenty nine (29) complaints due to various reasons, such as nonattendance, mutual compromise and so on.

Sixteen (16) complaints are pending due to necessary papers still not being available.

One (1) complaint was sent to the Unit Offices of the Trust for litigation in Subordinate Court.

The Judge's Courts :

Ninety five (95) complaints were received in the year 1996 and twenty three (23) complaints were carried over from the previous years by the Head Office, making a total of one hundred and eighteen (118) complaints handled during the year for matters relating to jurisdiction of Subordinate Courts.

Eleven (11) cases were filed in the various District and Subordinate Courts of the country [through respective Bar Association of the concerned districts] where the Trust does not have any Unit Offices. Of these, two (2) cases were settled and nine (9) cases are pending.

Five (05) complaints were settled through mediation and three (03) cases are now pending for mediation.

The Trust could not take up forty four (44) complaints due to legal inadequacies, insufficient merit, subsequent non-attendance of the client, and so on.

Another five (05) complaints are pending for filing and six (06) cases are pending due to necessary papers still not being available.

Forty four (44) complaints were sent to various Unit Offices of the Trust

TABLE 10: STATUS OF COMPLAINTS RECEIVED IN 1996 BY THE HEAD OFFICE

	Settled	Pending	Total
Case Filed	56	74	130
Mediation	5	3	8
Not Processed for various reasons	73		73
Kept Pending; (lack of papers etc.)		27	27
Sent to the Unit Offices		45	45
Total	134	149	283

As mentioned, in 1996 one hundred and nineteen (119) cases have been filed in the Supreme Court and seventy four (74) cases were carried over from the previous years. Out of this total of one hundred and ninety three (193) cases in the Supreme Court of Bangladesh, seventy six (76) cases were settled. Of these, in sixty nine (69) cases the court verdicts were in favor of our clients while in five (05) cases were against our client, and two (2) cases were not pressed. The rest, one hundred and seventeen (117) cases remain pending at the Supreme Court of Bangladesh.

Eleven (11) cases were filed in the various District and Subordinate Courts of the country in the year and thirteen (13) cases were carried over from previous years. Out of these total of twenty four (24) cases, five (5) cases were settled. Of these, 4 cases the court verdicts were in favour of our clients while in (1) case was withdrawn by the client as mutual compromise was reached by the party to the dispute. The rest, nineteen (19) cases are pending at the various District and Subordinate Courts.

TABLE 11: TYPES OF CASES HANDLED BY THE HEAD OFFICE IN VARIOUS FORUMS

Types of cases	Carried from previous year	Filed in 1996	Total for the year	Settled this year	Total Pending
In District and Sub-ordinate Courts					
01. Family Matter	5	3	8	1	7
02. Family Appeal					
03. Criminal cases	5	2	7	2	5
04. Criminal Appeal					
05. Bail cases		1	1	1	
06. Land Cases	1	2	3	1	2
07. Labour Court	2	2	4		4
08. Miscellaneous		1	1		1
Sub-Total	13	11	24	5	19
In the Supreme Court Bangladesh					
09. Detention	17	57	74	62	12
10. Criminal Revision	7	15	22	4	18
11. Criminal Appeal	12	3	15	3	12
12. Writ	4	5	9	1	8
13. Writ[Service]	1	7	8	1	7
14. Civil Revision	30	31	61	4	57
15. Civil Appeal	1	1	2		2
Administrative Tribunal					
16. Administrative Tribunal	2		2	1	1
Sub-Total	74	119	193	76	117
Grand Total	87	130	217	81	136

A total number of two hundred and fifty eight (258) cases were filed by the Head Office in the period of 1994 to 1996. Out of these six (06) cases were decided in 1994, thirty five (35) in 1995 and eighty one (81) in 1996. At the end of 1996 one hundred and thirty six (136) cases remained pending at the Supreme Court of Bangladesh and various District and Subordinate Courts of the country i.e., in these Subordinate Courts where the Trust does not have a Unit Office.

TABLE 12(A): FILED, SETTLED AND PENDING CASES IN THE SUPREME COURT (BY THE HEAD OFFICE)

Year	Filed	Settled				Pending
		1994	1995	1996	Total	
1994	32	6	6	3	15	17
1995	82		28	19	47	35
1996	119			54	54	65
Total	233	6	34	76	116	117

TABLE 12(B): FILED, SETTLED AND PENDING CASES IN DISTRICT AND SUBORDINATE COURTS (BY THE HEAD OFFICE)

Year	Filed	Settled				Pending
		1994	1995	1996	Total	
1994	7		1	2	3	4
1995	7			1	1	6
1996	11			2	2	9
Total	25		1	5	6	19

In the period of 1994 to 1996 the Head Office engaged eighty five (85) lawyers for two hundred and fifty eight cases (258). In 1996 the Head Office engaged forty one (41) panel lawyers. Out of these twelve (12) were already engaged in 1994 and 1995 and twenty nine (29) were newly engaged in this year.

TABLE 13(A): NUMBER OF LAWYERS ENGAGED FOR LITIGATION IN THE SUPREME COURT

Head Office [Supreme Court]	Total engaged Lawyers	Engaged Lawyers from previous year	New engaged Lawyers in the year
1994	16		16
1995	20	12	8
1996	35	12	23
Total	71	24	47

TABLE 13(B): NUMBER OF LAWYERS ENGAGED BY THE HEAD OFFICE FOR LITIGATION IN THE DISTRICT AND SUBORDINATE COURTS

Head Office [District Court]	Total engaged lawyers	Engaged Lawyers from previous year	New engaged Lawyers in the year
1994	4		4
1995	4	1	3
1996	6		6
Total	14	1	13

6.1.2. Legal Aid and Services by the Barisal Divisional Unit

A total of one hundred and eighty (180) complaints were received during 1996 and twenty four (24) complaints were carried over from previous years by the Barisal Unit office, making a total of 204 complaints handled during the year.

One hundred and seven (107) cases were filed. Of these, fifteen (15) cases were settled and ninety two (92) cases are pending.

Nine (09) complaints were settled through mediation and twenty eight (28) cases are pending for mediation.

Because of the lack of documents fifty one (51) complaints could not be proceeded with.

Six (06) complaints are pending for filing due to the necessary papers not being available.

Three (03) were sent to the Head Office for filing in the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh.

TABLE 14: COMPLAINTS RECEIVED BY THE **BARISAL** UNIT OFFICE OF THE TRUST.

	Settled	Pending	Total
Case Filed	15	92	107
Mediation	9	28	37
Not proceeded with for various reasons	51		51
Kept Pending, due to necessary papers not being available		6	6
Sent to the Head Office.		3	3
Total	75	129	204

In 1996 one hundred and seven (107) cases were filed and one hundred seventy nine (179) cases were carried over from previous years, in the Districts and Subordinate Courts of Barisal. Out of these two hundred and eighty six (286) cases, sixty three (63) cases were settled. Of these, in 20 cases the court verdicts were in favour of our clients while in 10 cases court verdicts went against our clients and 33 cases were withdrawn by the clients as mutual compromises were reached by the parties to the dispute. The rest, two hundred and twenty three (223), are still pending at the various stages of the judicial process.

TABLE 15: CASES FILED IN THE DISTRICT AND SUBORDINATE COURTS BY **BARISAL** UNIT OFFICE.

Types of cases	Carried from previous year	Filed in 1996	Total in 1996	Settled in 1996	Total Pending
01. Family Matter	25	21	46	8	38
02. Family Appeal	1	0	1	0	1
03. Criminal cases	110	70	180	39	141
04. Criminal Appeal	1	2	3	0	3
05. Bail cases	1	0	1	1	0
06. Criminal Motion and Revision	1	2	3	0	3
07. Session trial cases	7	4	11	7	4
08. Land Cases	20	7	27	6	21
09. Decree execution	0	1	1	0	1
10. Miscellaneous	13	0	13	2	11
Total	179	107	286	63	223

A total number of three hundred and twenty two (322) cases were filed in the period of 1994 to 1996. Of these, two (02) cases were decided in 1994, thirty four (34) in 1995 and sixty three (63) in 1996. By the end of 1996, two hundred and twenty three (223) cases remain pending at the Barisal District and Subordinate Courts.

TABLE 16: CASES FILED, SETTLED AND PENDING AT **BARISAL** UNIT OFFICE

Year	Filed	Settled				Pending
		1994	1995	1996	Total	
1994	102	2	22	15	39	63
1995	113		12	33	45	68
1996	107			15	15	92
Total	322	2	34	63	99	223

In the period of 1994 to 1996 the Barisal Unit Office engaged one hundred and forty eight (148) lawyers for three hundred and twenty two (322) cases. In 1996 the Barisal Unit Office engaged fifty one (51) lawyers. Out of these thirty seven (37) were engaged in 1994 and 1995 and fourteen (14) were newly engaged in 1996.

TABLE 17: LAWYERS ENGAGED BY BARISAL UNIT OFFICE

Barisal Unit	Total engaged Lawyers	Engaged Lawyers from previous year	New engaged Lawyers in the year
1994	35		35
1995	62	27	35
1996	51	37	14
Total	148	64	84

6.1.3. Legal Aid and Services by the Chittagong Divisional Unit

A total number of two hundred and fifty five (255) complaints were received during the year of 1996 and twenty five (25) complaints were carried over from previous years by the Chittagong Unit Office, making a total of 280 complaints handled during the year.

Two hundred and twelve (212) cases were filed. Of these, twenty five (25) cases were settled and one hundred and eighty seven (187) cases are pending.

Two (02) complaints were settled through mediation and twenty one (21) cases are now pending for mediation.

Because of the lack of documents thirty (30) complaints could not be proceeded with.

Eight (08) complaints are pending for filing due to necessary papers not being available.

Seven (07) were sent to the Head Office for filing in the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh.

TABLE 18: COMPLAINTS RECEIVED BY CHITTAGONG UNIT OFFICE

	Settled	Pending	Total
Case Filed	25	187	212
Mediation	2	21	23
Not proceeded with for various reasons	30		30
Kept Pending, due to necessary papers still not being available		8	8
Sent to the Head Office.		7	7
Total	57	223	280

In 1996 two hundred and twelve (212) cases were filed and one hundred and sixty four (164) cases were carried over from the previous years, in the Districts and Subordinate Courts of Chittagong. Out of these three hundred and seventy six (376) cases, fifty eight (58) were already settled. Of these, in 30 cases the court verdicts were in favour of our clients while in 14 cases court verdicts went against our clients 14 cases

were withdrawn by the clients as mutual compromises were reached by the parties to the dispute. The rest, three hundred and eighteen (318) are pending at the various stages of the judicial process.

TABLE 19: CASES FILED IN THE DISTRICT AND SUBORDINATE COURTS BY CHITTAGONG UNIT OFFICE.

Types of cases	Carried from previous years	Filed in 1996	Total in 1996	Settled in 1996	Total Pending
01. Family Matter	32	53	85	11	74
02. Family Appeal	2	1	3	0	3
03. Criminal cases	84	107	191	31	160
04. Criminal Appeal	2	2	4	0	4
05. Bail cases	1	14	15	8	7
06. Criminal Motion and Revision	7	4	11	3	8
07. Session trial cases	4	2	6	1	5
08. Land Cases	14	13	27	3	24
09. Decree execution	2	2	4	0	4
10. Miscellaneous	16	14	30	1	29
Sub-Total	164	212	376	58	318

A total number of four hundred and one (401) cases were filed in the period of 1994 to 1996. Of these two (02) cases were decided in 1994, twenty three (23) cases were decided in 1995 and fifty eight (58) cases were decided in 1996. At the end of the year 1996 three hundred and eighteen (318) cases remained pending at the Chittagong District and Subordinate Courts.

TABLE 20: CASES FILED, SETTLED AND PENDING AT CHITTAGONG UNIT OFFICE

Year	Filed	Settled			Pending	
		1994	1995	1996		Total
1994	69	2	15	9	26	43
1995	120		8	24	32	88
1996	212			25	25	187
Total	401	2	23	58	83	318

In the period of 1994 to 1996 the Chittagong Unit Office engaged one hundred and sixty seven (167) lawyers for four hundred and one (401) cases. In 1996 Chittagong Unit Office engaged seventy nine (79) lawyers. Out of these thirty four (34) panel lawyers were already engaged in 1994 and 1995 and forty five (45) panel lawyers were newly engaged in this year.

TABLE 21: LAWYERS ENGAGED BY CHITTAGONG UNIT OFFICE

Chittagong Unit	Total engaged Lawyers in the year	Engaged Lawyers from previous year	New engaged Lawyers in the year
1994	26		26
1995	62	20	42
1996	79	34	45

Total	167	54	113
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6.1.4. Legal Aid and Services by the Comilla District Unit

There is no data available for this unit as it only began functioning from November. BLAST is, however, satisfied that the professionalism of its 3 permanent employees will be reflected in the coming years.

6.1.5. Legal Aid and Services by the Dhaka Divisional Unit

A total number of two hundred and five (205) complaints were received during the year 1996 and forty six (46) complaints were carried over from the previous years by the Dhaka unit office, making a total of 251 complaints handled during the year.

One hundred and thirty seven (137) cases were filed. Of these, eight (08) cases were settled and 129 cases are pending.

Seven (07) complaints were settled through mediation and twenty eight (28) cases are pending for mediation.

Because of the lack of these documents fifty five (55) complaints could not be proceeded with.

Nine (09) complaints are pending for filing and eight (08) cases are pending due to the necessary documents not being available.

And seven (07) cases were sent to the Head Office of the Trust for filing in the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh.

TABLE 22: COMPLAINTS RECEIVED BY **DHAKA** UNIT OFFICE

	Settled	Pending	Total
Cases Filed	8	129	137
Mediation	7	28	35
Not Processed for various reasons	55		55
Kept Pending; (lack of papers etc.)		17	17
Sent to the Head Office.		7	7
Total	70	181	251

In 1996 one hundred and thirty seven (137) cases were filed and one hundred forty (140) cases were carried over from the previous year in the District and Subordinate Courts of Dhaka. Out of these two hundred and seventy seven (277) cases, forty two (42) cases were settled. Of these, in 19 cases the court verdicts were in favour of our clients while in 17 cases court verdicts went against our clients and 06 cases were withdrawn by the clients as mutual compromises were reached by the parties to the dispute. The rest, two hundred and thirty five (235) cases, are pending at various stages of the judicial process.

TABLE 23: CASES FILED IN THE DISTRICT AND SUBORDINATE COURTS BY **DHAKA** UNIT OFFICE

Types of cases	Carried from previous year	Filed in 1996	Total in 1996	Settled in 1996	Total Pending
01. Family Matter	40	46	86	13	73
02. Family Appeal	0	0	0	0	0

03. Criminal cases	67	65	132	22	110
04. Criminal Appeal	2	1	3	2	1
05. Bail cases	1	2	3	1	2
06. Cr. Motion & Revision	1	0	1	0	1
07. Session trial cases	0	0	0	0	0
08. Land Cases	11	10	21	2	19
09. Decree execution	1	6	7	1	6
10. Miscellaneous	17	7	24	1	23
Total	140	137	277	42	235

A total number of three hundred and fourteen (314) cases were filed by the Dhaka Unit Office in the period of 1994 to 1996. Out of these, one (01) case was decided in 1994, thirty six (36) cases were decided in 1995 and forty two (42) cases were decided in 1996. At the end of the year 1996 two hundred and thirty five (235) cases remained pending at the Dhaka District and Subordinate Courts.

TABLE 24 : CASES FILED, SETTLED AND PENDING AT **DHAKA** UNIT OFFICE

Year	Filed	Settled				Pending
		1994	1995	1996	Total	
1994	97	1	22	11	34	33
1995	110		14	23	37	73
1996	137			8	8	129
Total	314	1	36	42	79	235

In the period of 1994 to 1996 the Dhaka Unit Office engaged one hundred and twenty one (121) panel lawyers for three hundred and fourteen cases (314). In 1996 it employed a total of forty (40) panel lawyers. Out of these, sixteen (16) were engaged in 1994 and 1995 and twenty four (24) panel lawyers were newly recruited in 1996.

TABLE 25: LAWYERS ENGAGED BY **DHAKA** UNIT OFFICE

Dhaka Unit	Total engaged Lawyers	Engaged Lawyers from previous years	New engaged Lawyers in the year
1994	32	0	32
1995	49	27	22
1996	40	16	24
Total	121	43	78

6.1.6. Legal Aid and Services by the Jessore District Unit

A total of fifty nine (59) complaints were received during 1996 by the Jessore unit.

Thirty five (35) cases were filed and these cases are pending.

One (01) complaints were settled through mediation and one (02) case is pending for mediation.

For the same reason five (05) complaints could not be proceeded with.

Four (04) complaints are pending due to the necessary papers not being available.

Twelve (12) complaints were sent to the Head Office for filing in the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh.

Jessore unit engaged 14 lawyers for thirty five (35) cases in the year of 1996.

TABLE 26: CASES FILED IN THE DISTRICT AND SUBORDINATE COURTS BY JESSORE UNIT OFFICE

	Settled	Pending	Total
Case Filed		35	35
Mediation	1	2	3
Not proceeded with for various reasons	5		5
Kept Pending, due to necessary papers still not being available		4	4
Sent to the Head Office.		12	12
Total	6	53	59

In 1996, thirty five (35) cases were filed in the Districts and Subordinate Courts of Jessore and these cases are pending at the various stages of the judicial process.

TABLE 27: COMPLAINTS RECEIVED BY THE JESSORE UNIT OFFICE OF THE TRUST.

Types of cases	Filed and pending during this year
01. Family Matter	9
02. Family Appeal	0
03. Criminal cases	13
04. Criminal Appeal	0
05. Bail cases	0
06. Cr. Motion & Revision.	0
07. Session trial cases	1
08. Land Cases	3
09. Decree execution	1
10. Miscellaneous	8
Sub-Total	35

TABLE 28: LAWYERS ENGAGED BY JESSORE UNIT OFFICE

Jessore Unit	Total engaged Lawyers
1996	14

6.1.7. Legal Aid and Services by the Khulna Divisional Unit

A total of one hundred and forty nine (149) complaints were received during 1996 and seven (07) complaints were carried over from the previous years by the Khulna Unit Office, making a total of 156 complaints handled during the year.

Eighty (80) cases were filed. Of these, fourteen (14) cases were settled and sixty six (66) cases are pending.

Eight (08) complaints were settled through mediation and four (04) cases are pending for mediation.

For this reason forty nine (49) complaints could not be proceeded with.

Four (04) complaints are pending for filing and three (03) cases are pending due to the lack of documents.

And eight (08) complaints were sent to the Head Office for filing in the High Court Division of the Supreme Courts of Bangladesh.

TABLE 29: COMPLAINTS RECEIVED BY THE **KHULNA** UNIT OFFICE OF THE TRUST.

	Settled	Pending	Total
Case Filed	14	66	80
Mediation	8	4	12
Not proceeded with for various reasons	49		49
Kept Pending, (lack of papers etc.)		7	7
Sent to the Head Office.		8	8
Total	71	85	156

In 1996 eighty (80) cases were filed and one hundred forty three (143) cases were carried over from previous years, in the District and Subordinate Courts of Khulna. Out of these two hundred and twenty three (223) cases, seventy nine (79) cases were settled. Of these, in 24 cases the court verdicts were in favour of our clients while in 31 cases court verdicts went against our clients and 24 cases were withdrawn by the clients as mutual compromises were reached by the parties to the dispute. The rest, one hundred and forty four (144) cases, are pending at the various stages of the judicial process.

TABLE 30: CASES FILED IN THE DISTRICT AND SUBORDINATE COURTS BY **KHULNA** UNIT OFFICE

Types of cases	Carried from previous year	Filed in 1996	Total in 1996	Settled in 1996	Total pending
01. Family Matter	34	35	69	16	53
02. Family Appeal	1	0	1	1	0
03. Criminal cases	56	25	81	40	41
04. Criminal Appeal	4	1	5	0	5
05. Bail cases	2	0	2	0	2
06. Cr. Motion & Revision	2	1	3	2	1
07. Session trial cases	2	1	3	2	1
08. Land Cases	29	9	38	12	26
09. Decree execution	3	3	6	0	6
10. Miscellaneous	10	5	15	6	9
Sub-Total	143	80	223	79	144

A total number of three hundred and nineteen (319) cases were filed in the period of 1994 to 1996. Out of these, nine (09) cases were decided in 1994, eighty (87) in 1995 and seventy nine (79) were decided in 1996. At the end of 1996, one hundred and forty four (144) cases remained pending at the Khulna District and Subordinate Courts.

TABLE 31: CASES FILED, SETTLED AND PENDING AT **KHULNA** UNIT OFFICE

Year	Filed	Settled				Pending
		1994	1995	1996	Total	
1994	93	9	59	8	76	17
1995	146		28	57	85	61
1996	80			14	14	66
Total	319	9	87	79	175	144

In the period of 1994 to 1996 the Khulna Unit Office had engaged a total of ninety (90) lawyers for three hundred and nineteen (319) cases. In 1996 the Khulna Unit Office engaged thirty (30) panel lawyers. Out of them, twenty six (26) were engaged in 1994 and 1995 and four (04) were newly engaged in 1996.

TABLE 32: LAWYERS ENGAGED BY **KHULNA** UNIT OFFICE

Khulna Unit	Total engaged Lawyers	Engaged Lawyers from previous year	New engaged Lawyers in the year
1994	23		23
1995	37	17	20
1996	30	26	4
Total	90	43	47

6.1.8. Legal Aid and Services by the **Mymensingh District Unit**

A total number of one hundred and ninety eight (198) complaints were received during 1996 and twenty four (24) complaints were carried over from previous years by the Mymensingh unit office, making a total of 222 complaints handled during the year.

One hundred and twenty two (122) cases were filed. Of these, seventeen (17) cases were settled and one hundred and five (105) cases are pending.

Thirty one (31) complaints were settled through mediation and twenty (20) are pending for mediation.

For the very same reason twenty nine (29) complaints could not be proceeded with.

Eighteen (18) complaints are pending for filing due to the lack of documents.

Two (02) complaints were sent to the Head Office of the Trust for filing in the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh.

TABLE 33: COMPLAINS RECEIVED IN 1996 BY **MYMENSINGH** UNIT OFFICE OF THE TRUST.

	Settled	Pending	Total
Case Filed	17	105	122
Mediation	31	20	51
Not processed for various reasons	29		29
Kept Pending, (lack of papers etc.)		18	18
Sent to the Head Office.		2	2
Total	77	145	222

In 1996 one hundred and twenty two (122) cases were filed and ten (10) cases were carried over from previous years, in the Districts and Subordinate Court of Mymensingh. Out of these cases, twenty three (23) were settled. Of these, in 9 cases the court verdicts were in favour of our clients while in 07 cases court verdicts went against our clients and 07 cases were withdrawn by the clients as mutual compromises were reached by the parties to the dispute. The rest, one hundred and nine (109) cases, are pending at the various stages of the judicial process.

TABLE 34: CASES FILED IN THE DISTRICT AND SUBORDINATE COURTS BY **MYMENSINGH** UNIT OFFICE

Types of cases	Carried from previous year.	Filed in 1996	Total in 1996	Settled in 1996	Total Pending
01. Family Matter	2	61	63	11	52

02. Family Appeal	0	0	0	0	0
03. Criminal cases	8	55	63	11	52
04. Criminal Appeal	0	0	0	0	0
05. Bail cases	0	1	1	1	0
06. Cr. Motion & Revision	0	0	0	0	0
07. Session trial cases	0	0	0	0	0
08. Land Cases	0	4	4	0	4
09. Decree execution	0	1	1	0	1
10. Miscellaneous	0	0	0	0	0
Sub-Total	10	122	132	23	109

A total number of one hundred and thirty four (134) cases were filed in the period of 1995 to 1996. Of these, two (02) cases were decided in 1995 and twenty three (23) in 1996. By the end of 1996 one hundred and nine (109) cases remained pending at the Mymensingh District and Subordinate Courts.

TABLE 35: CASES FILED, SETTLED AND PENDING AT **MYMENSINGH** UNIT OFFICE

Year	Filed	Settled			Pending
		1995	1996	Total	
1995	12	2	6	8	4
1996	122		17	17	105
Total	134	2	23	25	109

In the period of 1995 to 1996 the Mymensingh Unit Office engaged forty one (41) lawyers for one hundred and thirty four (134) cases. In 1996 the Mymensingh Unit Office engaged thirty two (32) lawyers. Of them, nine (09) were engaged in 1995 and twenty three (23) were newly engaged in 1996.

TABLE 36: LAWYERS ENGAGED BY **MYMENSINGH** UNIT OFFICE

Mymensingh Unit	Total engaged Lawyers	Engaged Lawyers from previous year	New engaged Lawyers in the year
1995	9		9
1996	32	9	23
Total	41	9	32

6.1.9. Legal Aid and Services by the Noakhali District Unit

A total number of sixty two (62) complaints were received during the year of 1996 and three (03) complaints were carried over from the previous year by the Noakhali Unit Office, making a total of 65 complaints handled during the year.

Forty one (41) cases were filed. Of these, three (3) cases were settled and thirty eight (38) cases are pending.

One (01) complaint is pending for mediation.

For the same reason one (01) complaint could not be proceeded with.

Eight (08) complaints are pending for filing and twelve (12) complaints are pending due to necessary papers not being available.

And two (02) complaints were sent to the Head Office of the Trust for filing in the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh.

TABLE 37: COMPLAINTS RECEIVED BY NOAKHALI UNIT OFFICE.

	Settled	Pending	Total
Case Filed	3	38	41
Mediation		1	1
Not proceeded with for various reasons	1		1
Kept Pending, due to necessary papers still not being available		20	20
Sent to the Head Office.		2	2
Total	4	61	65

In 1996 forty one (41) cases were filed and two (02) cases were carried over from the previous year, in the Districts and Subordinate Court of Noakhali. Out of these forty one cases, four (04) cases were already settled and court verdicts were in favour of our clients. The rest, thirty nine (39) cases are pending at various stages of the judicial process.

TABLE 38: CASES FILED IN THE DISTRICT AND SUBORDINATE COURTS BY NOAKHALI UNIT OFFICE

Types of cases	Carried from previous year	Filed in 1996	Total in 1996	Settled in 1996	Total Pending
01. Family Matter	1	28	29	4	25
02. Family Appeal	0	0	0	0	0
03. Criminal cases	0	5	5	0	5
04. Criminal Appeal	0	0	0	0	0
05. Bail cases	0	0	0	0	0
06. Criminal Motion and Revision	0	0	0	0	0
07. Session trial cases	0	0	0	0	0
08. Land Cases	0	5	5	0	5
09. Decree execution	1	2	3	0	3
10. Miscellaneous	0	1	1	0	1
Sub-Total	2	41	43	4	39

A total number of forty three (43) cases have been filed in the period of 1995 to 1996. Out of these four (04) cases were decided in 1996. By the end of 1996 thirty nine (39) cases remained pending at the Noakhali District and Subordinate Courts.

TABLE 39: CASES FILED AND PENDING AT NOAKHALI UNIT OFFICE.

Year	Filed	Settled			Pending
		1995	1996	Total	
1995	2		1	1	1
1996	41		3	3	38
Total	43		4	4	39

In the period of 1995 to 1996 the Noakhali Unit Office engaged thirty (30) panel lawyers for forty three (43) cases. In 1996 the Noakhali Unit Office engaged twenty eight (28) panel lawyers.

TABLE 40: LAWYERS ENGAGED BY NOAKHALI UNIT OFFICE

Noakhali Unit	Total engaged Lawyers in the year	Engaged Lawyers from previous year	New engaged Lawyers in this year
1995	2		2
1996	28		28
Total	30		30

6.1.10. Legal Aid and Services by the Rajshahi Divisional Unit

A total number of one hundred and eighty nine (189) complaints were received during the year of 1996 and ten (10) complaints were carried over from the previous year by the Rajshahi Unit Office, making a total of 199 complaints handled during the year.

One hundred and sixteen (116) cases were filed. Of these, eleven (11) cases were settled and one hundred and five (105) cases are pending.

Twenty five (25) complaints were settled through mediation and one (01) complaint is pending for mediation.

For the same reason forty (40) complaints could not be proceeded with.

Six (06) complaints are pending for filing and five (05) complaints are pending due to the lack of documents.

Six (06) complaints were sent to the Head Office for filing in the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh.

TABLE 41: COMPLAINTS RECEIVED BY RAJSHAHI UNIT OFFICE

	Settled	Pending	Total
Case Filed	11	105	116
Mediation	25	1	26
Not proceeded with for various reasons	40		40
Kept Pending, due to necessary papers still not being available		11	11
Sent to the Head Office.		6	6
Total	76	123	199

In 1996 one hundred and sixteen (116) cases were filed and one hundred sixty six (166) cases were carried over from previous years, in the Districts and Subordinate Court of Rajshahi. Out of these two hundred and eighty two (282) cases, seventy four (74) cases were settled. Of these, in 33 cases the court verdicts were in favour of our clients while in 23 cases court verdicts went against our clients and 18 cases were withdrawn by the clients as mutual compromises were reached by the parties to the dispute. The rest, two hundred and eight (208) cases are pending at various stages of the judicial process.

TABLE 42: CASES FILED IN THE DISTRICT AND SUBORDINATE COURTS BY RAJSHAHI UNIT OFFICE

Types of cases	Carried from previous year	Filed in 1996	Total in 1996	Settled in 1996	Total Pending
01. Family Matter	67	66	133	36	97
02. Family Appeal	1	4	5	3	2
03. Criminal cases	56	31	87	24	63
04. Criminal Appeal	1	0	1	0	1

05. Bail cases	0	0	0	0	0
06. Criminal Motion and Revision	2	0	2	0	2
07. Session trial cases	2	1	3	1	2
08. Land Cases	8	2	10	1	9
09. Decree execution	5	8	13	3	10
10. Miscellaneous	24	4	28	6	22
Sub-Total	166	116	282	74	208

A total number of three hundred and thirty nine (339) cases were filed in the period of 1994 to 1996. Of these one (01) case was decided in 1994, fifty six cases (56) were decided in 1995 and seventy four (74) cases were decided in 1996. At the end of 1996 two hundred and eight (208) cases remained pending at the Rajshahi District and Subordinate Courts.

TABLE 43: CASES FILED, SETTLED AND PENDING AT **RAJSHAHI** UNIT OFFICE

Year	Filed	Settled				Pending
		1994	1995	1996	Total	
1994	89	1	41	21	63	26
1995	134		15	42	57	77
1996	116			11	11	105
Total	339	1	56	74	131	208

In the period of 1994 to 1996 the Rajshahi Unit Office engaged one hundred and fifty six (156) panel lawyers for three hundred and thirty nine (339) cases. In 1996 it engaged fifty five (55) panel lawyers. Out of them forty seven (47) were engaged in 1994 and 1995 while eight (08) panel lawyers were newly engaged in this year.

TABLE 44: LAWYERS ENGAGED BY **RAJSHAHI** UNIT OFFICE

Rajshahi Unit	Total engaged Lawyers in the year	Engaged Lawyers from previous year	New engaged Lawyers in the year
1994	32		32
1995	69	28	41
1996	55	47	8
Total	156	75	81

6.1.11. Legal Aid and Services by the Rangpur District Unit

This unit was opened in the autumn of 1996 with three permanent members of staff who began work from the November of this year. As a result there is no available data with which to examine its development, but it is hoped that the professionalism with which the organization has been founded, will render the success of this Unit in the future.

6.1.12. Legal Aid and Services by the Sylhet Divisional Unit

A total number of seventy two (72) complaints were received during 1996 and two (02) complaints were carried over from previous years by the Sylhet unit office, making a total of 74 complaints handled during the year.

Fifty seven (57) cases were filed. Of these, twenty two (22) cases were settled and thirty five (35) cases are pending.

Two (02) complaints were settled through mediation and three (03) complaints are pending for mediation.

As necessary papers were not available six (06) complaints could not be proceeded with.

Two complaints (02) are pending for filing and three a further (03) are pending due to the unavailability of documents.

And one (01) was sent to the Head Office for filing in the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh.

TABLE 45: COMPLAINTS RECEIVED BY **SYLHET** UNIT OFFICE

	Settled	Pending	Total
Case Filed	22	35	57
Mediation	2	3	5
Not proceeded with for various reasons	6		6
Kept Pending, due to necessary papers still not being available		5	5
Sent to the Head Office.		1	1
Total	30	44	74

In 1996 fifty seven (57) cases were filed and one (01) case was carried over from previous years, in the Districts and Subordinate Court of Sylhet. Out of these fifty eight (58) cases, twenty two (22) were already settled. Of these, in 14 cases the court verdicts were in favour of our clients while in 4 cases court verdicts went against our clients and 4 cases were withdrawn by the clients as mutual compromises were reached by the parties to the dispute. The rest, thirty six (36) are pending at the various stages of the judicial process.

TABLE 46: CASES FILED IN THE DISTRICT AND SUBORDINATE COURTS BY **SYLHET** UNIT OFFICE

Types of cases	Carried from previous year	Filed in 1996	Total in 1996	Settled in 1996	Total Pending
01. Family Matter	0	19	19	2	17
02. Family Appeal	0	0	0	0	0
03. Criminal cases	1	23	24	13	11
04. Criminal Appeal	0	1	1	1	0
05. Bail cases	0	2	2	2	0
06. Criminal Motion and Revision	0	2	2	0	2
07. Session trial cases	0	1	1	0	1
08. Land Cases	0	3	3	0	3
09. Decree execution	0	0	0	0	0
10. Miscellaneous	0	6	6	4	2
Sub-Total	1	57	58	22	36

A total of fifty eight (58) cases were filed in the period of 1995 to 1996. Of these twenty two (22) cases were decided in 1996. At the end of 1996 thirty six (36) cases remain pending at the Sylhet District and Subordinate Courts.

TABLE 47: CASES FILED, SETTLED AND PENDING AT SYLHET UNIT OFFICE

Year	Filed	Settled			Pending
		1995	1996	Total	
1995	1				1
1996	57		22	22	35
Total	58		22	22	36

In the period of 1995 to 1996 the Sylhet Unit Office engaged twenty one (21) panel lawyers for its fifty eight (58) cases. In 1996 the Sylhet Unit Office engaged twenty (20) lawyers. Out of these one (01) lawyer was engaged in 1995 and nineteen (19) were newly engaged in 1996.

TABLE 48: LAWYERS ENGAGED BY SYLHET UNIT OFFICE

Sylhet Unit	Total engaged Lawyers in the year	Engaged Lawyers from previous year	New engaged Lawyers in the year
1995	1		1
1996	20	1	19
Total	21	1	20

6.2. LEGAL AID CLINICS

The function of the two Dhaka Legal Aid Clinics in Gopibag and Mahammadpur, is two fold. They are designed to campaign for legal literacy and awareness, on the one hand, and on the other, provide a mediation service for local residents. For the Mohammadpur Clinic, Dhaka University law students are encouraged to volunteer their services under the supervision of Advocates of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh. It is hoped that gradually a strong body of lawyers interested in public law and *pro bono* legal services may be developed by cultivating their interests from the earliest stages of their careers.

The legal aid clinics, began on an introductory basis, has proved to be an effective way of serving the very poor, as most of the clients are slum dwelling women, seeking redress for the violation of their personal rights, mostly by spouses and in-laws. In most of these cases, where possible, the clinic trainees carry out mediation work with these clients, but when conciliatory attempts fail or are not appropriate, the case is referred to the head office for litigation, if necessary.

The Gopibag legal aid clinic at 89/3-A Ramkrishna Mission Road, Dhaka started functioning from 1st August, 1994. It is a joint venture with *Mohila Parisad*, a women's organization. The Mahammadpur clinic at 13/11 Baber Road, Dhaka was founded in October, 1994. These two Law Clinics have undertaken substantial work. In 1996 they jointly received one hundred and thirty two (132) complaints. Out of these twenty seven (27) were settled through mediation and forty nine (49) are pending for mediation.

Seventeen (17) complaints were sent to the Head Office for filing cases and thirty nine (39) complaints are pending due to the lack of documents.

TABLE 49: COMPLAINTS RECEIVED BY THE TWO LAW CLINICS OF THE TRUST

	Settled	Pending	Total
Mediation	27	49	76
Kept Pending; lack of relevant information		39	39
Sent to the Head Office		17	17
Total	27	105	132

TABLE 50: COMPLAINTS RECEIVED BY THE GOPIBAG CLINIC OF THE TRUST

	Settled	Pending	Total
Mediation	8	23	31
Pending as necessary papers not available		10	10
Sent to the Head Office.		7	7
Total	8	40	48

TABLE 51: COMPLAINTS RECEIVED BY THE MOHAMMADPUR CLINIC OF THE TRUST

	Settled	Pending	Total
Mediation	19	26	45
Pending, as necessary papers not available		29	29
Sent to the Head Office.		10	10
Total	19	65	84

The awareness raising campaign is conducted in the field by the clinic workers going into peoples' homes and into slums. There they speak to the residents about the work of the clinic as well as inform them of some basic legal points, usually on relevant areas of family law or civil law, perhaps relating to dowry or property rights. The two clinics also have leaflets to advertise their work, but word of mouth is by far the most effective tool when dealing with the illiterate poor.

The following chart provides a monthly breakdown of the persons reached in 1996, by the law clinics as part of their awareness raising campaign.

TABLE 52: PERSONS REACHED BY GOPIBAG AND MOHAMMADPUR CLINICS AWARENESS PROGRAMME

Month	Gopibag Clinic.	Mohammadpur Clinic.	Total
January	115	173	288
February	0	100	100
March	117	17	134
April	130	21	151
May	106	17	123
June	78	37	115
July	86	0	86
August	87	0	87
September	82	74	156
October	100	74	174
November	102	91	193

December	71	93	164
TOTAL	1074	697	1771

6.3. TRAINING AND WORKSHOPS ORGANIZED BY THE TRUST:

Training is seen as an integral part of the work of BLAST. In November 1996 a ten day training course entitled **HOW TO USE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMPLAINT PROCEDURES** aimed to update the human rights workers with the latest procedures in this area. The training took place between November 17 to 28 at the Goethe Institute in Dhanmondi, Dhaka. Dr. Ilka Bailey-Wiebecke conducted the training course. Seventeen participants from different NGOs with legal interests attended the course.

The Sylhet Unit of BAST organized a workshop on **“Human Rights, Legal Aid and the Role of Lawyers”** on 18th April, 1996. It took place in the Sylhet District Bar Association building. The workshop was conducted by Mr. Abu Salman Chowdhury, Chairperson of the Management Committee of the Sylhet Unit. The Chief Guest was Mr. M. A. Jalil, the District Judge of Sylhet. The Special Guests were Mr. Ashraful Alam, the Additional Deputy Commissioner and Mr. Asaduzzaman Mia, the Acting Police Super of Sylhet. Most of the participants in this workshop were the lawyers of Sylhet; others were journalists, social workers, students, teachers and the representatives of different NGOs.

The Dhaka Unit of the Trust organized a workshop on **“Fair Election: The Role of Lawyers”** on 25 April, 1996. It was held at the Dhaka District Bar Association building and was conducted by Mr. Khandoker Abdul Mannan, the Coordinator of the Dhaka Unit. Mr. Asfar Uddin Ahmed Khan, the President of the Dhaka District Bar Association was invited as the Special Guest. Most of the participants were the lawyers of Dhaka and others were social workers and the representatives of different NGOs.

The Khulna Unit of BLAST organized a one day Human Rights workshop on **“Medical Malpractice and Legal Aid”** on 26 April, 1996. It took place at the Umesh Chandra Public Library, in Khulna and was conducted by Mr. Manzurul Imam, the Chairperson of the Management Committee of the Khulna Unit. The Chief Guest of the workshop was Mr. Sham Narayan Paul, the Additional Districts Judge of Khulna. Most of the participants in this workshop were the lawyers, journalists, social workers, students, teachers and the representatives of different NGOs.

Ain-O-Shalish Kendra, BLAST and Madaripur Legal Aid Association jointly organized a two day national workshop on **Public Interest Litigation** from 26-27 July, 1996. The workshop was held at Planning and Development Academy, Nilkhet, Dhaka. The following persons spoke on different issues:

- Mr. Justice B. B. Roy Chowdhury
- Mr. Justice A. M. Mahmudur Rahman
- Mr. Justice M. M. Huq
- Mr. Justice A. K. Badrul Huq
- Mr. Justice Naimuddin Ahmed
- Barrister Syed Istiaq Ahmed
- Dr. Kamal Hossain
- Barrister Md. Amir-ul Islam
- Barrister Salma Sobhan
- Mr. Fazlul Huq
- Dr. Shahdeen Malik
- Barrister Shafique Ahmed

Dr. Mohiuddin Farooque
Mr. Mahfuz Anam
Ms. Rashida K. Chowdhury

It is the intention of BLAST to carry out more of these training courses in the following year, particularly with the introduction of the Public Interest Litigation project and the expansion of its mediation units.

6.4. PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION

Violations of the rights of individuals and governmental indifference to maintain certain standards *vis a vis* its citizens is a global phenomenon, which is nonetheless more pronounced in developing countries. Public Interest Litigation, an emerging area of proactive and interventionist process, is designed to enforce government accountability and through the judicial system empower certain identifiable but powerless segments of society. Today it is one of the most effective ways of strengthening the civil society. PIL cases can take up issues related to sex or race discrimination, employment rights, neglect by the health services, safety at work and others of this nature. With funding from The Asia Foundation, BLAST began its PIL work from August 1996.

In keeping with the objectives of the PIL project four test cases are being prepared and a fifth has actually been filed in the courts. BLAST is aware that these are very much test cases as the concept of PIL is new in Bangladesh, and so has taken great care in choosing these cases. The one which has been filed concerns the rights of qualified Forestry students from Chittagong University to be considered the most suitable candidates for the posts of Assistant Conservator of Forests. At present the post is open to graduates of Biology, Zoology, Soil Science, Physics and Chemistry. The four other cases being researched relate to: 1) compensation for injured victims of the inter-city train Mohanagar-Urmi, accident 2) illegal construction on the residential area of Eskaton Garden Road, 3) medical malpractice relating to organ transfers without proper consent and 4) set code problem at S.S.C. examinations. BLAST has undertaken extensive legal research and conducted inquiries in order to ascertain all the facts.

6.5. SEMINARS

Recognizing that PIL is a new area of law in Bangladesh, BLAST has initiated a number of seminars with eminent legal persons, in order to explore the issues and the best methods of procedure. On August 5, 1996, in conjunction with Women and Law South Asia Network (WALSAN), it organized a seminar on '**Muslim Women's Rights to Maintenance**'. The seminar was presided over by Mr. Justice Naimuddin Ahmed, Member Bangladesh Law Commission. The Chief Guest of the seminar was Mr. Justice Mohammad Ghulam Rabbani of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh. Two papers were given by Dr. Taslima Mansoor and Dr. Naima Haque, from the University of Dhaka, on "Muslim Women's Right to Maintenance: The Legal Connotations" and "Past and Post Divorce Maintenance: Legal and Social Appraisal," respectively.

On 31 August again BLAST organized a seminar on the concept of PIL. It was Chaired by Mr. Justice Naimuddin Ahmed, Mr. Justice A. K. Badrul Huq was the Guest Speaker and Mr. Justice Mozammel Huq was the Chief Guest. The keynote paper, "**Conceptualizing Public Interest Litigation: Reflections on selected Jurisdictions**" was submitted by Advocate Naim Ahmed and commented upon by Dr. Mohiuddin Farooque and others.

In conjunction with *Ain O Salish Kendra*, BLAST organized the '**Aminul Haque Memorial**' lecture at the Sheraton Hotel, on Saturday 28 December, 1996. Mr. Justice Krishana Iyer spoke on "**Human Rights, the Judicial Process and Social Action/Public Interest Litigation**". The seminar was presided over by Barrister Syed Ishtiaq Ahmed. Former Chief Justice Badrul Haider Chowdhury, Dr. Kamal Hossain and Barrister Salma Sobhan also spoke on this occasion.

BLAST is pleased with the progress it has made with its PIL project in 1996. Within a period of only four months it has initiated various litigations and workshops dealing with the issue of PIL at a conceptual level in order to explore the possibilities in Bangladesh.

6.6. MEDIATION PROJECT IN THREE UNITS

With funding from the Asia Foundation, from October 1996, BLAST has jointly begun work with the Madaripur Legal Aid Association (MLAA) in providing mediation services in the rural areas of three districts. The working area of the project are Barisal, Khulna and Sylhet.

The following Mediation units fall under **Barisal District**:

In Sadar union Thana there are: Chandramohon, Charmonia, Chandpura, Raypasha-Karapur, Tungibaria, Charkawya unit and under Bakerganj Thana there is the Charadi unit.

The following Mediation units operate in the **Khulna Division**:

In Terokhada Thana there are six units: Terokhada, Azagara, Barasat, Saciadah, Chagladah, Madhupur and there is one unit, Gutudia, in Dumuria Thana.

In **Sylhet** there are seven mediation units. In Bishawanath Thana there are Bishwanath, Daulatpur, Dashghar, Khajanchigaon, Deokalas, Alankari units and the Mollargaon unit is in Sadar Thana.

Mediation or *shalish* is a quasi-formal traditional mode of dispute settlement in rural communities. Generally speaking, according to the traditional procedure, the initiative for mediation has usually come from self-appointed leaders or powerful members of a community imposing their own solutions for the problems, as perceived by them. One of the main reasons for the failure or the loss of credibility of this system then has been that the resolutions given by the elite in the communities went to maintain the status quo and did not really take into account the grievances of the parties or their desired solutions.

In stark contrast MLAA and BLAST, having recognized the potential of this system, being efficient, cost effective, socially acceptable and a cohesive model of sustaining community relationships, have given it a new lease of life and begun to provide mediation services with meaningful consequences for their clients. Their work based on the model best developed by the Madaripur Model of Mediation (MMM) requires one of the aggrieved parties to approach them for a resolution. It is a voluntary process and should the disputant parties wish it the mediation organizations provide the facilities and the personnel. The experience of the MLAA, operating since 1978 with roughly 4000 successful cases per year, has shown that the availability of immediate and effective legal aid is an essential precondition for the success of alternative dispute resolution projects. When a mediation project is supported by a network of formal legal aid, the success of mediations and adherence to the decisions become more binding.

The method of operating this system has also been borrowed from the successful MMM project. Training is one of the most important factors of a successful mediation structure. Mediation workers, their supervisors and Head Office staff were all trained in the following topics:

- ? Fundamentals of applicable laws
- ? Mediation techniques
- ? Documentation and the maintenance of records
- ? Organizing mediation and implementing decisions and resolutions

Great care has been taken in choosing the actual mediation workers. The MMM realized that in order to make it an approachable and equitable system mediators had to be drawn from different walks of life, from people who command respect for reasons other than sheer strength or force. They are drawn from elected bodies, imams of mosques, landowners, school teachers and other opinion makers. Women have traditionally been omitted from the process and the inclusion of them in this project has meant that aggrieved women can feel empowered to take the initiative for mediation. The mediators' initial training and the follow up sessions in Madaripur has meant that the workers are able to organize the mediation sessions with the participation of all the concerned parties, that the resolutions passed conform to the legal system of the country and that proper records are maintained throughout. It is hoped that the results of these mediation centers in the coming years will reflect the consideration and care with which the project has been nurtured.

When assessing the statistics it is well to keep in mind that each complete mediation generally requires anything from three to ten sessions, lasting anything from three to five hours each.

The table shows the mediation initiated and settled during October to December, 1996.

TABLE 53: MEDIATION RECEIVED IN THREE UNIT OFFICE OF THE MEDIATION PROJECT

	Barisal	Khulna	Sylhet	Total
Family Matter	16	14	15	45
Second Marriage	3	2	1	6
Dowry	12	4	0	16
Land Matter	25	46	8	79
Miscellaneous	34	32	13	79
Total Mediation Initiated	90	98	37	225
<i>Settled</i>	<i>44</i>	<i>46</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>111</i>
<i>Pending</i>	<i>43</i>	<i>51</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>103</i>
<i>Sent to the court</i>	<i>1</i>			<i>01</i>
<i>Not processed & rejected</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>10</i>

6.7. MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES: AN EVALUATION BY NOVA

BLAST underwent intensive scrutiny for two days in November 1996, when consultants from NOVA conducted an institutional and management assessment of the

Trust. The consultants also visited Unit Offices of Sylhet and Chittagong. The report submitted by them concentrated on the structure and the workings of BLAST.

In the introduction to this report it has already been stated that being a new organization BLAST is suffering certain growing pains. In this lights the constructive criticisms made in the report was regarded as helpful. In assessing the gaps of this organization NOVA made certain recommendations relating to a more proactive gender policy, service or employee benefit rules and stronger ties with other organizations. It also recommended that the newly established PIL cell could look into the issues of child rights and labour rights, particularly with reference to the women workers in garments factories. The report also made the valid point that in order to be cost effective BLAST has to generate income through its project activities.

The consultants expressed their satisfaction with the actual work of BLAST and its long term perspectives on legal literacy, investigation, research, PIL training and workshop and participation in human rights movements. Recognizing that it has grown rapidly and that it is on its way to becoming a national institution NOVA commented “

BLAST has within 2 years achieved successfully in their activities and if they function in this way they can be in the path to fulfill their goal in setting up a national Institution for providing legal aid to ensure rule of law and access to justice.”

6.8. FUTURE PROGRAMME

Since it first began operating BLAST has been overwhelmed by the number of litigants with valid claims seeking redress. It has become clear that the whole judicial system is failing to cope with this volume and that likewise BLAST is not yet in a position to fulfill its mandate exhaustively with reference to the marginalised under its scrutiny. It does, however, intend to remain faithful to its initial pledge of offering legal aid services on a national scale.

Thus, in keeping with its aim to provide a comprehensive programme throughout the country, BLAST intends to expand its sphere of operation by steadily building up nine new units by the end of 1998 and nineteen more sub units in smaller districts by the end of 2000. It is hoped that this organisation will be in a position to see in the new century by bringing the whole country under its sphere of operation. BLAST also intends to gradually expand its work with the law clinics, the PIL project and the mediation programme, as has already been discussed at some length.

In summing up the progress made by BLAST in 1996 it is evident that the organisation is growing at quite a hectic rate and that its capacity to handle volumes of work has increased dramatically from its modest beginnings. In 1994 the Trust, composed of five divisional units and the head office, received a total of 459 cases and settled only 2, yet by 1996 it had expanded to eleven district and divisional units, filing 1037 cases and settling 171 of them. The numbers of lawyers BLAST has employed over the three years also shows a marked increase in its activities.

It is, however, noticeable that some units have been more active than others and more or less active than in previous years. Whilst taking into account local factors such as changing staff at the Unit Offices, as in the case of Khulna, which may alter the statistics from year to year, the Head Office is nonetheless anxious that the main reasons for the fluctuations in the success of the units rests with the nature of its target group, a floating and on the whole illiterate population. This means that it cannot rely as effectively on previous publicity campaigns and that publicity has to be a continuous process. The Trust recognizes that this is a costly process and that leaflets, posters and brochures intended for the intermediary groups such as NGOs without legal cells, Union Parisads and the Bar Associations, rely on the initiative of these bodies and fail to address the target group directly. So far, word of mouth has been the most effective method for advertising the work of BLAST. The problem of a floating population is not immediately reflected in the statistics of 1996. **They show that out of 446 cases 226 were in favor of the clients represented by BLAST, 107 reached mutual compromises, and that a total of 113 cases went against the clients. Here it is important to note that of these 113 clients many were migrant population who failed to attend court to the conclusion of the cases, resulting in those being registered negatively.**

The work of the Trust has also been expanded by the law clinics and the mediation units. The inclusion of the PIL project will also help to make BLAST a more rounded and dynamic legal aid organization.

7. EPILOGUE

Most of us are lawyers, in our 30s and 40s. We grew up in a society which is constantly trying to define and redefine the role of the state in it and in our lives.

As lawyers we use law as tools for justice. In our professional lives -- spanning just a few odd years for some while a decade or more for others -- we endured the anger of young men whose brothers were in jail because they were on the wrong side of the political equation. We took recourse to the Supreme Court for declaring their detention illegal. Quite often and quite quickly, we have succeeded. In a particular instance, we had obtained the release of a boy of 12 who was detained under the Special Powers Act, 1974. We were angry that a boy so young can be so brutalised. We wished that we could do more, at least procure some compensation for such dreadful illegalities. But to do that we have to refashion the way law can be invoked in favours of the victims. This we hope to do through our public interest litigations in the coming months.

We have dealt with women who have been deserted by their husbands; whose husbands have married again, totally disregarding the law; who suffered violence for their inability to bring in dowry and for all other sundry reasons; who were distraught by the loss of the custody of their children; and, above all, uncertain of their next meal as they have been driven out of their marital homes. We have deployed law to redress at least some of the injustices. Occasionally we have succeeded.

We have listened to aged men -- clutching a few pieces of worn and untidy papers strung together with dirty bits of thread, documents of lands which were theirs -- narrating stories of failures, of how they had been cheated out of their lands or simply driven out. We have filed cases deploying sections and rules to get their lands back and have waited for their cases to slowly meander along the channels of the judicial system. And they have waited with us and waited with hope.

We have encountered atrocious callousness of the Executive in forms of official papers acquiring private lands of the ethnic minorities and asserting that the state will not pay any compensation for such acquisitions. We have invoked the writ jurisdiction of the Supreme Court to demand compensation.

Deploying law for justice is surely a multidimensional engagement. We have mediated disputes; discussed, deliberated and assessed norms and rules of our legal system; undertaken legal literacy programmes; joined hands with others and protested against violations of human rights; arranged trainings to enhance and sharpen our own abilities; and researched papers on law and related issues.

We have engaged our skills to redress wrongs. Sometimes we have been happy with our accomplishments but no less frequently we have also been frustrated. We have blamed the inefficiency of the courts, the corruption, and our own incapacities, inadequacies and limitations.

Nevertheless, we do believe that one must persevere to provide mechanisms and institutions for ensuring justice which is not readily accessible to the poor and the disadvantaged. Our state is still grappling more with itself than attempting to ensure the rule of law and equal treatment of law for all its citizens. Therefore, it is unlikely that the state will offer this most essential public service of providing legal aid in litigations in the near future. Hence, we are attempting to build a national institution of legal aid.

Appendix A BLAST DIRECTORY

Head office

Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust
141/1, Segunbagicha, Dhaka - 1000
Tel: 837185

Mr. Fazlul Huq
Executive Director

Chittagong Unit

Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust
31, Nazir Ahmed Chowdhury Rd.,
(Alip Biponi) Anderkill, Chittagong –400

Mr. Rezaul Karim Chowdhury, Advocate
Co-ordinator.

Dhaka Unit

Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust
3, Court House Street,
Dhaka –1100.

Mr. Khandokar Abdul Mannan, Advocate
Co-ordinator.

Khulna Unit

Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust
64, Poura Super Market
Khulan.

Mr. Ashoke Kumar Saha, Advocate
Co-ordinator.

Noakhali Unit

Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust
Noakhali Bar Association Maighdi Court
Noakhali.

Mr. Abdur Rahim, Advocate
Co-ordinator.

Rangpur Unit

Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust

Barisal Unit

Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust
Barisal Bar Association (1st floor)
Barisal.

Mr. Mansur-Ul Alam, Advocate
Co-ordinator.

Comilla Unit

Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust
Comilla Bar Association
Comilla –3500

Mr. Md. Adbul Mannan, Advocate
Co-ordinator.

Jessore Unit

Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust
Momin Nagar (1st Floor)
No 3, Mojob Sarak, Jessore –7400.

Mr. Md. Ishaq, Advocate
Co-ordinator.

Mymensingh Unit

Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust
Mymensingh Bar Association
Mymensingh –2200.

Mr. A. H. Habib Khan, Advocate
Co-ordinator.

Rajshahi Unit

Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust
Kabil Manson (4th Floor) Mallopara
Shaheb Bazar, Rajshahi.

Mr. Md. Abdus Samad, Advocate
Co-cordinator.

Sylhet Unit

Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust

Rangpur Bar Association
Rangpur.

Mr. Abdul Quayum Mondal, Advocate
Co-ordinator.

Law Clinics

Legal Aid Clinic
Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust
13/11, Babar Rd.
Mahammadpur, Dhaka.

Md. Harun-ur-Rashid Khan, Advocate
Trainee Adviser.

Sylhet Bar Association
Sylhet –3100.

Mr. Md Irfanuzzaman Chow., Advocate
Co-ordinator.

Law Clinics

Legal Aid Clinic
Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust
89/3-A R. K. Mission Rd.
Dhaka.

Ms. Masuda Rehana Begum, Advocate
Trainee Adviser.

Mediation Units

There are no offices at the local level and the work is conducted from the co-ordinators' home. The addresses below are the divisional and district units of BLAST and the home addresses of the SUPERVISORS

Mediation Unit
Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust
Barisal Unit
Barisal Bar Association (2nd Floor)
Barisal.

Mr. Anawar Hossain
Mediation Supervisor
Ghosal Raj Compound
Bogura Rd
Barisal.

Mediation Unit
Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust
Khulna Unit
64, Paura Super Market
Khulna.

Mr. Md. Shahjahan Kabir
Mediation Supervisor
Village and postal district: Pantita
District: Terkhada
Khulna.

Mediation Unit
Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust
Sylhet Unit
Sylhet Bar Association (3rd Floor)
Sylhet –3100.

Mr. Md. Aiyub Ali
Mediation Supervisor
Village: Hemidpur
Postal district: Biswanath
Sylhet.

Appendix B: Reasons for not proceeding with complaints/applications filed

Appendix B. 1: Head office and Nine Unit Offices

Reasons for not proceeding with or rejecting of Complaints	Numbers
1. Clients failing to communicate, after submitting the complaints	154
2. Clients financially well-off and hence processed for mediation rather than assistance for court cases	13
3. As a result of the first letter being sent for mediation, BLAST was informed of local compromises of the disputes; the letter serving as catalyst for the compromise	45
4. Finding out that privately funded court cases are in process and hence illegible for our assistance	10
5. Cases being conducted by lawyers not selected by the Trust	02
6. Clients requiring defense against charges that are not generally defended by the Trust	11
7. The defendant residing outside the country	01
8. Failure to comply with the mediation decisions	11
9. Failure to produce the witnesses on the date fixed for mediation	02
10. Client deliberately making false statement	02
11. Nonattendance of both parties in spite of letters being sent for mediation:	28
12. Clients being released from the cases	07
13. Legal complications and unavailability of documents [second marriage before the divorce of the first, absence of the <i>kabinnama</i> for second marriages, non-availability of last order for dismissal from service, cases under the control of village courts etc.]	32
14. Cases being conducted by the government:	01
15. No office of the Trust:	13
16. Can not obtain "condemnation of delay"	07
Total	339

Appendix B. 2: The Head office

Reasons for not proceeding with or rejecting of Complaints	Numbers
1. Clients failing to communicate after submitting the complaints:	31
2. Clients financially solvent and requested mediation rather than assistance for court cases	03
3. Discovery that privately funded court cases are in process	01
4. Clients requiring defense against charges of cruelty to women and children and the dowry prohibition act	02
5. Clients being released from the cases	01
6. Legal complications and unavailability of documents [second marriage before the divorce of the first, absence of the <i>kabinnama</i> for second marriages, non-availability of last order for dismissal from service, cases under the control of village courts etc.]:	15
7. Cases being conducted by the government	13
8. Condemnation of delay	07
Total	73

Appendix B. 3: Barisal Unit

Reasons for not proceeding with or rejecting of Complaints	Numbers
1. Clients failing to communicate after submitting the complaints:	05
2. Clients financially solvent and requested mediation rather than court cases:	04
3. As a result of the first letter being sent for mediation the organization was informed of local compromises to the disputes:	04

4. Failure to comply with the mediation decisions:	05
5. Nonattendance of both parties in spite of letters being sent for mediation:	27
6. Legal complications and unavailability of documents [second marriage before the divorce of the first, absence of the <i>kabilnana</i> for second marriages, unavailability of last order for dismissal from service, cases under the control of village courts etc.]:	06
Total	51

Appendix B. 4: Chittagong Unit

Reasons for not proceeding with or rejecting of Complaints	Numbers
1. Clients failing to communicate after submitting the complaints:	15
2. As a result of the first letter being sent for mediation the organization was informed of local compromises to the disputes:	08
3. Failure to comply with the mediation decisions:	01
4. Legal complications and unavailability of documents [second marriage before the divorce of the first, absence of the <i>kabilnana</i> for second marriages, unavailability of last order for dismissal from service, cases under the control of village courts etc.]:	06
Total	30

Appendix B. 5: Dhaka Unit

Reasons for not proceeding with or rejecting of Complaints	Numbers
1. Clients failing to communicate after submitting the complaints	46
2. Clients financially solvent and requested mediation rather than court cases	01
3. As a result of the first letter being sent for mediation the organization was informed of local compromises to the disputes	02
4. Clients requiring defense against charges of cruelty to women and children and the dowry prohibition act	03
8. Failure to comply with the mediation decisions	01
9. Legal complications and unavailability of documents [second marriage before the divorce of the first, absence of the <i>kabinnama</i> for second marriages, unavailability of last order for dismissal from service, cases under the control of village courts etc.]:	02
Total:	55

Appendix B. 6: Jessore Unit

Reasons for not proceeding with or rejecting of Complaints	Numbers
1. Clients failing to communicate after submitting the complaints:	02
2. As a result of the first letter being sent for mediation the organization was informed of local compromises to the disputes:	01
3. Failure to comply with the mediation decisions:	01
4. Failure to produce the witnesses on the date fixed for mediation:	01
Total	05

Appendix B. 7: Khulna Unit

Reasons for not proceeding with or rejecting of Complaints	Numbers
1. Clients failing to communicate after submitting the complaints:	33
2. Clients financially solvent and requested mediation rather than court cases:	02
3. As a result of the first letter being sent for mediation the organization was	01

4. Discovery that privately funded court cases are in process:	02
5. Cases being conducted by lawyers outside the panel of lawyers of the Trust:	02
6. Clients requiring defense against charges of cruelty to women and children	03
7. The defendant residing outside the country:	01
8. Failure to produce the witnesses on the date fixed for mediation:	01
9. Nonattendance of both parties in spite of letters being sent for mediation:	01
10. Clients being released from the cases:	02
11. Legal complications and unavailability of documents [second marriage	01
Total	49

Appendix B. 8: Mymensingh Unit

Reasons for not proceeding with or rejecting of Complaints	Numbers
1. Clients failing to communicate after submitting the complaints:	06
2. As a result of the first letter being sent for mediation the organization was	13
3. Discovery that privately funded court cases are in process:	04
4. Clients requiring defense against charges of cruelty to women and children	02
5. Client proved to be making falsehoods:	02
6. Clients being released from the cases:	01
7. Legal complications and unavailability of documents [second marriage before	02
Total:	29

Appendix B. 9: Noakhali Unit

Reasons for not proceeding with or rejecting of Complaints	Numbers
1. Prosecution cases being conducted by the government:	01
Total	01

Appendix B. 10: Rajshahi Unit

Reasons for not proceeding with or rejecting of Complaints	Numbers
1. Clients failing to communicate after submitting the complaints:	15
2. Clients financially solvent and requested mediation rather than court cases:	02
3. As a result of the first letter being sent for mediation the organization was	16

4. Discovery that privately funded court cases are in process:	02
5. Clients requiring defense against charges of cruelty to women and children	01
6. Failure to comply with the mediation decisions:	03
7. Clients being released from the cases:	01
Total	40

Appendix B. 11: Sylhet Unit

Reasons for not proceeding with or rejecting of Complaints	Numbers
1. Clients failing to communicate after submitting the complaints:	01
2. Clients financially solvent and requested mediation rather than court cases:	01
3. As a result of the first letter being sent for mediation the organization was	01
4. Discovery that privately funded court cases are in process:	01
5. Clients being released from the cases	02
Total	06

Appendix C: General list of Case Reports, Journals, Periodicals and Title at the Trust Head Office Library

Appendix C.1: Case Reports and Decisions

Sl. No.	Title	Vol	Year of Publication.
1	D.L.R.	I to XLVIII	1949-1996
2	A.I.R.	71 to 81	1980-1994
3	P.S.C.C.	Per Year 2	1983-1994
4	P.S.C.C Criminal	Per Year 2	1992-1994
5	S.C.C.		1993-1995
6	AIR Manual	1 to 30	1989
7	P.L.D.	XXXVIII to XLVII	1985-1995
8	B.L.D.	I to XVI	1981-1996
9	Bangladesh Gazette	I to XXV	1972-1996
10	East Pakistan Code	I to VIII	1870-1935 to 1960-1965
11	Bangladesh Code	I to XI	1836-1871 to
12	The Mainstream Law Reports	I to XII	1996
13	Bangladesh Law Chronicles	II	1996
14	Bangladesh Law Times	v	1997
15	The Pakistan Code	1 to 21	1836-71 to 1981-88

Appendix C.2: Journals

Sl. No.	Title	Vol	Year of Publication
1	BISS Journal	1 to 17	1980-1996
2	The Journal of Social Studies	9 to 72	1980-1997
3	Samaj Nirikhon	47 to 62	1993-1996
4	BIDS Journal Development Studies	XVIII to XXIII	1990-1996
5	Bangladesh Unnayan Shamikka	6 to 12	1395-1401 (B)
6	BIDS Research Report	66 to 149	1966-1987
7	National Law School Journal	1 to 7	1989-1995
8	The Longest Victory	18	1995
9	BIDS Working Paper	1-18	1993-1996

Appendix C.3: PERIODICALS

SI No.	Title
1	Computer Jagat
3	Joog Chetena
5	Law Review
7	Kodek Barta
9	Prochesta
11	Dharitri
13	Liberty
15	Liberal Times
17	Youth Law Forum
19	Independent
21	Focus
23	Mohila
25	Access
27	Human Rights Forum

SI No.	Title
2	PC World
4	Ain O Salish Kendra
6	Adhuna
8	Oxizen
10	Manabadhiker Onusandhani
12	Refuge Watch
14	Udvastu
16	Law Vision
18	Palli Darpan
20	Nari Batra
22	BELA
24	IDD (Focus)
26	Huridocs News

Appendix C. 4: Daily News Papers

SI No.	Title
1	Daily Ittefaq
3	Daily Banglabazar Patrika
5	Daily Bhorer Kagoj

SI No.	Title
2	Daily Janakantha
4	Daily Sangbad
6	Daily Star

Appendix C.5: Books

SI No.	Subject	Titles
1	Law	700
2	Social Science	200
3	History	90
4	Language	20
5	Arts	15
6	Philosophy	12
7	Religion	10
8	Technology	10
9	Literature	10
10	Others	5

APPENDIX D: Tables indicating Category and Number of Cases undertaken by individual Advocates

Head Office, 1996

TABLE 54: CATEGORY OF CASES UNDERTAKEN BY INDIVIDUAL PANEL LAWYERS IN THE **SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH.**

Sl No.	Name of engaged Lawyers	Nature of cases						Cases		Total cases filed
		Detention	Writ	Civil Revision	Civil Appeal	Criminal Revision	Criminal Appeal	Settled	Pending	
1	Mr. A K Badrul Huq.			3					3	3
2	Mr. Nizamul Huq Nasim	17		3		2		15	7	22
3	Mr. Adilur Rahman	2						2		2
4	Mr. Karunamoy Chakma	1	3						4	4
5	Ms. Promila Biswas	3						2	1	3
6	Mr. Idrisur Rahman	8				1		6	3	9
7	Mr. M. A. Wahab Mia			3					3	3
8	Mr. Khurshid Alam Khan			2		1			3	3
9	Mr. Habibul Huq Gani	1					1	1	1	2
10	Mr. Moazzem Hossain	2		3		3	1	1	8	9
11	Ms. Saira Rahman		1						1	1
12	Mr. Barrister S. Ahmed		4						4	4
13	Mr. A. Q. M. F. R. Khan					2			2	2
14	Mr. Jaglul Haider Afrik	3	1					2	2	4
15	Ms. Masuma Akhter	7						4	3	7
16	Mr. Subrata Chowdhury			6	1	1		2	6	8
17	Mr. S. Mafizur Rahman		2						2	2
18	Mr. Shoeb Ahmed			1					1	1
19	Mr. Baset Majumder					1		1		1
20	Mr. Jahirul Islam	2				1		2	1	3
21	Mr. Ramjan Ali	2						2		2
22	Mr. P. C. Guho	1		4					5	5
23	Mr. F. R. M. N. Ahsan			1					1	1
24	Ms. Chamon Akhter	2						1	1	2
25	Mr. Syed M. Rahman			1					1	1
26	Mr. Md. Samsul Huda					1			1	1
27	Ms. Farida Khan	1		2					3	3
28	Mr. N. Islam Talukder	2		1				1	2	3
29	Ms. Nahid Mahtab	1						1		1
30	Mr. Qamrul Hasan	1		1					2	2
31	Mr. Barrister Shafiuddin			1					1	1
32	Mr. Faqrudin Islam						1	1		1
33	Mr. Waliul Islam		1					1		1
34	Mr. Probir Hawlader			1					1	1
35	Ms. Purobi Saha	1							1	1
	Total	57	12	33	1	13	3	45	74	119

TABLE 55: MONTHLY STATEMENT OF NUMBER OF CASES FOR INDIVIDUAL PANEL LAWYERS FOR **SUPREME COURT CASES.**

Sl.	Name of the Advocate	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
1	Mr. Nizamul Huq Nasim	4		1	7			5	3	1		1		22
2	Mr. Karunamoy Chakma									1		3		4
3	Ms. Promila Biswas							1		1		1		3
4	Mr. Idrisur Rahman			3		2			2	1	1			9
5	Mr. M. A. Wahab Mia				2								1	3
6	Mr. Khurshid Alam Khan			3										3
7	Mr. Habibul Huq Gani			1									1	2
8	Mr. Moazzem Hossain			2	1		2		2			1	1	9
9	Ms. Saira Rahman				1									1
10	Mr. Barrister S. Ahmed				3								1	4
11	Mr. A. Q. M. F. R. Khan			2										2
12	Mr. Jaglul Haider Afrik	1			1					1			1	4
13	Ms. Masuma Akhter	2				1				1		3		7
14	Mr. Subrata Chowdhury		3						1	2	1		1	8
15	Mr. S. Mafizur Rahman												1	1
16	Mr. Shoeb Ahmed			1										1
17	Mr. Baset Majumder							1						1
18	Mr. Jahirul Islam				2				1					3
19	Mr. Ramjan Ali				1					1				2
20	Mr. P. C. Guho					1				1		1	2	5
21	F. R. M. Nazmul Ahsan									1				1
22	Ms. Chamon Akhter						1					1		2
23	Mr. S. M. Rahman		1				1							2
24	Mr. Md. Samsul Huda						1							1
25	Ms. Farida Khan						1					2		3
26	Mr. N. Islam Talukder							1				2		3
27	Ms. Nahid Mahtab								1					1
28	Mr. A K Badrul Haq			2	1									3
29	Mr. Adilur Rahman Khan											2		2
30	Mr. Kamrul Hassan										1	1		2
31	Mr. Barrister Shafiuddin											1		1
32	Mr. F. Islam Chaqlader											1		1
33	Mr. Waliul Islam											1		1
34	Mr. Probir Hawlader												1	1
35	Mr. Ms. Purabi Shaha												1	1
	Total	7	4	15	19	4	6	8	10	11	3	21	11	119

TABLE 56: MONTHLY STATEMENT OF NUMBER OF CASES FOR INDIVIDUAL PANAL LAWYER FOR JUDGE **COURT OF BARISAL.**

Sl.	Name of the advocate	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
1	Mr. Saydul Alam Giyas	1												1
2	Mr. Fazlur Rahman Khan		1			1	1							3
3	Mr. A. Halim Hawlader			1		1					1		1	4
4	Mr. Abdul Mannan Khan			1									2	3
5	Mr. Shaheed Azgor Khan			1	1							1		3
6	Mr. Md. Faruk Miah				1						1		1	3
7	Mr. Md. Abdul Hai				1					1				2

(Continued Table 56)

8	Mr. Nar Narayon Ghos				2										2
9	Mr. Md. Fazlul Haq				2			1					1		4
10	Mr. Aowlad Hossen Kari				1	1									2
11	Mr. Nasir Ahmed Mian				1			1		1			1		4
12	Mr. Md. Ishak				1			1				1			3
13	Mr. Md. A. Kalam Azad				2	1							1		4
14	Mr. A. K. M. A. Matin				1										1
15	Mr. G. M. Azmol Hossen				1	1		1					1		4
16	Mr. Md. Nurul Islam				1						2				3
17	Mr. P. Kumar Singh				1			1	1	1				1	5
18	Mr. Fayzul Haque Fayz				1					1			2		4
19	Mr. Lashkar Nurul Haq				1										1
20	Mr. Zahidur Rahman				1					1	1				3
21	Mr. A. Khalek Hawlader					1	1			1	1	1			5
22	Mr. Swapan Kumar Dutta						1								1
23	Mr. Abdul Malek Khan						1								1
24	Mr. K. Ali Howlader						1								1
25	Mr. Md. Feroz Hawlader						2								2
26	Mr. A. Razzak Hawlader						1								1
27	Mr. Md. Shah Alam							1							1
28	Mr. R. Kumar Chaklader							1		1					2
29	Mr. I. Hossen Negaban							1		1					2
30	Mr. Shamsul Huda Zinnat								1	1					2
31	Mr. A. K. N. Ahmed								2		1				3
32	Mr. K. B. S. A. Kabir									1					1
33	Mr. Shekh Abdul Kader									1					1
34	Ms. Parvin Akter Baby									1					1
35	Mr. Deb Das Samadder									2		1			3
36	Mr. Majibul Haq Biswas									1					1
37	Mr. Azizul Huq									1					1
38	Mr. G. Kabir Chowdhury									1		1			2
39	Mr. S. S. Hossen Jummon									1			1		2
40	Mr. Lutfar Rahman Molla										1				1
41	Mr. S.M.Abdullah										1	1			2
42	Mr. Gopal Chandra Saha											1			1
43	Mr. G. Chakraborty											1	1		2
44	Mr. Abdul Wahab											1			1
45	Mr. Abu Taher											1	1		2
46	Mr. Jalal Uddin Hawlader											1			1
47	Mr. Jalilur Rahman											1			1
48	Mr. H. Kabir Prince													1	1
49	Mr. Babul Lal Ghos													1	1
50	Mr. Abdul Hai Mahbub													1	1
51	Mr. D. Kumar Chatterjee													1	1
	Total	1	1	3	19	6	8	6	6	14	9	15	19		107

TABLE 57: MONTHLY STATEMENT OF NUMBER OF CASES FOR INDIVIDUAL PANEL LAWYERS FOR JUDGE

COURT OF CHITTAGONG		Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
1	Mr. Abu Zafar	1			1									2
2	Mr. Dino Moni De	1												1
3	Mr. Rezaul Karim	1			1			1			2			5
4	Mr. Torun Kishor Deb	3									1	2		6
5	Mr. S. Kanti Baruwa	1					1	1						3
6	Mr. M. R. Chowdhury	1												1

(Continued Table 57)

7	Mr. N. Alam Chowdhury	1							1					2
8	Mr. Muktader Billah	1	1		1	1	2	2	2	2	1		1	14
9	Mr. Abul Hasem	1												1
10	Mr. Abdus Salam	1							1	2	1	1		6
11	Mr. S. Kumar Chowdhury	1	1											2
12	Ms. Salima Khanam	1									1	1		3
13	Mr. S. Ahmad Siddiqui	1					1							2
14	Mr. S. Md. Wahidunnabi	1		1			1	1		1		2		7
15	Mr. Ranjeet Kumar Sheel	1												1
16	Mr. Md. Abdus Satter	1								1				2
17	Mr. A. Kabir Chowdhury	1										1		2
18	Mr. Aiyub Khan	1						1	1					3
19	Mr. Sree S. Kanti Datta		1											1
20	Mr. Sree Pratikanta Paul		1											1
21	Mr. M. K. Alam Dovash		1			1						1		3
22	Mr. Sree D. Chowdhury		1						1	2		1		5
23	Mr. Khaled Shahnawaz			1	2									3
24	Mr. D. Kumar Baruwa				1							1		2
25	Mr. A. Narayon Odhikary				1					1				2
26	Mr. N. A. Chowdhury				1				1		1	1	2	6
27	Mr. Kawsar Parvin Haq				1	1		1						3
28	Mr. Somesh Chandra Das				1				1			1		3
29	Mr. Sree M. Baruwa				1									1
30	Mr. P. Kumar Sengupta					1					1			2
31	Mr. A. Islam Chowdhury					1								1
32	Mr. Md. Ilias					1	1							2
33	Mr. Md. Azizullah					1								1
34	Mr. Md. Hafizul Islam					1	2			2	2	2		9
35	Mr. Md. Nurul Islam						1							1
36	Mr. H. Muridul Alam						1			1		1		3
37	Mr. Biplab Das						1							1
38	Mr. Pujan Dutta						2							2
39	Mr. Md. Abdul Kader						1	1		1				3
40	Mr. Md. Hafizul Islam						1					1		2
41	Mr. Sunil Ranjan Das						1							1
42	Mr. Pradip Dutta						1		1	1				3
43	Mr. M. S. Hossen Chow.						1		1	1				3
44	Mr. Md. Abul Masum						1							1
45	Mr. Golam Farooque							3	1	1	1	2		8
46	Mr. Zahir Uddin							1	1	1		1		4
47	Mr. Uday Shankar Dhar							2						2
48	Mr. M. A. M. Chowdhury							1		1				2
49	Mr. Balaram Kanti Das							1			1	2		4
50	Mr. Sree Arpan Ghosh							1	1	1	2		2	7
51	Mr. Md. Zia Uddin								1		1			2
52	Mr. Sree A. Chakrabarti								1	1			1	3
53	Mr. Dipen Kanti Acharja								1					1
54	Mr. M. A. Khan Siddiqi								1					1
55	Mr. Ronajit Kumer Dhor									1				1
56	Mr. Vupal Chowdhury									1				1
57	Mr. Md. Kamal Uddin									1	2	5	3	11
58	Mr. Ashis Kumer Dutta									2		3	1	6
59	Mr. Ronajit Kumer Shil										2	1		3
60	Mr. K.azi M. Iqbal										1	2		3
61	Mr. K.azi Md. N. Huq										1	1		2
62	Mr. H. M. Abdul Hasan										1			1

(Continued Table 57)

63	Mr. S. Chandra Boudda											1			1
64	Mr. Abu Hanif											1			1
65	Mr. Shamol Kanti Barua											1			1
66	Mr. L. Ali Chowdhury											1		1	2
67	Md.Iunus Mia												1		1
68	Mr.Harun ur Rasid												1		1
69	Mr. Gantose Baruya												1		1
70	Md.Mahiuddin Khaled												1		1
71	Mr.Nitai Proshad Ghosh												1	2	3
72	Mr. Ajit Kumar Dey												1		1
73	Mr. Ajay Karmakar												2		2
74	Mr. Shadesh Kanti Datta												1		1
75	Mr.A. Kumer Chowdhury												2		2
76	Mr.Dipen Acharja												1		1
77	Mr.Aminul Haq Khan												1		1
78	Mr.A.J.M.Shahidulla												1		1
79	Mr. Sree Arpan Pal												1		1
	Total	20	6	2	11	8	19	17	16	26	26	48	13	212	

TABLE 58: MONTHLY STATEMENT OF NUMBER OF CASES FOR INDIVIDUAL PANEL ALWYERS FOR JUDGE

COURT OF **DHAKA.**

SL	Name of the Advocate	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct	Nov.	Dec.	Total
1	Mr. A. N. M. M.Hossen	2				2	2	1		2	1			10
2	Mr. A. F. M. R. Karim	1				1				1				3
3	Mr. Md. Ali Hossen	1								1		1		3
4	Mr. Fazle Rabbee	1			1			1						3
5	Mr. Jamal Khan	2				1		1	1		1	2		8
6	Ms. Rahima Khaton	1					2						2	5
7	Mr. F. A. Mannan	5		1		1				2	2	1	2	14
8	Mr. A.K. M.S. Ahmed	2	1								2	1	1	7
9	Mr. A. Hossen Mollah	1				1								2
10	Mr. Babu Dipongkar	1									1			2
11	Mr. S. Islam Sarder		2		2		1			1				6
12	Mr. Shahidul Hassan			1			1		1		1			4
13	Mr. Abdul Jalil			1										1
14	Mr. Amzad Hossen			1										1
15	Mr. Syed Yeamon Nabi				1									1
16	Mr. Abdur Rahim				1	1			1			2		5
17	Mr. N. Islam Talukder					2	1	1		1		1	2	8
18	Mr. Abdul Baten					1								1
19	Mr. Momtaz Uddin					1								1
20	Mr. Nazmul Huda Khan						1						1	2
21	Mr. Panna Lal Roy						1							1
22	Mr. Rashidul Hassan						1							1
23	Mr. Md. Ayubur Rahman						1				1			2
24	Mr. Serajul Alom						1							1
25	Mr. Firoz Mia						1		1					2
26	Mr. Sree S. Kumar Mitra								1	1				2
27	Ms. Nahida Sultana								1		1			2
28	Mr. Md. S. Rahman								1	1	1	2		5
29	Mr. Md. T. Ahmed								1					1
30	Mr. Syed Nurullah								1	1		2		4
31	Mr. Khalilur Rahman								1	2		1	2	6
32	Mr. Md. Amir Hossen								1		1	2		4
33	Mr. A. K. M. R. K. Basit								1				1	2

(Continued Table 58)

34	Mr. Md. Nazrul Islam									1			2	3
35	Mr. Abdur Rauf Khan										1			1
36	Ms. Sucharita Sen Gupta										1		1	2
37	Mr. Shafiuddin Biswas											1	2	3
38	Mr. Abu Bakar Mridha											3		3
39	Mr. Mana Ranjan Ghosh												1	1
40	Mr. S.M. Nazrul Islam										2	2		4
	TOTAL	17	3	4	5	11	13	4	12	14	16	22	16	137

TABLE 59: MONTHLY STATEMENT OF NUMBER OF CASES FOR INDIVIDUAL PANEL LAWYERS FOR JUDGE
COURT OF **JESSORE**

Sl.	Name of the Advocate	August	September	October	November	December	Total
1	Mr. Shamsul Huq	2					2
2	Mr. K. Moazzam Hossain			2	2		4
3	Ms. Sabia Khanam			2	4	2	8
4	Mr. Kazi Faridul Islam			2	1		3
5	Mr. Golam Haqmot Alam				1		1
6	Ms. S. Masuma Bagum				1	2	5
7	Mr. Mokarrom Hossain					1	1
8	Mr. Abdul Kader Azad					2	2
9	Mr. Aynal Hossain					2	2
10	Mr. Abdul Gafur Dulal					1	1
11	Mr. Sheikh Golam Rasul					1	1
12	Mr. Abdul Hai Molla					3	3
13	Mr. Mirza Shahed Ahmed					1	1
14	Mr. Bonruzzaman					1	1
	Total	2	0	8	19	6	35

TABLE 60: MONTHLY STATEMENT OF NUMBER OF CASES FOR INDIVIDUAL PANEL LAWYERS FOR JUDGE
COURT OF **KHULNA**

Sl.	Name of the Advocate	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
1	Mr. N. Kumar Ghos	1			1									2
2	Mr. Rezaul Karim		2											2
3	Mr. B. Bhuson Golder		1							1				2
4	Mr. Guru Prosad Das			3	2				3		1	3		12
5	Mr. Dipok Kumar Goha			1								1		2
6	Mr. Chitta Ranjon Dewan			1							2	1		4
7	Mr. Md. Abdul Latif				1					1				2
8	Mr. Zulfikar Ali Mollah				2									2
9	Mr. Munshi Abdul Hamid				1		1							2
10	Mr. A. Malek Howlader				1		1	1	1		2	1		7
11	Mr. Mojibar Rahman				1		1			1			1	4
12	Mr. S. Kumar Odikari				2				1					3
13	Mr. Syed Zahangir Ali				1		1							2
14	Mr. Bijan Behari Mandol				1			1	2			1		5
15	Mr. Somala Dhor				1								2	3
16	Mr. Durga Pada Mandol					1								1
17	Mr. S. M. Nasir Ahmed					3								3
18	Mr. Dilip Kumar Kundu					1					1	2	1	5
19	Mr. Nikhil Kumar Roy						1	1						2
20	Mr. S. M. Obaydul Haque							1						1
21	Mr. Sheikh Abu Talib								1	1		1		3
22	Mr. Sarder Himmat Ali								1					1
23	Mr. Sarder Nuruzzaman								1					1

(Continued Table 60)

24	Mr. H. Mizanur Rahman									1					1
25	Mr. G. Chandra Mandol									1			1		2
26	Mr. S. Nath Mandol													1	1
27	Mr. G. Mostafa Faraji												1		1
28	Mr. Shahi Alam Bachu														0
29	Mr. Kallan Kumar Sarkar													3	3
30	Mr. N. Chandra Mahalder													1	1
	Total	1	3	5	14	5	5	4	12	4	6	16	5	80	

TABLE 61: MONTHLY STATEMENT OF NUMBER OF CASES FOR INDIVIDUAL PANEL LAWYERS FOR JUDGE

COURT OF **MYMENSHING**

Sl.	Name of the advocate	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov.	Dec.	Total
1	Mr. P. Kumar Saha Roy	1		1										2
2	Mr. S. Rahman Akonda	1			1		1			1	1	2		7
3	Ms. C. Hosne Ara Begum	1												1
4	Ms. Soneka Ghosh	1					1	1			4	4	2	13
5	Mr. K. Uddin Bhoiyan	1			2		1	2	1		2	3	2	14
6	Mr. Nurul Islam Nuru		2		1				1			1		5
7	Mr. Muttalib Sarker		1		3		1			1	2	2		10
8	Mr. Abdul Halim		1		1			1			1			4
9	Mr. Abdul Majid			1										1
10	Mr. Munir Hossain Khan			1							1	1		3
11	Mr. Ruhul Amin Khan				1	1		1			1			4
12	Mr. Emdadul Haq Millat				1								1	2
13	Mr. Arif Raihan Khan					1		1						2
14	Mr. Abul Kashem						1		1		1			3
15	Mr. Serajul Islam						2				1	1		4
16	Mr. M. Al Noor Saber						1	1				1		3
17	Mr. Abdur Rashid						1	1		1				3
18	Mr. Atiqul Islam Dipu							1	1					2
19	Mr. Nazrul Islam Chunnu							1						1
20	Mr. Abdul Malek							1						1
21	Mr. A. Kashem Musa (2)					1	1	1	2	3	3	5	2	18
22	Mr. A. Kalam Md. Azad								1					1
23	Ms. Rokeya Begum								1					1
24	Mr. R. K. Khan Dulal								1					1
25	Mr. V. Mohan Dasgupta								1	1				2
26	Mr. Abu Hanif Khan									2	2	1		5
27	Mr. Shaukat Osman									1	1	1		3
28	Ms. Riajul Zinnat Begum										1			1
29	Mr. A. Kabir Kanchan										1		1	2
30	Mr. M. Alam Farid										1			1
31	Ms. Roma Sarker											1		1
32	Mr. Emdadul Huq												1	1
	Total	5	4	3	10	3	10	12	10	10	23	23	9	122

TABLE 62: MONTHLY STATEMENT OF NUMBER OF CASES FOR INDIVIDUAL PANEL LAWYERS FOR JUDGE

COURT OF **NOAKHALI**

Sl. No.	Name of the Advocate	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
1	Mr. Abul Kashem	1									1			2
2	Mr. N. Chandra Majumder			1								1		2
3	Mr. Saiful Huq			1										1
4	Mr. Mahmood Hassain				1					1				2

(Continued Table 62)

5	Mr.Tofael Ahmed							1	1					2
6	Mr.Babul kanti			1					1					2
7	Mr.Kazi Manzurul Huq							1						1
8	Mr.A. Wadud Bhuiyan							1			1			2
9	Mr.Md. Yousuf							1						1
10	Mr.Abdul Awal				1			1						2
11	Mr.Sahid Hossain				1			1						2
12	Mr.Noorer Rahim						1				1			2
13	Mr.Abdul Haq							1		1		1		3
14	Mr. S. Md. Abdul Hye							1						1
15	Mr. Gabindra chandra das							1						1
16	Mr. Golam Akbar							1						1
17	Mr.Mostafijur Rahman							1						1
18	Mr.Simanta Chakroborty							1						1
19	Mr.Ajit Kumar Dhar							1						1
20	Mr.N. Chandra Deb Nath							1						1
21	Mr.Rafiqul Islam					1								1
22	Mr.Keshab Ranjan Nath					1								1
23	Mr.Tajul Islam					1					1			2
24	Mr.Abdul Kuddus						1							1
25	Mr. A.S.M.S. Alam				1							1		2
26	Mr. Sirajul Islam				1									1
27	Mr. Shafiullah											1		1
28	Mr. A.K.M. Samsul Alam									1				1
	Total	1	0	2	2	4	4	9	6	3	3	6	1	41

TABLE 63: MONTHLY STATEMENT OF NUMBER OF CASES FOR INDIVIDUAL PANEL LAWYERS FOR JUDGE

COURT OF RAJSHAHI														
Sl.	Name of the Advocate	Jan	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
1	Mr. Md. Ismail	1						1						2
2	Mr. Md. Anamul Huq	1										1		2
3	Mr. Md. Enamul Huq						1							1
4	Mr. Mahbubul Islam	1										1		2
5	Mr. M. Kamrul Hassan	1									1	1	1	4
6	Mr. Abdullaheel Bakee	1				1		1	1					4
7	Mr. Abdul Muttalib			1								1		2
8	Mr. Md. A. Hossen S. K.				1		1		1					3
9	Mr. Md. Sayedur Rahman				1							1		2
10	Mr. M. M. Nuruzzaman				1									1
11	Mr. S. Kumar Sarker				1								1	2
12	Mr. Md. Shahzahan				1	2				1				4
13	Mr. Syed Ekramul Rasul				1					1				2
14	Mr. B. Tawhid Al Hassan				1				1				1	3
15	Mr. Emdadul Hassan				1									1
16	Ms. S. Morzina Khatun				1		1							2
17	Mr. S. R. Khan Rana					1								1
18	Ms. Marzina Khatun										1	1		2
19	Mr. Mickal Saren						1							1
20	Ms. Ayesha Begum						1	1						2
21	Mr. Md. Giasuddin						1							1
22	Mr. Kaiser Parvez						1					1		2
23	Mr. Md. K. Mainuddin						1				1			2
24	Mr. Md. M. R. Talukder						1							1
25	A. N. M. Kamruzzaman							1				1	1	3

(Continued Table 63)

26	Mr. Nur-E-Aftab Hossen							1				1	2	4
27	Mr. Kunal Kumar Roy			1				1				2		4
28	Mr. S. M. M. Haque							2	1	1				4
29	Mr. Abul Kashem							1	1			1		3
30	Mr. Ashit kumer Sen		1					1				1	1	4
31	Mr. Md. Lutfar Rahman							1	1			1	1	4
32	Mr. M. Uddin Ahmed							1						1
33	Mr. Md. Abdur Razzak							1						1
34	Mr. Nurul Islam Sarker							1	1			1		3
35	Ms. Gita Nandi Sarker							1						1
36	Mr. Md. Manzur Zaman									2		1		3
37	Mr. Md. Jamshe Ali									2		1	2	5
38	Mr. Md. Mobarak Hossen								1	1				2
39	Mr. Md. A. Samad (2)									2				2
40	Mr. Md. A. Hossen Khan									1			1	2
41	Mr. Md. Abdus Samad									1				1
42	Mr. Abu Baker										1			1
43	Ms. Hasna Hena										1			1
44	Ms. Ismotara Begum										1	1	2	4
45	Mr. Shahed Ali Sarker										1	1		2
46	Mr. Rabiul Huq Kakor											1		1
47	Mr. Abdul Kuddus											1		1
48	Mr. S. Kumer Tolapatra											1		1
49	Ms. Purnima Vattacharja											1		1
50	Mr. Md.A. Razzak Sarker											2		2
51	Mr. Nawsad Ali											1		1
52	Mr. Nazimuddin Khan											1		1
53	Mr. Syed Nurul Islam											2		2
54	Mr. Mohon Kumar Shaha												1	1
55	Mr. Masum Ahmed Tipu												1	1
	Total	5	1	2	9	4	9	6	12	15	9	28	16	116

TABLE 64: MONTHLY STATEMENT OF NUMBER OF CASES FOR INDIVIDUAL PANEL LAWYERS FOR JUDGE

COURT OF SYLHET														
Sl.	Name of the Advocate	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
1	Ms. J. Syam Chowdhury	1							1	1				3
2	Mr. A.S.M. Abdul Mobin	1			1		1					1		4
3	Mr. Abdun Noor		1					1		1	2			5
4	Mr. A.K.M. Shibli				1			1		1		1		4
5	Mr. N. R. Purkayastha				1					1	1			3
6	Mr. Khokan Kumer Dutta					1	1	2		1				5
7	Mr. Nargis Sultana					1					2			3
8	Mr. N. Uddin chowdhury						1							1
9	Mr. A. Basith Chowdhury						1	1				1		3
10	Mr. M. Zakir Hossen						2				1			3
11	Mr. Deena Yeasmin						1		1					2
12	Mr. Md. Luthfur Rahman						1	1	1				1	4
13	Mr. Zia Uddin Ahmed							2						2
14	Mr. Kutub Uddin Ahmed							1	2	2				5
15	Mr. Md. Badrul Islam							2	1					3
16	Mr. Abul Khayer							1						1
17	Mr. Nasar Ahmed									1				1
18	Md. Irfanuzzaman Chow.									1				1
19	Mr. D. Kumer Das Chow.								1			1		2
20	Mr. Syed Nazrul Islam							1				1		2
	Total	2	1	0	3	2	8	13	7	9	6	5	1	57

APPENDIX E: Management Committees of Different Units

Barisal Unit

Mr. Md. Enayet Pir Khan, Advocate	President
Mr. Abdul Malek Khan, Advocate	Member
Mr. Shantiranjana Chakrobarti, Advocate	Member
Mr. Abdul Gaffar Khan, Advocate	Member
Mr. Md. Abdur Rahim Khan, Advocate	Member
Mr. Syed S. Hossain Zumman, Advocate	Member
Mr. A.K.M. Safiullah, Advocate	Member

Chittagong Unit

Mr. Sree Suvash Chandra Lala, Advocate	President
Mr. M. Safiqul Islam, Advocate	Member
Mr. J. U. Ahmed Chowdhury, Advocate	Member
Mr. Sirajul Huq Farooqee, Advocate	Member
Mr. A.K.M. Emdadul Islam, Advocate	Member
Mr. Abul Kalam Azad, Advocate	Member
Mr. Sree Rana Das Gupta, Advocate	Member
Mr. Md. K. Alam Chowdhury, Advocate	Member
Mr. Md. I. Hossain Chowdhury, Advocate	Member
Mr. Md. Shafiul Alam, Advocate	Member

Comilla Unit

Mr. Dewan Golam Hamza, Advocate	President
Mr. Abdul Motaleb, Advocate	Vice President
Mr. Abdur Rauf Khan, Advocate	Member
Mr. Abdus Satter, Advocate	Member
Mr. Mojibur Rahman, Advocate	Member
Mr. Abdul Wahab Khandaker, Advocate	Member
Mr. Bimol Kumar Roy, Advocate	Member
Ms. Samsun Nahar, Advocate	Member
Mr. Mir Mosharaf Hossain, Advocate	Member

Dhaka Unit

Mr. Ramjan Ali Khan, Advocate	President
Mr. Shahabuddin, Advocate	Vice President
Mr. S.M Shuruzzman, Advocate	Member
Mr. Golam Mainuddin, Advocate	Member
Mr. Afser Uddin Ahmed Khan, Advocate	Member
Mr. Altab Uddin Ahmed, Advocate	Member
Mr. M. Sajwar Hossain, Advocate	Member
Mr. Fayzur Rahman Khan, Advocate	Member

Jessore Unit

Mr. Farazi Sahadat Hossain, Advocate	President
Mr. Abu Salim Rana, Advocate	Vice President
Mr. Kazi Tauhidur Rahman, Advocate	Member
Mr. Rabiul Huq Suza, Advocate	Member
Ms. Anwara Khan, Advocate	Member
Mr. Monoranjan Karmakar, Advocate	Member
Mr. Abdul Latif Lata, Advocate	Member

Khulna Unit

Mr. Manjurul Imam, Advocate	President
Mr. A.M. Ahmed Ullah, Advocate	Vice President
Mr. S.M. Amjad Hossain, Advocate	Member
Mr. Md. Enayet Ali, Advocate	Member
Mr. Abul Hossain Sikder, Advocate	Member
Mr. M. Firoz Ahmed, Advocate	Member
Mr. Rajab Ali Sarder, Advocate	Member

Mymensingh Unit

Mr. M. Jubed Ali, Advocate	President
Mr. Anisur Rahman Khan, Advocate	Vice President
Mr. Zahirul Huq, Advocate	Member
Mr. A.F.M Nazmul Huda, Advocate	Member
Mr. Alhaj A.K.M Manjurul Huq, Advocate	Member
Mr. Wajedul Islam, Advocate	Member
Mr. A.H.M. Khalekuzzaman, Advocate	Member
Mr. Kabir Uddin Bhuiyan, Advocate	Member
Mr. Mahmood Al Noor Tarek, Advocate	Member
Mr. Aftab Uddin Bhuiyan, Advocate	Member
Mr. Sheikh Abul Haseem, Advocate	Member
Mr. Sree B. K. Ghoswami, Advocate	Member
Mr. Farooq Ahmed, Advocate	Member
Mr. Abdul Aziz, Advocate	Member

Noakhali Unit

Mr. Kamalur Rahim, Advocate	President
Mr. Md. Shahjahan, Advocate	Vice President
Mr. Jamal Uddin Bhuyan, Advocate	Vice President
Mr. Nayamat Ullah, Advocate	Member
Mr. Abdur Rahim, Advocate	Member
Mr. G.M.M Nasir Uddin, Advocate	Member
Mr. Sudhangshu Ranjan Pal, Advocate	Member
Mr. Habibur Rasul Mollah, Advocate	Member
Mr. Azam Khan, Advocate	Member
Mr. Debabrata Chakrobari, Advocate	Member
Mr. Asraful Karim, Advocate	Member
Mr. Azizul Huq Baksi, Advocate	Member

Rangpur Unit

Mr. A.R.M. Rezaul Huq Sarker, Advocate	President
Mr. Md. Abdul Gani, Advocate	Vice President
Mr. Md. Sajet Hossain Tata, Advocate	Member
Mr. Md. Neaz Morshed, Advocate	Member
Mr. Md. Rustam Ali, Advocate	Member
Mr. Md. Abdur Rahman, Advocate	Member
Mr. Md. Firoj Kabir Chowdhury, Advocate	Member
Ms. Shamima Akter, Advocate	Member
Mr. Rathish Chandra Bhoumik, Advocate	Member

Rajshahi Unit

Mr. Alhaj Md. Abul Kashem, Advocate	President
Mr. Alhaj Md. M. R. Talukder, Advocate	Vice President
Mr. Golam Arif Tipu, Advocate	Member
Mr. Md. Mohsin, Advocate	Member
Mr. Md. Zillur Rahman, Advocate	Member
Mr. Rafiqul Hasan, Advocate	Member
Mr. Syed Ekramur Rasul, Advocate	Member

Sylhet Unit

Mr. Abu Salman Chowdhury, Advocate	President
Mr. Abdul Hye Khan, Advocate	Vice President
Mr. Abdus Sabur Chowdhury, Advocate	Treasurer
Mr. Md. S. Islam Chowdhury, Advocate	Member
Mr. A.K. H. B. Chowdhury, Advocate	Member
Mr. Abdul Gafur, Advocate	Member
Mr. Azizul Malik Chowdhury, Advocate	Member
Mr. Fakruddin Ahmed, Advocate	Member
Mr. Md. Abdul Mannan, Advocate	Member

