



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

November marked significant strides in advancing land rights across Nepal.

In Rautahat, two tenant farmers from Gujara received land ownership certificates.

An Warning Against the Dissolution of the Land Issues Resolving Commission was held in Sarlahi.

In Dang, the Dalit majority community of Aale Tole has finally gained access to clean water through a deep boring irrigation facility.

Tenant Farmers Secure Tenancy Rights

Two tenant farmer families in Rautahat have obtained land ownership certificates for 4 kaththa and 10 dhur (0.15 ha) of land they have been cultivating for generations under tenancy rights.



Active Organizations and Leaders Driving the Land Rights Campaign

Leader orientations were conducted in 18 districts (Morang, Sunsari, Jhapa, Udayapur, Saptari, Siraha, Bara, Parsa, Sindhuli, Makwanpur, Chitwan, Nawalpur, Kaski, Parbat, Nawalparasi, Rupandehi, Kapilvastu, and Kanchanpur) across six provinces, engaging 29 village forums on land rights, leadership, and organizational strengthening. These efforts included mapping organizational status, submitting demands to land survey offices in 17 districts, and coordinating with 14 local governments and the Land Issues Resolving Commission.

Despite persistent landlessness and threats of eviction, organizational efforts have helped protect homes and empower communities. During the campaign, 974 participants (500 women, 474 men) joined discussions to advance land rights.

Makhan Sada from Saptari shared: *“I have lived on public land for 60 years and fought hard for ownership. The forum gave me strength, and I received a recommendation from the Land Commission. Yet, eviction threats remain. Life will only feel secure when I hold the ownership certificate.”*



Discussing organizational strengthening campaign at Sada Community in Bhagwatpur, Saptari | Photo: Niharika Chaudhary, CSRC

Warning Against the Dissolution of the Land Issues Resolving Commission

In protest against the dissolution of the Land Issues Resolving Commission, the District Land Rights Forum in Sarlahi organized a rally and an Warning assembly in Malangwa. The Warning was raised demanding the reinstatement of the commission, as its dissolution by the government has halted the process of resolving issues faced by landless and informal settlers.

During the rally, participants chanted slogans such as *“Stop manipulation against the landless,” “Give land ownership certificates, not empty promises,” “When will squatters get land?”* and *“Ensure continuity of the*

Land Commission's work.” The rally concluded at the Land Survey Office, where a five-point memorandum was submitted to Office Chief Sanjay Manandhar. Accepting the letter, Manandhar assured that the collected data remains secure and committed to moving forward in accordance with the Supreme Court's decision.



Around 300 landless individuals participated in the Warning assembly | Photo: CSRC

Municipality and Village Forum Review and Strategic Planning Workshop

Amid the uncertainty following the dissolution of the Land Issues Resolving Commission, a workshop was organized from November 5 to 24, 2025, in Rapti, Gadhwa, Rajpur, and Lamahi. The objective was to create pressure for managing landless squatters and informal settlers by raising awareness at the self-help groups, communities, wards, and local levels, focusing on problem-solving, orienting Land Rights Forum leaders on local land laws, and initiating creative actions to ensure implementation at the local level. The workshop also aimed to review the work done by municipalities, the commission, and CSRC for land rights and to develop future strategic plans. A total of 203 participants attended, including 126 women and 77 men.



Leaders of the Land Rights Forums expressed anger over the government's decision to dissolve the commission, noting that the land-related bill had already been passed by the House of Representatives. They stated that the dissolution shattered the dreams of landless squatters and informal settlers living in forest areas to become landowners.

Participants warned that if the government does not advance the process for securing land rights, they will

launch strong movements. The workshop produced future plans, including holding regular organizational meetings, raising funds for movements, engaging forum leaders in advocacy on land rights issues, staying connected through social media for updates on land rights information and activities, and creating continuous positive pressure at the local level.

Context Analysis and Organization Building for Haruwa-Charuwa Communities

A contextual analysis of five Haruwa-Charuwa communities in Dhanauji Rural Municipality, Dhanusha, revealed severe landlessness, poverty, and food insecurity. Despite the legal abolition of the Haruwa-Charuwa system, families remain trapped in bonded labor, relying on daily wages and high-interest loans (up to 36%) to meet basic needs. Low literacy, poor health services, lack of sanitation, and climate impacts further worsen livelihoods.

To strengthen collective advocacy, five community land rights forums (Shankarji in Khutwe Mandal, Paltankuti in Jhojhikataya, Shri Salhesh Baba in Paswan Tol, Dinabhadri in Musahar Tol, and Harhar Mahadev in Bahuarwa) were formed in collaboration with the National Land Rights Forum. Members have begun submitting petitions to local governments, which have pledged support to address land and related issues.



Formation of a land rights organization and discussion with the Haruwa-Charuwa community at Khatbe Mandal Tole, Dhanauji

CSRC's new publications and media engagement: *Book Launch in Rasuwa*

On 28 November 2025, the District Land Rights Forum (DLRF) Rasuwa launched the book 'Britanta Birta' at Bhumighar, Kalikasthan. Authored by journalist Raghunath Lamichhane, the book documents key campaigns, achievements, challenges, and experiences of frontline leaders. The event brought together over 75 participants, including elected representatives, political leaders, activists, and media.

Media engagement also remained very effective this month. Kantipur Daily published a detailed story highlighting the issue of landlessness as a main feature. After the dissolution of the Land Issues Resolving Commission (LIRC) on 9 October 2025 by the interim government, all activities related to land certificate distribution were halted across Nepal. In addition, articles were published this month related to the land rights campaign.



Participants during Britant Birta book launch, Rasuwa | Photo: Bishwash Nepali, CSRC

Turning Landlessness into Leasehold Farming

In Chamartol Musahari, Ward No. 10 of Gaushala Municipality, landless, squatter, and Dalit families survived by sharecropping, giving half their harvest to landowners often leaving them food insecure. Many migrated to India and beyond for work. To address this, the Climate Resilience Initiative (CRI) under CSRC and WJR introduced a Land and Agriculture Learning Centre. Twenty-five households engaged in regular discussions and problem-solving, creating new ideas and strengthening community capacity.



*Participants working on their leasehold farm
Photo: Anju Kushwaha, CSRC*



A Long-Awaited Dream Comes True in Aale Tole, Rajpur-2



People of Aale Tole, Rajpur-2 enjoying with the water | Photo: Sagar Sharma, CSRC

After decades of struggle, the Dalit-majority community of Aale Tole in Bela, Ward 2 of Rajpur Rural Municipality, has finally gained access to water through a deep boring irrigation facility. This has brought life-changing benefits for the residing communities including safe drinking water, irrigation for 10 hectares, and livestock care ending years of hardship when families walked 500 meters daily for water and faced social discrimination that barred them from using communal wells.

The bore well was initially installed by the municipality but remained incomplete due to insufficient funds. The MAFRA-CSA program has completed the remaining tasks which have been pending for more than 1.5 years. Previously, families had to walk 1.5 km to Marari Khola for the purpose of drinking water and bathing. Later, a hand pump was installed at Bela Chowk, but it was still far from the village, that ensured safe drinking water.

Today, smiles and laughter fill Aale Tole as 32 LRFG members and 125 residents celebrate a future of dignity and opportunity. Previously, they could only grow two seasonal crops and had food security for just four months. With water now at their doorstep, they plan to grow vegetables and three seasonal crops, ensuring year-round food security and improved livelihoods. What was once a story of isolation and struggle has become one of empowerment and hope.

Hema Pariyar, Member, Dandagaun Aale Tole Bhumi Adhikar Manch *“Now, we are blessed, we have access to the drinking water after a decade”*

Training on Early Warning Systems and Inclusive Disaster Preparedness

Two training programs were held in Kapilvastu (16–19 Dec) and Banke (20–24 Dec) to strengthen Early Warning Systems (EWS) and link early action to local government plans. Fifty participants including CDOs, DDMC members, DRR focal persons, and community representatives enhanced their understanding of EWS concepts, DRRM terminology, and hazard-risk relationships. They practiced interpreting weather and flood forecasts, creating contextual warning messages, and using communication tools, flood monitoring, water-level reading, and early action planning. Participants committed to applying these skills within their communities and governance structures.



Participants in the training | Photo: Minu Pun, CSRC

ECHO Monitoring Visit Highlights Progress in Pyuthan

A monitoring visit for Pratibaddha III was conducted by the ECHO funding agency team in Pyuthan District from November 21–23, showcasing notable progress in disaster risk management (DRM). Sarumarani and Mandavi rural municipalities demonstrated strong implementation of DRM initiatives at both municipal and community levels, including the adoption of key plans and policies such as the DRM Fund Mobilization Guideline and the Disaster Preparedness and Response



Plan (DPRP), as well as the establishment of Local Emergency Operation Centers (LEOCs). Communities have improved risk communication through timely dissemination of weather forecasts and active engagement of Community Disaster Management Committees (CDMCs), which have promoted awareness, organized task forces, and prepared GO Bags for emergency response. During the visit to Wards 2 (Chuka) and 5 (Pakhapani), CDMC members expressed that enhanced knowledge, skills, and access to essential materials have made disaster management more effective. The review reflected strong local government ownership and community-level activeness, while emphasizing the need for better coordination between local and provincial governments. Additionally, the visit to a bioengineering site provided tangible evidence of disaster risk reduction measures being implemented on the ground. Ward no. 5 Pakhapani, CDMC Chairperson Yam Bahadur Darlami states, “We have gained knowledge, skills, and information related to disaster management. We have also received essential materials for disaster management, which have made our work much easier”.