



## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

This month, CSRC in collaboration with the Land Rights Forums carried the land rights agenda directly into the electoral ground. The campaign reached its most defining moment, where House of Representatives candidates publicly signed commitment to resolve land issues in different constituency.

At the global level, CSRC represented Nepal at ICARRD+20 in Cartagena, Colombia: sharing Nepal's land governance experiences with over 100 country delegations.

Farmers of Dang gained hands-on Climate-Smart Agriculture training; learned practical techniques to increase yield, manage crop disease, and adapt their farming to an increasingly unpredictable climate.

Forty-one women farmers in Sindhupalchowk prepared nurseries; and 30 historical flood level markings installed across high-risk communities in Kapilvastu and Banke.

## Advancing Land Rights in Political Agendas

Land rights have long been a political agenda, yet they remain inadequately addressed and poorly reflected in party manifestos. CSRC, in collaboration with the



*Submitting Suggestion Letter of manifesto to candidates, Kaski*



Presenting Suggestion Letter of manifesto to candidates, Bara, ya

Land Rights Forums, has been actively advocating and campaigning to change this. As part of the House of Representatives Election-Focused Campaign, recommendations on land and agriculture issues were formally submitted to the manifestos of political parties at the national level.

Meetings and dialogues were conducted with candidates across 23 districts: Morang, Udayapur, Sindhuli, Bara, Rautahat, Sarlahi, Mahottari, Dhanusha, Siraha, Saptari, Rasuwa, Sindhupalchok, Makawanpur, Chitwan, Nawalpur, Kaski, Parbat, Nawalparasi, Rupandehi, Kapilvastu, Dang, Bardiya, and Surkhet. During these meetings, frontline leaders raised critical questions on land rights issues, ensuring grassroots concerns were brought to the forefront of electoral discourse. Recommendation papers were submitted and commitment letters were obtained from the candidates.

The campaign was further amplified through social media platforms, with songs, messages, and sketches on land issues created and widely shared to raise public awareness. Articles and news covering elections, party manifestos, and land-related issues were published and broadcast through mainstream media outlets.

## Election-Focused Dialogue on Land and Agriculture Issues

A dialogue on land and agrarian issues was organized at the Gadhawa on 18th February 2026, facilitated by CSRC in coordination with the National Land Rights Forum (NLRF) and District Land Rights Forum (DLRF). The program brought 10 House of Representatives candidates contesting from Dang Constituency No. 1.

The core objective was to obtain written commitments from the candidates on land-agrarian issues. The program also provided a platform for land rights-deprived communities to voice their issues directly to the candidates.

Candidates were requested to incorporate land and agrarian concerns into their party manifestos. During the program, frontline leaders presented land and agriculture plans and the commitment they want from the candidates. All participating candidates expressed their agreement and signed a nine-point written commitment letter on land and



Candidates of House of Representative, Dang

agriculture issues.

A total of 147 individuals (71 women: 66 men) participated in the program.



*Participant expressing land issues to the candidates, Dang*

## Holding Candidates Accountable

The frontline leaders of District Land Rights Forum (DLRF), Rasuwa, met with candidates of the House of Representatives elections and held discussions on land issues and obtained commitment letters from them. The Forum met with various candidates of different political parties and discussed on land issues, specifically the *Birta* rooted for years in the district. The candidates committed to taking initiative toward resolving these issues in their capacity as elected representatives.

As part of its ongoing campaign, the frontline leaders also met with representatives of various local governments, submitting attention letters to draw their focus to pressing land issues. They held discussions with the District Administration Office, the District Coordination Committee Office, the District Survey Office, and the District Revenue Office; formally submitting attention letters to each.

The attention letters were submitted in response to a growing pattern of harassment by *Birta* landowners, who have been increasingly pressuring farmers into

selling or abandoning their *Birta* land rights.



*DLRF representatives meeting with the candidate, Rasuwa*



*DLRF representatives  
delegation, Rasuwa*

## Context Analysis of VLRFs

A context analysis of VLRFs Jagriti Sangharshil and Pragitishil Village Land Rights Forums (VLRFs) of Gujara Municipality-2, Rautahat, has been completed. The community-led analysis employed methods of participatory mapping, observation, dialogue, and discussion; and a report has been prepared.

The report presents the current status of the communities and organizations, key land issues, and other critical concerns. It also captures the changes and developments from past to present, along with challenges faced along the way. Furthermore, it documents major activities undertaken by the organizations and the tangible changes brought about in the areas of livelihood, self-reliance, and access to resources. The report also outlines the process of resolving land issues and lays out upcoming priorities and the way forward for the organizations and the communities.



*Community people engaged  
in context mapping, Rautahat*

## Nepal's Land Rights Agenda Gains Global Momentum

The International Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ICARRD+20), held in Cartagena, Colombia from 24-28 February 2026, convened more than 100 country delegations for the first time in 20 years to renew the global commitment to agrarian reform. CSRC participated as a representative organization alongside Nepal's official government delegation led by Minister of Agriculture Dr. Madan Prasad Pariyar.

CSRC's Executive Director, Jagat Deuja, shared Nepal's policy experiences and land use planning work with the global audience across sessions on landlessness, generational justice, drought-proof agrarian reform, and land tenure security.



Hon. Mzwanele Nyhontso  
Minister of Rural Development and  
Land Reform of South Africa



Mr. Cesar Aldrighi  
President of the National Institute for  
Agrarian Reform (IN CRA) of Brazil



Mr. Jagat Deuja  
Executive Director at Community Self  
Reliance Centre (CSRC)



Wenzke Müller-Röhe  
Senior Policy Officer at German  
Federal Ministry for Economic  
Cooperation and Development (BMZ)



Prof. Ruth Hall  
Director of the Institute for Poverty,  
Land and Agrarian Studies (PLAAS)  
at the University of Western Cape



Dr. Barron Joseph Orr  
Chief Scientist for the United  
Nations Convention to Combat  
Desertification (UNCCD)



Mr. Ardo Sow  
Global Member of the  
Convergence of Land and Water  
Struggles for West Africa



Ms. Clara Park  
Senior Gender Officer and  
Gender Lead at FAO

**MODERATOR**



The Executive Director, Jagat Deuja  
sharing in the event

## Nursery Training to Farmers in Panchpokhari Thangapal

Forty-one women participants of Panchpokhari Thangapal Rural Municipality wards 1 & 2 Sindhupalchowk have prepared nurseries of Capsicum, Tomato, Akabare Chilli, Cucumber, and Bitter Gourd. In a facilitation of Agriculture Officer, the participants also learned treat seeds with biopesticides mixed with farmyard compost, grow seedlings in polybags, and set up low-tech tunnels to protect seedlings and extend the growing season for different seasons.

According to the Agriculture technician, the nurseries they prepared will collectively cover around 2.31 hectares of land. The on-site, practical approach did more than build technical skills.



“

Before, we just grew whatever we could and hoped for the best. Now, we actually know what we are doing; and that changes everything.”

- Buddha Maya Dong, Banskharka



## Building Climate-Smart Farmers

A total of 998 participants (721 women: 277 men) across 60 Self-Help Groups in Rajpur, Gadhawa, Rapti Rural Municipality, and Lamahi Municipality of Dang received training on Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) techniques to manage disease infestation, and adaptive techniques against climate-related issues to increase yield from limited land, manage seasonal cropping, and reduce weather-induced losses.



“

After learning 3-G cutting, I finally understood how to control the plant and get more fruits instead of unnecessary leaves.”

*Deu Kumari Chaudhary, Dang*

Key techniques covered in practical field demonstrations included 3-G cutting, top dressing, nursery-bed preparation, staking patterns, Trichoderma treatment, and tomato pruning.

The training also helped farmers understand the root causes of long-standing crop losses. Jag Bahadur Chaudhary shared, “We watched our seedlings wilt and die every season but never knew why. After the training, I learned about soil-borne diseases and how to protect the roots. Now, I know both the reason and the solution.”



Participants in the training

## Building Climate-Smart Farmers

Thirty historical flood level markings have been completed in high flood-risk communities of Yashodhara Rural Municipality and Maharajgunj Municipality in Kapilvastu, and Narainapur Rural Municipality in Banke. The initiative was undertaken to systematically document significant historical flood levels, strengthen community awareness, improve risk communication, and enhance local-level preparedness.

In coordination with respective Local Governments, key flood years and marking locations were identified through municipal records and validated through consultations with Community Disaster Management Committee members, community representatives, and senior citizens.

Flood level indicators were painted on durable, publicly visible structures (including pools, boundary walls, and community infrastructure) to ensure long-term visibility. These markings are now serving as a vital risk communication tool; helping communities understand past flood impacts.



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