

# Monitoring Report

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Semiannual Report  
November 2017

## BAN: SASEC Railway Connectivity: Akhaura - Laksam Double Track Project

Prepared by the Bangladesh Railway, Ministry of Railways, Government of Bangladesh for the Asian Development Bank.

### **CURRENCY EQUIVALENTS**

(as of 6 November 2017)

Currency unit	–	Bangladesh Taka (BDT)
BDT 1.00	=	\$ 0.01236
\$ 1.00	=	BDT 80.915

### **ABBREVIATIONS**

ADB	-	Asian Development Bank
BR	-	Bangladesh Railway
CSC	-	Construction Supervision Consultant
EMO	-	Engineers' Main Office
EP	-	Entitled Persons
EIB	-	European Investment Bank
GAP	-	Gender Action Plan
GoB	-	Government of Bangladesh
INGO	-	Implementing NGO
JVC	-	Joint Verification Committee
LIRP	-	Livelihood and Income Restoration Program
RU	-	Resettlement Unit
PIU	-	Project Implementation Unit
TEP	-	Titleholder Entitled Persons

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## I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### A. Project Resettlement Activities

1. This document is the second semi-annual social monitoring report prepared for the Akhaura-Laksam Double Line Project. It was prepared by the resettlement expert of the construction supervision consultant under the supervision of the BR Resettlement Unit (RU). The SMR is based on field reviews, the review of documentation from the resettlement implementing NGO and the deputy commissioners' offices, and consultations with affected persons. The SMR was also reviewed by the safeguards team from the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

2. During the first six months of 2017, the Project is still on track in compliance to Project loan conditions. The focus of resettlement activities during the months of January to June 2017 was: a) the continuing preparation of documentary support to authorize the payment of compensation for non-titled and titled affected persons; b) payment of compensation and other grants to 275 non-titled Entitled Persons (NEPs) and 45 titled EPs ("top up" payments); (c) 1,250 Titleholder Entitled Persons (TEPs) awardees (42% of total) with complete documentation; d) providing relocation assistance to displaced "Sweeper" households in Comilla Station; e) collection of CCL payment award documents at the 2 Deputy Commissioners' offices; e) participation in Project briefing at ADB BRM; f) completion of baseline HIV/AIDS awareness baseline survey; and f) holding of 15 HIV/AIDS STD orientation seminars cum health clinics for ALDLP construction workers.

3. The clearing of the first and last 20km of Project track was still on-going during the end of the reporting period (June 2017). Overall, the 1,250 titleholders awardees who received compensations correspond to 42% of the total awardee TEPs identified. Recipients of compensation and grants include the owners of 2 affected mosques (Common Property Resources). Forty five (45) TEPs have also been paid "top – up payment" covering the difference between the DC assessed land value and the prevailing market price in the respective area.

4. BR and the INGO continued their pro-active approach, such as focusing on the payment of priority segments identified by the contractor within the ROW. Close coordination is continuing between the BR Resettlement Unit (RU), the construction supervision consultant (CSC) and Contractor to identify priority segments along the track, and focus resettlement work there. In the Comilla station area, the identified vulnerable and displaced "Sweeper" affected community were paid compensation for their affected assets, and provided with a relocation site at the reclaimed pond areas within the Comilla station, that is adjacent to their current location. About 7 new residential structures were built by these vulnerable EPs on this site.

### B. Resettlement Disbursements

5. Overall, based on the INGO SAMAHAR June 2017 monthly progress report, a total of BDT 976,089,242.07 (73.48%) was paid by the 2 DC for the acquisition of affected private lands and assets. This is broken down into BDT 681,794,611.10 for the district of Comilla (Section 1&2 at 75.67%) and BDT 294,294,630.97 for the district of Brahmanbaria (Section 3 at 67.70%). The amount paid is broken down to BDT 756,682,615.97 for land (56.97%); BDT 185,092,334.94 (13.93%) for structures, and BDT 24,355,794.20 (1.83%) for trees/crops and BDT 9,958,496.96 (0.75%) for other land improvements. Continuation of cash compensation under law (CCL) payments for affected private assets by the Deputy Commissioners will continue when acceptable proof of ownership can be presented by the affected landowners, with the assistance of the INGO. A total of BDT 72,671,031 (5.47%) had been paid during this reporting period by the 2 DCs to

1,250 TEPs awardees for CCL compensation; while 45 TEPs had received “top-up payments” amounting to BDT7,770,177.65 from BR RU also during the same period.

6. As for nontitle holders (NEPs), 232 were paid compensations and 275 grants during the reporting period (January-June 2017) for amounts of BDT 60,146,847 and BDT 67,596,515 respectively. To date, 24 female-headed households received compensation and other grants.

7. During the course of ALDLP Project implementation, there had been a number of adjustments proposed by the Contractor on the Detailed Design and track alignment that may result in possible resettlement impact to local residents. These requests have been the subject of review by the Engineer taking into consideration technical and the Project resettlement framework. So far only minor adjustment in the location of 3 railway stations had been endorsed for approval of the Employer; while the rest are still undergoing review.

### **C. Outstanding Resettlement Related Issues**

8. Many issues raised during the last (January-December 2016) Semi-Annual Report have already been addressed. These include: i) Conduct an initial orientation on 26 September 2016 for Resettlement workers on the land acquisition and resettlement process; ii) Provision of a permanent resettlement site for the displaced “Sweeper” households in Comilla Station; and iii) The comparison of JVC award data for unification of names of displaced persons and avoiding duplicate payments of entitlement by sources.

9. However, there remain pending issues to address and that being acted upon. These include: i) Conduct further trainings for INGO resettlement workers in the areas of disclosure, GRM, and resettlement assistance for displaced EPs; ii) conduct the review of ownership claims on BR lands to resolved ownership disputes with claimants in conformity with existing Bangladesh land laws; iii) continue addressing and monitoring the resolution of Project-related complaints by the respective GRCs; iv) finalize the JVC validation of displaced Commercial Renters and their affected employees; v) finalize the processing and payment of grants due by BR RU; vi) assist in the relocation of Common Property Resources; vii) assist in the relocation and reburial of affected graves; viii) modification of Comilla Station design to ensure saving of Sweeper sacred tree-temple; and ix) Payment of compensation and grants by installment resulting in additional cost on TEPs for stamp duty every time they received amounts.

### **D. HIV/AIDS STD Prevention**

10. The NGO “UDOY” is responsible for the implementation of the HIV/AIDS/STD prevention program has completed the baseline survey for HIV/AIDS awareness among construction workers (150 persons) and adjacent communities (596 persons among whom 403 or 54% are women). During the reporting period, NGO UDOY had conducted a total of 15 HIV AIDS prevention orientations for the workforce that entailed a total of 481 participants. A draft HIV/AIDS prevention poster was prepared for review and consideration of BR and ADB.

11. The selection process for the Livelihood and Income Restoration Program (LIRP) subcontractor is ongoing. The BR PIU is responsible for the procurement process. It is expected that the winning bidder will be onboard within the next reporting period. The INGO Samahar will closely coordinate with the LIRP sub-contractor in the conduct of the program.

### **E. Recommendations**

12. Many recommendations raised in the first Semi-Annual Social Monitoring Reports remain outstanding as of this reporting period. These recommendations include:

- BR and ADB to consider amending the updated RP Entitlement Matrix to allow the reimbursement of documentary stamp that were deducted from the CCL compensation by the 2 DCs; and BR RU to reimburse the titleholders for the amounts deducted;
- In addition to compensating for the loss of income, there are discussions for BR to expand relocation assistance to squatters in the following way: a) individual planning for identification of alternative permanent relocation site including rental accommodation or purchase of suitable land; b) mobilization of local community resources in order to identify alternative relocation sites and develop a relocation plan for each displaced household; and c) Consideration on idle BR lands as permanent squatter relocation sites;
- BR through the INGO to provide full disclosure of final land rates to title owners getting compensation for Project acquired privately-owned lands within the right of way (ROW);
- Continue the process of reviewing ownership claims over BR lands by private parties;
- Continue the process of comparing JVC award data to check for the names of displaced persons to avoid duplicate entitlement payments to EPs;
- BR through the INGO to coordinate with concerned religious and local authorities on religious and culturally acceptable exhuming and reburial of affected graves; provide appropriate financial support, and assist (when necessary) the concerned EPs to carry-out the relocation of these burial sites;
- BR PIU to instruct Contractor to prepare a master plan for Comilla Station acceptable to ADB before any further work can be done in the station, and the design of the dormitory, Engineer's office/accommodations, and contractor's main office to be consistent with the approved station masterplan;
- INGO to submit monthly/annual work programs for BR approval prior to implementation that will be the basis for monitoring and evaluation;
- INGO to submit monthly/quarterly progress reports on or before the 3<sup>rd</sup> day following the reporting month following the conditions signed Contract of Services (GCC 51.1 item f).

## II. INTRODUCTION

### A. Project Scope and Impacts

13. Bangladesh Railway (BR), under the Ministry of Railways of the Government of Bangladesh, is implementing the Akhaura – Laksam Double Line Project (the Project or ALDLP) for double tracking the 72 km long Akhaura – Laksam section of the Dhaka-Chittagong railway. The Asian Development Bank (ADB), European Investment Bank (EIB) and the Government of Bangladesh (GoB) are jointly financing the Project. In addition to the construction of the double line on top of a 15 m wide embankment, the Project includes (a) the construction of 59 (fifty nine) new bridges and culverts, 13 of which are major bridges (more than 40 ft in length); (b) eleven (11) new stations replacing existing train terminals within the same station complex; (c) improving access at 2 existing stations (Comilla and Akhaura) by construction of pedestrian foot bridges and ramps across the tracks; and (d) the construction of Engineers Main Office Building for the Project in Dhaka on existing Bangladesh Railway land.

14. A total of about 320 ha of land will be required for doubling the track, where 291.08 ha belongs to BR and 28.54 ha of privately-owned lands needs to be acquired. In addition to affected titled owners, the proposed Project implementation will cause involuntary resettlement, mostly of informal settlers/squatters (residential and commercial/shops), commercial tenants and encroachers of BR lands in and around station areas with adverse impacts on their assets and livelihoods. As of surveys up to June 2017, the project will impact a total of 2,674 households/units (titled and non-titled) both physically and economically. A total of 2,210 physical entities will be displaced including 2,158 households, 49 common/community establishments and 3 large businesses. The displaced households include 698 title-holders, 887 squatters and 573 renters on private land (155) and BR land (418). About 464 employees will also lose their jobs due to the relocation of businesses. The project will also require the removal of trees of various sizes and species.

15. The Project is following the Resettlement Plan (RP)<sup>1</sup> approved by ADB and BR. The RP was updated in 2015 and also includes an addendum that details the resettlement impacts of the Engineers' Main Office<sup>2</sup> (EMO) in Dhaka on an existing Bangladesh Railway land. The implementation of the ALDLP RP has started effectively on 11 January 2016 and that all resettlement activities are expected to be completed before civil works will commence. BR has engaged an RP implementing NGO (INGO) with appropriate resources for implementation of the project updated resettlement plans. The ALDLP has also adopted a Gender Action Plan<sup>3</sup> with responsibilities assigned to multiple actors in its implementation including BR, the BR PIU, the CSC, the INGO and the Contractor(s).

## **B. The Social Monitoring Report**

16. This Second Semi-annual Social Monitoring Report (SMR) has been prepared for the first half of the year 2017 to capture the progress on implementation of the ALDLP RP for the period from January to June 2017. This SMR also covers progress on the implementation of the Gender Action Plan (GAP), implementation of HIV/AIDS awareness baseline surveys, orientation and health clinic activities and compliance with core labor standards in civil works management. The major objective of social monitoring is to monitor the implementation status and fulfillment of the resettlement activities under this Project. The specific objectives of the SMR are to:

- (i) Verify progress on the implementation of the Project updated RP, including brief description of the RP update (June 2015) rationale and the EMO RP (August 2016) including the following:
  - a. status of payment of compensation under law and resettlement cash assistance to eligible DPs;
  - b. implication of grievance redress mechanism to solve DP's grievances; and;
  - c. Status of relocation of DPs and restoration of their livelihood and living standards.
- (ii) Verify progress on the implementation of the Gender Action Plan;
- (iii) Verify implementation of HIV/AIDS and anti-human trafficking prevention awareness baseline surveys, orientation and health clinic activities (for labor and communities along the corridor); and

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/project-document/162024/46168-001-rp-02.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/project-document/190360/46168-001-rp.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.adb.org/projects/documents/sasec-railway-connectivity-akhaura-laksam-double-track-project-gap>

- (iv) In coordination with the Engineer's Health & Safety team, verify compliance with core labor standards (i.e. prohibition of child labor, prohibition of bonded/forced labor, non-discrimination and equal pay for equal work).

17. The CSC is monitoring project activities and producing periodic monitoring reports such as monthly progress reports, quarterly progress reports, and bi-annual report that cover all of the components including safeguard compliance and other social issues. Implementation of EMO RP and other social aspects will also be included when resettlement work in the EMO has commenced.

### **C. Methodology**

18. The monitoring of RP implementation and planning and management of other social aspects for this reporting period (January - June 2017) has been conducted by the CSC Resettlement Team in coordination with the Engineer's Health & Safety team, as part of its TOR under the Project. The CSC team has accessed the sites, reports and project documents, and interviewed the key stakeholders including the displaced persons, BR Resettlement Unit for PIU, the RP Implementing NGO and the representatives of the Contractor CTM. Likewise, labor law compliance as well as health and safety issues including HIV/AIDS and STD prevention program is being monitored in close coordination with the Engineer's Health and Safety team who is the lead in this aspect.

19. Updated information on RP implementation procedures including data on payment of compensation and other benefits to the Displaced Persons (DP) including affected private households (HH), titleholder households (TEPs), non-titleholders households (NEPs) and renters were obtained from the Resettlement Unit (RU) of BR Project Implementation Unit (PIU), and the RP Implementing NGO SAMAHAR.

20. Data and information from progress reports from the INGO as of June 2017 have been verified with the policy and provisions of the updated RP issued in June 2015. The CSC team did random review of EP files, actively participated in validation work of verified Inventory of losses performed by the Joint Validation Committee (JVC), and observed the conduct of actual processing and check payment of non-titled and titled EPs for non CCL payments. Feedback from the DPs and other stakeholders was also received by the CSC team. The following procedures have been followed for social monitoring during monitoring of social management and resettlement implementation:

- The review of the RP and its Addendum for policy and procedures of entitlement, compensation payments, relocation and livelihood restoration and other social actions;
- Collect and review up-to-date records of data/information on compensation payment to affected persons against their entitlement by types of losses;
- Conduct consultations/meetings with different stakeholders of the project including affected persons;

21. This report summarizes the current status of land acquisition and resettlement process including completed issues, payment status, outstanding issues, grievance procedures and feedback from the affected persons, as well as recommendations from concerned parties.

22. It is acknowledged that this report is a continuation of the first Semi-Annual Social Monitoring Report (SMR) that was prepared by Technical Assistance provided by ADB. This second SMR was prepared by the CSC Resettlement team. The first Semi-Annual SMR was used

as the template for this report and updates of the information and recommendations contained in the first are presented in this document. Other sections have been added to provide additional information required by the Executing Agency.

### III. COMPLIANCE TO LOAN CONDITIONALITIES

23. As of 30 June 2017, the Project has complied with most of the conditions on the Loan Agreement related to Resettlement and Gender. These conditions that had already been completed include: a) establishment of Grievance Redress Committees (GRC) to handle complaints arising from project implementation; b) engagement of qualified external monitors and c) submission of semi-annual safeguard monitoring report.

24. The following loan conditions are in the process of being complied with: a) the Executing Agency must provide the ROW clear of resettlement issues before commencement of work; b) all land acquisition and resettlement work complies with (i) all applicable laws of the borrower on land acquisition and resettlement, (ii) ADB involuntary resettlement safeguards; c) compliance to all measures outlined in the approved Resettlement Plan; d) no physical and/or economic displacement takes place in connection with the Project until compensation had been made following the RP; e) informing ADB on the occurrence of unanticipated environment and/or resettlement impacts; and f) implementation of the Gender Action Plan.

25. The single condition which is yet to be met is the establishment of a comprehensive livelihood program. Table 1 contains details on the performance of the Project in complying with Project Loan Conditions.

**Table 1: Project Compliance To Loan Conditionalities**

	CONDITIONS	STATUS	REMARKS
I.	<b>LAND ACQUISITION AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT</b>		
	a. ROW is made available to civil works contractor following construction schedule; b. All land acquisition and resettlement work complies with: i) all applicable laws of the borrower related to land acquisition and involuntary resettlement; ii) Involuntary resettlement safeguards; iii) All measures in the Resettlement Plan; and iv) Any corrective or preventive actions set forth in the Safeguards Monitoring Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Private lands within ROW have already been handed over by the concerned DCs to BR.</li> <li>Clearing of ROW of resettlement issues is focused on the first and last 20km rail tract alignment.</li> <li>Payment of compensation and grants to titled and non-titled EPs are ongoing.</li> <li>Implementation process of land acquisition and resettlement complies to all applicable laws of the borrower related to land acquisition, ADB involuntary resettlement safeguards and the approved Resettlement plan.</li> <li>Payment for grants to property owners, squatters, store owners (renters of BR lands) and vulnerable group for Section 1, 2 and 3 are under process.</li> <li>Payment for "top-up payment" for TEPs are under process/on-going; while for other grants are forthcoming;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DC Comilla had turned over affected private lands to BR on 27 September 2016.</li> <li>DC Brahmanbaria had turned over affected private lands to BR on 14 December 2016.</li> <li>Owners of affected lands and non-movable assets on affected private lands were paid the Cash Compensation as per Law (CCL) by the District Commissioner.</li> <li>Mistakes committed by the 2 DCs in their land acquisition work were reported by the Contractor, verified by CSC Resettlement team and appropriate corrective measures implemented by BR RU/INGO and 2 DCs are on-going.</li> <li>Total CCL amount paid by DC:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Total: BDT 976,089,242.07 (73.48% of BDT 1,328,597,840)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	CONDITIONS	STATUS	REMARKS
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requests by the Contractor for additional land in connection with the construction of the Project are being reviewed by the CSC based on technical consideration and the Project Resettlement Framework;</li> <li>Corrective action recommended by External Monitor in INGO operations had been relayed to BR and the INGO to improve their work. 26.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Section 1&amp;2: BDT 681,794,611.10 (75.67% of BT893,591,323 total)</li> <li>- Section 3: BT 294,294,630.97 (67.70% of 435,006,517.29 total)</li> <li>• So far 275 NEPs have received their check compensation. Total amount paid is BDT 67,596,515; broken down to BDT46,978,952 and BDT20,617,563 for Sections 1&amp;2 and 3 respectively. Others with complete documentation will follow.</li> <li>• External Monitors of Supervising Consultants conducted a review of INGO operations and had found weaknesses in their operations. Appropriate recommendations have been proposed to remedy the situation.</li> </ul>
	<p>c. ensure that no physical or economic displacement takes place in connection with the Project until:</p> <p>i) Compensation and other entitlements have been provided to affected people in accordance with the RP; and</p> <p>ii) A comprehensive income and livelihood restoration program has been established with the RP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commencement of civil works will only occur when affected area is cleared of any resettlement issue/s.</li> <li>• An NGO/organization will be contracted to carry out the planning and implementation of livelihood restoration program.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contractors refuse to work in segments within the ROW that is not free of resettlement issues.</li> <li>• The Contractor's approach to commence work at the first and last 10km of rail alignment, had allowed the INGO to focus their attention into these two areas thereby facilitating the resettlement process.</li> <li>• With the first and last 10km cleared, resettlement work moved to the next 10 km from both ends, as well as priority areas identified by the Contractor.</li> <li>• The procurement process for the NGO services tasked to carry out income and livelihood restoration program planning and implementation is on-going.</li> </ul>
<b>II.</b>	<b>GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM</b>		
	a. Within 9 months after the Effective Date, BR shall develop a grievance redress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grievance Redress Committees (GRC) had been established and operationalized throughout the project site. There are a total of</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The hearing of complaints by the GRCs as well as the resolution of ownership issues</li> </ul>

	CONDITIONS	STATUS	REMARKS
	<p>mechanism, acceptable to ADB, and establish a Grievance Redress Committee (GRC).</p> <p>b. GRC shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) make public of the existence of this grievance redress mechanism,</li> <li>ii) review and address grievances of stakeholders of the project, related to the project,; and</li> <li>iii) Proactively and constructively respond to them.</li> </ul>	<p>15 GRCs where 14 are at the Union level and 1 GRCs at the Project level.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• INGO inform the APs during their public information meetings, the establishment and operationalization of the GRC which is tasked to resolve grievances related to the project implementation.</li> <li>• 176 complaints (Comilla – 122 and Brahmanbaria – 54) were received so far from APs. A total of 20 have already been resolved, while the rest of grievances have been registered and are under review.</li> </ul>	<p>among claimant EPs is ongoing.</p>
<b>III</b>	<b>SAFEGUARDS MONITORING AND REPORTING</b>		
	<p>The Borrower and BR shall do the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Submit semi-annual Safeguards Monitoring Reports to ADB and disclose relevant information from such reports to affected persons promptly upon submission;</li> <li>(b) Promptly inform ADB on the occurrence of unanticipated environmental and/or social risk and impacts arise during construction, implementation or operation of the Project that were not considered in the IEE, the EMP, the RP and the IPP with detailed description of the event and propose corrective action plan;</li> <li>(c) No later than 6 months after the Effective Date, engage qualified and experience external monitors acceptable to ADB, to verify information produced through the Project monitoring process, and facilitate the</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The draft of the first Semi-Annual Report was prepared and submitted to BR in January 2017 by a TA consultant mobilized by ADB.</li> <li>• The BR through the Joint Venture Consultants have mobilized 1 international social/resettlement/gender specialist and 3 national junior resettlement and Gender specialist to serve as External Monitors of the Project.</li> <li>• The modification of the Comilla Station resulted in the displacement of 10 “Sweeper” households. But also spared significant impact to a combined elementary-high school and Additional Signal Master Office &amp; Accommodation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cooperation was extended by BR, CSC and INGO to the ADB TA Consultant tasked to prepare the first Resettlement Semi-Annual report.</li> <li>• CSC Resettlement team had participated in the validation of EPs affected properties (Non-CCL and CCL) conducted by the Project Joint Validation Committee (JVC).</li> <li>• CSC conducting review of JVC affected property inventory to help ensure that the contents are correct in terms of assets dimensions, make and use.</li> <li>• CSC is reviewing the EP Files prior to final processing of payment; and observe the conduct of check handover to recipient EPs.</li> <li>• CSC to prepare a Due Diligence Report on the Comilla Station modification.</li> </ul>

	CONDITIONS	STATUS	REMARKS
	<p>carrying out of any verification activities by such external experts; and</p> <p>(d) Report any actual or potential breach of compliance with the measures and requirements set forth in the EMP, the RP or the IPP promptly after becoming aware of the breach</p>		
<b>IV</b>	<b>GENDER</b>		
	<p>Implementation of approved Gender Action Plan by BR shall conduct training for all project staff on the GAP. Implementation of the GAP shall be closely monitored, and the progress shall be reported to ADB.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NGO UDOY was selected to implement the HIV/AIDS prevention program</li> <li>• Social surveys have been conducted to determine the public's (communities around the construction site) perception of HIV/AIDS. Same type of survey will be done for construction workers once adequate number is recruited by the contractor.</li> <li>• Orientation of Contractor's workers have also commenced, where the resource persons are members of the INGO UDOY.</li> <li>• Training on GAP by BR for Project staff will be held as soon as the social survey on HIV/AIDS perception by local communities and construction workers are completed and results made known.</li> <li>• Contractor had been advised by CSC to comply with the Project's Gender Action Plan (GAP), and provide the Engineer their consortium's labor policy on women to ensure compliance to national labor laws.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CSC Resettlement Team reviewed the survey questionnaire used in the social survey;</li> <li>• The CSC participated in the scheduled social surveys, noted and reported on the deficiencies.</li> <li>• Discussions have been made with the Contractor on their work policy for women. A formal submission will be made that will expound on this matter (labor policy on women).</li> </ul> <p>27.</p>

#### IV. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RP

28. The first Semi-Annual Report focused on details related to the preparation and updating of the Resettlement Plan. Given that the resettlement activities only slowly initiated in 2016, the first SMR mostly discussed in the first report are the objectives of the RP, Project impacts, and efforts exerted by the Project Executing Agency the Bangladesh Railways in order to minimize the resettlement impacts. The second Semi-Annual Report covers the implementation of the RP during the reporting period (January to December 2016), work progress during the period culminating in the handover of acquired affected private lands by the Deputy Commissioners of

Comilla and Brahmanbaria, JVC validation of nontitle holders, a review of the institutional arrangements and constraints encountered. The report also focuses on the progress of NEP final validation and payments of non-CCL compensation and grants, Grievance Redress Committee (GRC) operationalization and resolution of complaints; payment of compensation to representatives of Common Property Resource (CPR) owners, as well as handing out of “top up payment” to eligible TEPs. The provision of the relocation site and assistance by the Project to the displaced “Sweeper” households is also covered. The following sections will provide details on the progress of resettlement work during the period January to June 2017.

## **A. Resettlement Plan Objectives**

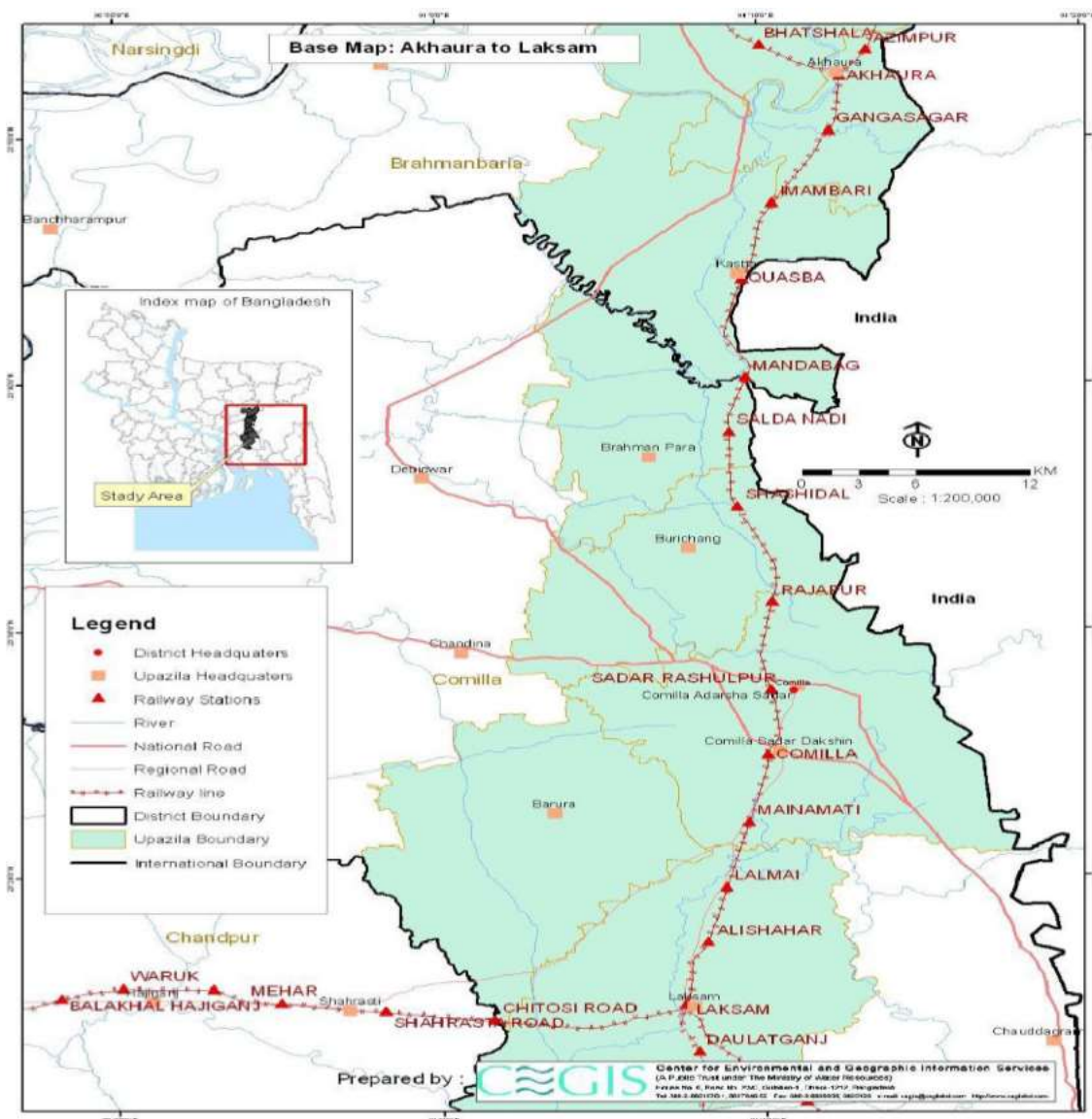
29. The Objectives of the updated RP and the supplemental EMO RP are to mitigate all unavoidable negative social and resettlement impacts caused due to the project implementation by provision of commensurate measures to resettle the displaced persons and restore their livelihoods. The ALDP updated RP and the EMO Addendum (the RPs) provide financial and institutional measures to mitigate, compensate and re-establish the lives and livelihoods of the affected persons and communities, affected by the project. The RPs follow the legal framework active in the country on land acquisition relevant to the project and complies with the ADB/Involuntary Resettlement Safeguards and EIB standard 6 –Involuntary Resettlement and other relevant guidelines<sup>4</sup>. The RPs also ensure that every affected person will get their due compensation and the cash for resettlement assistance based on the value assessed by the competent authority in a participatory method. The RPs provide special attention to non-titled affected persons including squatters, informal settlers, shops and business owners on BR land to support their relocation and restoration of their livelihoods.

## **B. Description and Location of Project Impacts**

30. The project railway line passes through the administrative areas of Akhaura and Quasba Upazilas under Brahmanbaria District, and Brahman Para, Burirchang, Comilla Sadar, Comilla Sadar South, and Laksam Upazilas under Comilla District. To facilitate the implementation of the Project, the ALDLP alignment (from Akhaura to Laksam) was divided into three sections, namely (i) Laksam–Comilla (24.375 km), (ii) Comilla–Salda Nadi (19.500 km), and (iii) Salda Nadi–Akhaura (28.200 km). **Figure 1** contains a map indicating the geographical location of the Project railway alignment.

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<sup>4</sup> EIB Standard 5 Cultural Heritage; Standard 7 Rights and Interests of Vulnerable Groups; and Standard 10 Stakeholders Engagement. Environmental and Social Handbook, 2014.



**Figure 1: Project Alignment from Akhaura to Laksam**

31. Project activities within and immediately surrounding the ROW is estimated to affect 2,674 households and other entities (titled and non-titled) who will be physically and economically displaced. The displaced households and entities include 2,158 private households and businesses and 1,763<sup>5</sup> of these will be physically relocated. The doubling of the track will require a total of around 320 ha of land. Of this, only 28.54 ha is private land acquisition – the rest of the land already belongs to BR. Further review of the affected private landholdings indicate that some plots claimed by individuals actually belong to BR, which further reduces the amount of land acquisition to only 28.54 hectares. The acquisition of private land will displace 698 titled owners. However, many households/shops who are currently squatting on BR land will be affected and would require relocation. A total of 887 squatters and 573 renters on private land (155) and BR land (418) will be affected in the three sections. The displacements also include 464 employees losing their jobs due to impacts associated with the relocation of businesses. The Project will also require the removal of trees of various sizes and species. The initial inventory was conducted in

<sup>5</sup> The figure 1,763 EPs will be updated once the JVC validation is completed.

January 2015, however since then there were updates made, the summary of which is found in **Table 2**. The complete updating of this table (Table 2) will be made once the JVC validation is done for other affected non-movable assets.

32. The number of affected households and persons is subject to change during the BR-DC joint verification of affected persons on private land and khas land (not owned by BR)<sup>6</sup> and the subsequent joint verification by the Joint Verification Committee (JVC) constituted under the provision of the Resettlement Plan for the Project, and the CSC resettlement team. As of this reporting period, the JVCs and CSC resettlement team have completed their validation work for affected structures of nontitle households (NTH) in Section 1, 2 and 3, which was the basis for the processing and payment of non-CCL compensation and grant payments. Further validation were made for **698** titleholders which was the basis for the payment of their Non-CCL grants as well as “top-up payments” given by the project to ensure the DCs’ payments reach the replacement cost of the affected assets. These amounts (top-up payments) correspond to the difference between the DC’s assessed value and the replacement cost of land.

**Table 2: Households by Different Categories of Impact**

<b>Affected Persons</b>	<b>Total</b>
Private land owners	698
Squatters	887
Commercial/business structures	573
CPRs	49
Medium to large business	3
Employees	464
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,674</b>

*\* Source: Interview with INGO Deputy Team Leader*

### **C. Minimizing Resettlement Impacts**

33. The Project considered many technical options to reduce land acquisition and minimize possible adverse impacts. Out of total required area of around 320 ha, only 28.54 ha (8.9%) of area will be acquired from private land owners; the remainder is BR land. The section from Gangasagar Railway Station to Akhaura was re-designed to avoid a major market and settlement, including an old temple. A new station building design was developed and other design changes were made to minimize land acquisition. The reconstruction and upgrading of the stations were designed as much as possible within the existing BR land. Access roads to some stations were re-designed through further field inspections to reduce land acquisition and minimize impacts. As a result, land acquisition was reduced during the design phase and the overall resettlement impacts of the Project was significantly reduced.

34. At the initial implementation stage, the acquisition of private land was further reduced through ownership review of proposed land for acquisition. The amount of privately owned land under acquisition as of December 2016 is known to be only 28.54 ha from the previous 37.38 ha. However, there are claims of private ownership of proposed land in Baliahura, Chapia, Chandonsar and a few other areas which are under review. If these claims are proven valid, the amount of acquisition of private land may increase. The civil works contractor has been reviewing the design and conducting joint field validation with BR and CSC to identify land ownership issues

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<sup>6</sup> Khas land means government owned fallow land, where nobody has property rights but available for allocation according to government priorities.

that may require further land acquisition and resettlement action. The results of these surveys have been forwarded to BR for action.

35. Further in the implementation phase, there had been proposals put forward by the Contractor for acquisition of additional land. The rationale for the additional land request was: a) changes in Project Detailed Design intended to improve its technical efficiency but will however require more land on which work will have to be done; b) installation of temporary construction facilities (i.e. berms) designed to protect/stabilize project structures while these have not yet been completed; and c) the relocation of illegal rural roads providing public conveyance parallel to the track, that will be built over by the widened of the project track embankments. These requests have been subject to review by the Engineer on the basis of their technical soundness and conformity to the Project's Resettlement Framework. So far, only adjustments to station building location and access road resulting in limited land acquisition involving 8 EPs with a total of 0.256 hectares affected, had been recommended for approval, while the rest is still under consideration.

#### D. Actual Impact vs Impacts Identified in RP (Updated)

36. Project impacts in term of loss of land and other assets, income and livelihoods have been in the process of verification and certification by the Joint Verification Committees (JVC) constituted under the updated Resettlement Plan. The joint verification has starting from 11 May 2016 in Section 3 and from 4 August 2016 in Sections 1 and 2. As of the end of January 2017, joint verification by JVC is completed for EPs and their affected structures in Section 3 (by 1 September 2016), in Section 1 (by 29 August 2016) and Section 2 (end of January 2017). As of 13 December 2016, all affected private lands (28.54 ha) within the ROW have been provided by the 2 concerned Districts (Comilla and Brahmanbaria) to BR. **Table 3** can be completed for actual impact once the JVCs complete verification in all sections.

**Table 3: Summary of Project Impacts**

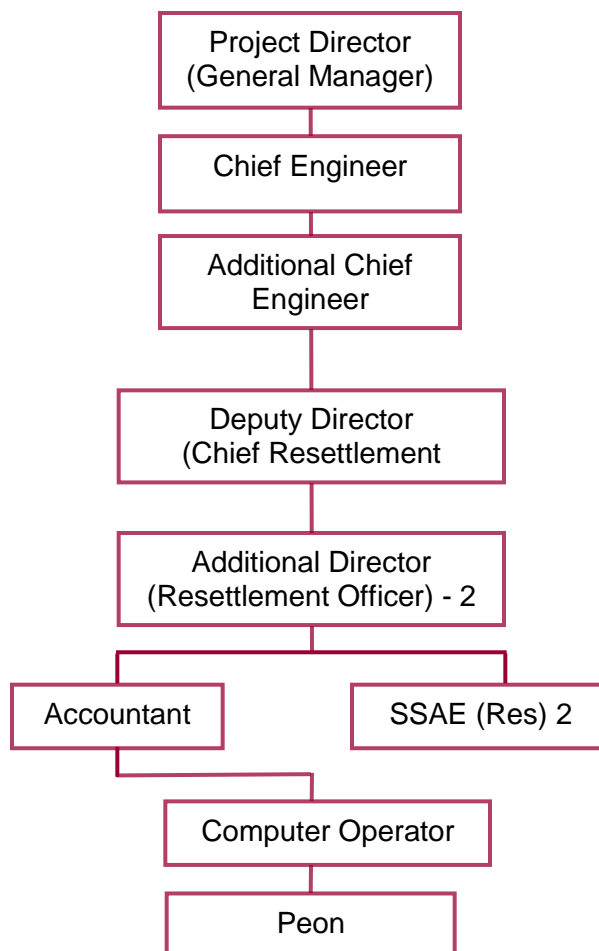
Sl. No.	Project Impacts	Updated 2015 RP	Impacts identified during implementation
A	Amount of land to be acquired (ha)	37.38	28.55
B	Total Number of Affected Persons	9,626	2,674
C	Common Property Resources affected	52	49*
D	<b>Total Number of private household affected</b>		
	No. of affected households requiring physical relocation	1,763	1,763*
	No. of households economically affected (i.e., loss of land, fish ponds, trees, wages – no relocation required)	713	713*
E	No. of affected titled-holders households (TH)	1,042	698
	No. of affected non-titled-holders households (NTH)	962	887*
	No. of affected encroachers		
F	No. of affected renters	621	573
G	Total Number of vulnerable Households	404	404*
H	Total RP budget (million BDT)	4,418.83	4,418.83

\* Still under updating. Final figures will be available once the JVC validation is completed .

#### E. Implementation Arrangements

## 1. Bangladesh Railway (BR) Staff

37. Bangladesh Railway (BR) under the Ministry of Railways (MoR) is representing the Government of Bangladesh as the Executing Agency of the Project. BR has established a Project Implementation Unit (PIU) at its headquarters headed by a Project Director (PD). A Resettlement Unit (RU) within the PIU has also been established, which is responsible for implementation of the updated RPs in terms of compensation disbursement and resettlement of the Project affected persons including livelihood restoration in the process of construction of the railway and resettlement of the EPs. The day to day operations of the RU is managed by a Chief Resettlement Officer (CRO) of the rank of Deputy Director who is being assisted by two Resettlement Officers (RO) of the rank of Additional Director, two SSAEs, an Accountant, a Computer Operator and a Peon. The Assistant Engineer that is responsible for the Project's Environmental Concerns, provide support to the Resettlement work by serving as the Chairperson of the Joint Validation Committee. **Figure 2** contains the functional organizational structure of the Project Resettlement Unit.



**Figure 2 : Functional Organizational Structure of the Project Resettlement Unit**

38. The PIU has engaged an RP Implementing NGO (INGO) for assisting BR-RU in implementation of the RP and other related activities in January 2016. The role of the RU generally include (i) Overall planning, management and monitoring of the implementation of the Resettlement Plans (RPs) and Income and Livelihood Restoration Program (ILRP), synchronizing with the construction schedule of the Project; (ii) Prepare Terms of Reference (TOR) for implementation of the RP and ILRP for the Severely Affected and Vulnerable groups; (iii) Design and produce necessary tools for implementation of the RPs and ILRP with assistance from CSC/INGO; (iv) Ensure that all eligible persons are identified, provided with their due compensation and entitlements and are relocated/ resettled as per the implementation schedule on time; (v) Coordinate with the concerned DCs' offices for the timely acquisition of affected private lands and payment of compensation; (vi) Form Joint Verification Committees (JVC) and Property Valuation Advisory Committees (PVAC) for official recognition of inventory of lost assets and determining their current market price for replacement cost calculation; (vii) Establish and operate Grievance Redress Committees (GRC) for disposal of grievances; (viii) Ensure rights of the displaced persons most especially the severely affected and vulnerable groups, in the process of resettlement as per the RP; (ix) Monitor the effectiveness of entitlement packages and delivery mechanism and, if necessary, propose modifications to BR management; and (x) Establish internal monitoring system and report to BR Management.

39. The Chief Engineer (CE) works under the overall guidance and supervision of the Project Director/Director General. The CE is directly responsible for executing all tasks assigned to the RU and any other tasks assigned by the PD from time to time. The Deputy Director (Res), Assistant Engineer and two Assistant Directors (Res), will assist the CE for management of the resettlement operations. The CE has the full administrative and financial powers to manage the resettlement program in all matters.

40. The Additional Chief Engineer is the head of the RU in BR and works under the overall guidance and supervision of the Project Director/Director General. The ACE is directly responsible for executing all tasks assigned to the RU and any other tasks assigned by the PD from time to time.

41. The Deputy Director – Resettlement (DD Resettlement) is the field level-implementing officer of the Resettlement Unit responsible for field level coordination of the resettlement operation in Project area. The Assistant Engineer responsible for the Project's Environmental Concerns also provides support to the Resettlement work by serving as the Chairperson of the Joint Validation Committee. Two Assistant Directors are fielded for two districts assisting the DD Resettlement. The RU field Offices have the responsibility for the overall implementation of all field level operation related to land acquisition and resettlement.

## **2. Resettlement Implementation NGO (INGO):**

42. A Resettlement Implementation Non-Government Organization (INGO) has been engaged by Bangladesh Railway through a competitive bidding process. Contract agreement with the selected INGO, SAMAHAR was signed on 10 January 2016 and the INGO has managed to mobilize on the assignment officially on 11 January 2016, the next day. The INGO is responsible for the overall implementation of the updated Resettlement Plan as well as providing assistance to BR in Land Acquisition providing institutional, technical and logistical support. The INGO overall, will identify, inform and mobilize affected persons eligible for compensation and assistance, prepare EP file, entitlement card and payment statement, and through BR RU, ensure that all eligible APs receive their due compensation and entitlements. The responsibility of INGO also includes coordinating with the Deputy Commissioners and assisting the APs in complying with DC documentary requirements, getting cash/check Compensation under Law (CCL) and finding alternative land and housing for relocation when requested by EPs. Participation in and providing technical and logistical support to GRC, JVC, PVAC remain the important role of the INGO for encouraging beneficiary participation in the resettlement process following the updated Resettlement Plan (June 2015) and EMO RP.

43. The INGO has established its Project Office in Dhaka headed by the Project Team Leader and coordinated by the Executive Director of the NGO. The Project Office in Dhaka is the Headquarters (HQ) of the INGO for the management of the resettlement implementation for Bangladesh Railway. The key professional staff along with the support staff are housed in the HQ. The INGO has also established two Area Offices, one in Comilla covering the sections 1 and 2 within Comilla District, and the other in Akhaura covering section 3 in Brahmanbaria District. SAMAHAR has started activities from 10th January 2016. Offices for the implementation of program have been set up according to the work plan. Details of the location of HQ Office at Mohammadpur, Dhaka & Area Offices and manpower deployed are shown in Table 4.

**Table 4: Location and Dates of INGO Office Establishment**

Offices of the INGO	Location Address	Date of Establishment	Headed by
Project Office, HQ	House # 817, Road # 04, Baitul Aman Housing Society Adabar, Dhaka	January 10, 2016	Team Leader
Area Office, Comilla	Paschim Darmapur, Comilla Sadar, Comilla	January 20, 2016	Area Manager
Area Office, Brahmanbaria	Masjid para, Shahid Sarafat Ali Sarak, Akhaura, Brahmanbaria	February 01, 2016	Area Manager

44. The INGO has a total staff strength of 1,435 man-months for a total contract duration of 52 months. As of the end of May 2017, the INGO has utilized a total of 572.1 person-months equivalent to 39.9% of overall input. This level of effort is further broken down into 51.1 pm (34.5%) of key professional staff services; 441 pm (41.0%) of field support staff work; and 80 pm (37.9%) office support. Table 5 contains the INGO Staffing Plan and Utilization.

**Table 5: INGO Staffing Plan and Utilization as of end of May 2017**

Sl. No.	Position	Number	Planned Input (person-month)	Input at end of May 2017	(%)
<b>A.</b>	<b>Key Professional Staff (HQ)</b>				
1	Team Leader (Senior Resettlement Specialist)	1	48	16.7	34.8%
2	Deputy Team Leader (Resettlement Specialist)	1	48	16.7	34.8%
3	Personal Finance Trainer	1	06	2.7	45.0%
4	Social Development Specialist	1	12	3.0	25.0%
5	Women in Development/Gender Specialist	1	09	4.0	44.4%
6	Land Market Research Specialist	1	06	0.0	0.0%
7	MIS Specialist	1	09	4.0	44.4%
8	Land Acquisition Specialist	1	10	4.0	40.0%
	<i>Sub-Total</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>148</i>	<i>51.1</i>	<i>34.5%</i>
<b>B.</b>	<b>Office Support Staff (HQ)</b>				
1.	Database Manager	1	50	16.0	32.0%
2.	Accountant	1	36	16.0	44.4%
3.	Computer Operator	1	29	16.0	55.2%
4.	Messenger	1	48	16.0	33.3%
5.	Office Security	1	48	16.0	33.3%
	<i>Sub-Total</i>		<i>211</i>	<i>80.0</i>	<i>37.9%</i>
<b>C.</b>	<b>Field Support Staff</b>				
1.	Area Manager	2	100	32.0	32.0%
2.	Supervisor	2	68	32.0	47.1%
3.	Computer Operator	2	60	29.0	48.3%
4.	Resettlement Worker	20	680	311.0	45.7%
5.	Messenger	2	72	30.0	41.7%
6.	Office Security	2	96	7.0	7.3%
	<i>Sub-Total</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>1076</i>	<i>441.0</i>	<i>41.0%</i>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>1,435</b>	<b>572.1</b>	<b>39.9%</b>

Source: Samahar, Monthly Progress Report, May 2017

### 3. Construction Supervision Consultant

45. The Construction Supervision Consultant (CSC) was mobilized on 12 April 2016 with the mobilization of the Project Manager (international) with few other international and national professionals. The CSC team for social safeguards includes one international Social, Resettlement and Gender Specialist, one Senior national Senior Resettlement and Gender Specialist and three national Junior Resettlement Specialists.

46. The CSC's role on social safeguards under the project covers external monitoring involuntary resettlement management, livelihood restoration measures, gender mainstreaming, labor standards, and public health and safety. The CSC social safeguards team is responsible for the following:

- **Resettlement and Livelihood Restoration:** monitoring NGO activities for implementation of RPs and ILRP, verifying process and documentation of GRM and functions of GRCs, preparing implementation progress reports, bi-annual reports and completion reports.
- **Gender and Social Aspects:** review Gender Action Plan (GAP), monitor and report implementation of the GAP and HIV/AIDS and Anti-Human Trafficking campaigns, design and conduct training for BR staff on elderly-women-children-disabled (EWCD) friendly design and operation, and verifying EWCD features of the first rehabilitated station. CSC will also conduct a customer satisfaction survey on EWCD design features and services and recommendations.
- The CSC through its Resident Health and Safety Engineer, will also monitor core labor standards maintained by the contractor(s) in relation to the civil works contraction under the project.
- The CSC will verify the implementation of the RPs taking 10% randomly selected affected households receiving compensation and cash for resettlement assistance.

47. Within the reporting period from January to June 2017, three members of the Social Safeguards team had been mobilized which include the Resident Social, Resettlement and Gender Specialist, and three national Junior Resettlement Specialists. The first national Resettlement Specialist has been mobilized on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of May 2016; the Resident Social, Resettlement and Gender Specialist (international) joined the Project on 15 September 2016; while the second and third Junior Resettlement Specialist (national) was mobilized on the 25<sup>th</sup> October 2016, and 1 March 2017. The mobilization schedule of the CSC Social Safeguards team is found in Table 6.

**Table 6: CSC Staffing for Social, Resettlement and Gender**

Position	Source	planned input (man-month)	Input used as of 30/07/2017	%	Remarks
Resident Social, Resettlement and Gender Specialist	International	24	7.75	32.29	mobilized 15 September 2016
Senior Resettlement and Gender Specialist	National	51	-	-	To be mobilized
Junior Resettlement Specialist-1)	National	48	12.13	25.27	Mobilized 2 May 2016
Junior Resettlement Specialist-2)	National	48	8.23	17.15	Mobilized 25 October 2016

Position	Source	planned input (man-month)	Input used as of 30/07/2017	%	Remarks
Junior Resettlement Specialist-3)	National	48	3.00	6.25	Mobilized 1 March 2017

#### 4. Formation of JVC, PVAC and GRC

48. Bangladesh Railway has established two Joint Verification Committees (JVCs), one each for Comilla and for Brahmanbaria districts. Property Valuation Advisory Committees (PVACs) have been formed for each Upazila and Grievance Redress Committees (GRCs) have been organized for each Union. Two JVCs, 7 PVACs and 15 GRCs have thus been established along the three sections of the alignment that took effect from 3 March 2016 following the directives from the Ministry of Railways (MoR) published on 18 October 2015. The roles and activities of the JVCs, PVACs and GRCs as per the MoR directives are found in Table 7 below.

**Table 7: Scope of Resettlement Management Committees and Timeline**

Resettlement Management Committee	Scope and Activities	Timeline
<b>Joint Verification Committee (JVC):</b> Members: a) AD (Resettlement) - Convener; b) Area Manager of INGO - Member Secretary; and c) authorized representative of the DC in concern district - Member.	Develop database of the inventory of lost assets comparing with the data collected from the DC Offices and on-site verification; Determine the ownership of land where the displaced persons are affected (whether private land, BR land or other public land); Prepare budget after joint on-site verification and send it to the Project Director and the Deputy Commissioners; Prepare budget for compensation of the physical structures on BR land and send to the Project Director for his information; Compile all database and send to the Project Director.	JVCs started on-site verification of Inventory of Lost Assets (ILA) in Sections 1 @ 2 on May 11, and in Section 3 on Mar 15 2016. Joint verification has been completed on Aug 31 in Section 1, on Sep 19 in Section 3, and January 31 in Section 2. The verified ILAs have been approved by BR on 31 Aug 2016 for section 1 and on 1 Sep 2016 for section 3. Second verification work being conducted with the participation of the CSC resettlement team.
<b>Property Valuation Advisory Committee (PVAC):</b> Members: AD (Resettlement) - Chairman; b) Team Leader of INGO – Secretary; c) two other members are authorized representative of the DC in concern district; and d) elected representative from the concern area	Carry out market price survey of land and other physical assets affected for land acquisition and implementation of the project to determine the current market prices; Design and carry out market price survey of non-land assets owned by squatters of BR/public land and lessees of BR land to know and determine their market price. The INGO will carry out all survey work as per design developed and approved by the PVACs and submit the results for review and signature to them. PVACs will perform the above responsibilities and forward their report with	The 7 PVACs carried out their advisory services for review and recommendation of market price of land and other physical assets following the market price survey conducted by the INGO as per PVAC design during the period Mar – Aug 2016.

Resettlement Management Committee	Scope and Activities	Timeline
	all supporting documents to the Project Director.	BR has approved the rates recommended by all PVACs on 28 Sep 2016 <sup>7</sup> . INGO had been preparing the estimates of cash grants and other resettlement assistance.
<p><b>Grievance Redress Committee (GRC)</b>, union and project levels:</p> <p><b>Union GRC:</b> Members: a) AD (Resettlement) - Convener; b) Area Manager of INGO – Member/Secretary and c) three other members are (i) authorized representative of the DC in concern district or authorized representative from the Upazila Sub-Registry Office, (ii) female member from the local government institution concerned, and (iii) representatives from the affected persons.</p> <p><b>Project level GRC:</b> Membership: a) Project Director or his nominated representative as convener; b) Team Leader, INGO – Member/Secretary, and c) Upazila Chairman or his/her nominated representative, d) representative of local communities and e) representative from the affected persons.</p>	<p>Receive grievances from the aggrieved affected persons and conduct hearing on grievance petitions;</p> <p>If the grievance is related to land acquisition ordinance 1982 or Arbitration under any other active law of the country, advise the aggrieved person to refer the grievance to relevant government agency or the court of law;</p> <p>If the grievance petition is outside the jurisdiction of law and relates to involuntary resettlement management under the project resettlement plan (RP), the committee will conduct hearing for resolution under the RP provisions;</p> <p>Grievance petitions from landless squatters and lessees of BR or other public land will also be resolved as per RP provisions;</p> <p>All resolutions of the committee with recommendations will be forwarded to the Project Director for his review and approval. As per the RP, all grievances will be received at the Union GRCs and resolved as much as practicable at that level to the satisfaction of the aggrieved persons. In case of any difficulties or dissatisfaction of the aggrieved persons with the Union GRC resolution, the case petitions will be forwarded to the Project level GRC for further review and resolution.</p>	<p>GRM is operational throughout the period of RP implementation. Complaints received with the Union GRCs will be settled within 30 days of receipt.</p> <p>Any cases referred to the Project level GRC will be resolved in 10 days of receipt.</p>

## F. Detailed Status of the Implementation of the Resettlement Plan

### 1. Details of Land Acquisition Process and Timeline:

49. The land acquisition process started in early May 2015 under Comilla and Brahmanbaria districts through the notification under section 3 started on 7 May 2015. The Deputy Commissioner (DC) opened one Land Acquisition Case (LA Case) for all two sections under

<sup>7</sup> Ministry of Railway has approved the PVAC rates for the Akhaura – Laksam Double Tracking Project on 28 Sep 2016 vide memo no. 54.00.0000.013.015.2016/114.

Comilla District, while the DC in Brahmanbaria District opened 22 LA Cases (6 27) for processing land acquisition for Bangladesh Railway under the project. Notification for updating ownership (under section 6) was served on 7 September 2015 in Comilla District and as well as 11 October 2015 in Brahmanbaria District. The DC in Comilla served notice under section 7 for receiving compensation on 26 November 2015 and a similar notification was issued on 25 February 2016 in Brahmanbaria District. Payment of compensation under law started on 9 December 2015 in Comilla and 4 April 2016 in Brahmanbaria District. The DC Comilla and DC Brahmanbaria had turned over all project affected private lands within ROW falling within their jurisdiction on 27 September and 14 December 2016 respectively. Table 8 contains the timeline for land acquisition and payment.

**Table 8: Timeline for Land Acquisition and Payment**

District/LA Cases	Dates of serving Notice u/s 3	Dates of serving Notice u/s 6	Dates of serving Notice u/s 7	Date of start of payment	Handover Date of affected private lands
Comilla/ 16/2014-15	May 7, 2015	Sep 7, 2015	Nov 26, 2015	Dec 9, 2015	Sept 27, 2016
Brahmanbaria/ 06-27/2014-15	May 7 – 22, 2015	Oct 11 – 26, 2015	Feb 25 – Mar 22, 2016	Apr 04, 2016	Dec 14, 2016

Source: Shamahar (RP INGO), Team Leader and Deputy Team Leader consulted on 13 November 2016; and BR RU DD A. Rahman

50. As of the end of June 2017, the DC in Comilla has paid a sum of BDT 681.79 million and the DC in Brahmanbaria paid a sum of BDT 294.29 million. Table 9 provides the details of the payment.

**Table 9: Land Acquisition Budget and Payment Status**

District	LA Case No.	Quantity of Land (in Acre)	DC's Estimate (BDT)	Actual Payment (BDT)	%
Comilla	16/2014-15	42.252	893,591,322.76	681,794,611.10	76.30%
<b>Sub-total 1</b>			893,591,322.76	681,794,611.10	
Brahmanbaria	06-27/2014-15	28.272	435,006,517.29	294,294,630.97	67.7%
<b>Sub-total 2</b>			435,006,517.29	294,294,630.97	
<b>Total</b>			1,328,597,840.04	976,089,242.07	73.48%

Source: Shamahar (INGO), Monthly Progress Report, June 2017

## **2. Compensations and benefits payments to Titled Households**

51. The Deputy Commissioners in Comilla and Brahmanbaria have paid compensation under law (CCL) to 1,250 awardees (titled households – TH) as of June 2017. During the same period, the INGO could identify only 1,173 THs for issuance of ID cards and payment of resettlement benefits. Of the 1,173 draft ID Cards, BR RU had approved 1,173 (400 titled EPs and 773 Non-titled EPs)

52. **Payment of compensation under law (CCL):** According the award data available with the INGO, 1,474 awards have been identified for land compensation in Comilla District and only 241 in Brahmanbaria District. As of June 2017, a total sum of BDT 976.1 million (73.48% against the budget) have been paid against the budget amount of BDT 1,328.60 million. Starting in December 9, 2015, the DC Comilla has achieved an overall financial progress of 76.30%. The DC, Brahmanbaria achieved only 67.7% starting payment in April 04, 2016. Table 10 provides details of the payment update as of the end of June 2017.

**Table 10: Payment of Cash Compensation under Law to TEPs as of 30 June 2017**

District	Loss item	No. Title Affected HH			Amounts (BDT)		
		Target (Award)	Paid (Award)*	%	DC's Estimates	Payment (actual)*	%
Comilla	Land	1,474	368	24.96	722,565,948.53	548,186,608.97	75.87%
	Structure	220	99	50.91	152,205,777.90	119,869,998.37	78.76%
	Tree	223	68	30.49	11,036,700.75	9,325,648.13	84.50%
	Others <sup>8</sup>	396	89	22.47	7,782,895.58	4,412,355.63	56.69%
	Sub-total				893,591,322.76	681,794,611.10	76.30%
Brahmanbaria	Land	241	271	112.4	304,901,186.54	208,496,007.00	68.45%
	Structure	176	135	76.7	88,272,772.50	65,222,336.57	73.89%
	Tree	172	139	80.81	32,864,314.50	15,030,146.07	45.73%
	Others	81	81	100.0	8,968,243.75	5,546,141.33	61.84%
	Sub-total				435,006,517.29	294,294,630.97	67.70%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,715</b>	<b>566</b>	<b>33.00</b>	<b>1,328,597,840.04</b>	<b>976,089,242.07</b>	<b>73.48%</b>

Source: Shamahar (INGO), Monthly Progress Report, June 2017

53. The overall payment progress in two districts as of June 2017 stood to only 73.48% (Monthly progress report, June 2017).

54. **Payment of Resettlement Benefits (RB):** The INGO has identified a total of 639 awardees receiving compensation under law as of 30 June 2017. These include 368 in Comilla, while 271 are from Brahmanbaria. The INGO is processing data for the identification of THs by category of entitlements accrued to them. As of the end of June 2017, about 45 TEPs have received “top-up payments” of which, 18, 18 and 9 are from Sections 1, 2 and 3. The total amount paid was BDT7,770,177.7, broken down to BDT1,412,798.75, BDT4,179,270.11 and BDT2,178,108.79 for Sections 1, 2 and 3, respectively. Other grants will be paid to the NEPs in the subsequent months.

### 3. Status of Resettlement Benefits and Assistance to NTHs

55. According to the provisions of RP, the identification of Non-Titled Affected Households (NTH) started in Comilla and Brahmanbaria areas and of June 2017, 899 NTHs (Comilla 461 and Brahmanbaria 438) have been identified. So far 400 and 773 ID cards had been issued to THs and NTHs respectively as of June 2017.

56. About 275 NTH were been paid check compensation as of 30 June 2017. About BDT 67,596,515 (42.7%) worth of compensation for lost structures and other grants were paid, with EPs from Section 1 getting a relatively higher total amount at BDT 28,841,694; while those from Section 2 and 3 garnered a total of BDT20,617,563 (30.5%) and BDT 18,137,257 respectively. Replacement cost for loss structures had the lion share of the payments at BDT 61,321,315 (90.7%) followed far behind by Reconstruction grant at BDT2,694,400 (4.0%). About 26 affected small shop operators received income loss, 29 vulnerable and 24 women-headed households received BDT900,000, BDT237,800 and BDT240,000 respectively. Details on the actual number of EPs paid and the corresponding amounts are found in Table 11.

<sup>8</sup> Others include compensation under law for loss of business, fish stock, pond digging, crop, and the like on titled land.

**Table 11. Payments of Resettlement Benefit (RB) per type for Non-title Household**

	Resettlement Benefits	Section 1		Section 2		Section 3		Total	
		No. NTH	Amount paid (BDT)	No. NTH	Amount paid (BDT)	No. NTH	Amount paid (BDT)	No. NTH	Amount paid (BDT)
1	RC for Loss of structure	97	26,747,294	71	16,204,057	96	18,369,963	264	61,321,315
2	Transfer Grant	96	768,000	77	619,000	102	816,000	275	2,203,000
3	Reconstruction Grant	96	940,800	77	754,000	102	999,600	275	2,694,400
4	Grant for loss of Income	8	270,000	12	360,000	6	270,000	26	900,000
5	Grant for vulnerable HH	8	65,600	11	90,200	10	82,000	29	237,800
6	Other Benefits/Grants	5	50,000	11	110,000	8	80,000	24	240,000
	Total	97	28,841,694	77	18,137,257	102	20,617,563	275	67,596,515

\*There are EPs with compensation for affected structures as well as multiple grants.

57. The 275 NEPs paid compensation and other benefits only constitute 10.3% of the total 2,674 EPs in the Project. As earlier mentioned, delays in payment were attributed to: a) inadequate documentary support of EPs for payment; b) affected assets ownership issues; and c) measurement errors correction in JVC inventories needing GRC concurrence. As a result of the delayed payments, the ROW has still many non-titled structures which prevents the Contractor to freely implement their construction works. Already the Contractor has been claiming time extension, additional cost and profit due to the presence of these “obstructions” to their work along the ROW. These delays need to be resolved soonest in order for non-CCL payments to be completed in priority sections to allow civil works to proceed.

#### 4. Common Property Resources

58. The Resettlement plan identified 3 Physical Cultural Resources (PCR) and 49 Common Property Resources (CPR) along the 72 km Project tract alignment. Based on information provided by the INGO, all the 3 PCRs including the Mazar Sharif at Sadar Rashulpur Station, the Hindu Temple at Rajapur Station and Kalibari Mondir at Gangasagar Station have been avoided.

59. The INGO has identified 15 CPRs in Section 1 including 6 on titled land. Another 15 CPRs have been identified affected in Section 3, where 13 are on BR land and 2 in private land. The identification of CPRs is still ongoing in Section 2. The list of the affected CPRs identified in Sections 1 and 3 is found in Table 12 below.

**Table 12: Relocation of Common Property Resources (CPR)**

Sl.No.	Name	Location (Mauza)	Fully affected requiring relocation	Partially affected, not to relocate physically
	<b>Section 1, Comilla</b>			
1	Ali Sahar Jame Mosque	Ali Shahar	Yes	-
2	Ali Sahar Graveyard	Ali Shahar	Yes	-
3	Poor Child Complex	Borol	No	No
4	Uttar Fatehpur Mosque	Uttar Fatehpur	Yes	-
5	Sayedpur Mosque	Sayedpur	Yes	-
6	CNG Drivers' Samity	Sayedpur	Yes	-
7	Bijoypur High School	Choto Durgapur	No	No
8	Pubic Toilet	Choto Durgapur	Yes	-
9	Doiara Jame Mosque	Doiara	Yes	-
10	Doiara Graveyard	Doiara	Yes	-
11	Depali Jobo Songho	Doiara	Yes	-

Sl.No.	Name	Location (Mauza)	Fully affected requiring relocation	Partially affected, not to relocate physically
12	Saktola Uttar Paccchim Para Madrasa	Saktola	Yes	-
13	Sweeper Colony Kali Mandir	Dharmapur	Yes	-
14	Jame Mosque-1	Doulatpur	Yes	-
15	Jame Mosque-2	Doulatpur	Yes	-
<b>Section 2, Comilla</b>				
	<i>To be identified (TBI)</i>		TBI	
<b>Section 3, Brahmanbaria</b>				
16	Akhaura Nirman Sramik Office	Radhanagar	Yes	-
17	Nur Madina Jame Mosque	Devgram	Yes	-
18	Panjery Club	Devgram	Yes	-
19	Devgram Mosque	Devgram	No	Yes
20	Basudevpur Mosque	Basudevpur	No	Yes
21	Basudevpur Graveyard	Basudevpur	No	Yes
22	Dourin Mosque	Dharmanagar	No	Yes
23	Mostafa Kamal Gate	Dharmanagar	Yes	-
24	Gonganagar Railway Mosque	Ganganagar	Yes	-
25	Imambari Mosque	Bhadsala	No	Yes
26	Qusba Railway Mosque	Kalikapur	Yes	-
27	Clubhouse of Bangladesh Nationalist Party	Kotna	Yes	-
28	Chandokhula Jame Mosque	Rghurampur	No	Yes
29	Uttor Chak bosta Mosque	Kollianpur	No	Yes
30	Gonganagar Jame Mosque	Jajisar	No	Yes

60. Full compensation for affected structures will be paid to the authorized representatives of the affected CPRs including transfer (for fully affected structures) and reconstruction cash assistance. Bangladesh Railway with the support of the INGO, is also facilitating the CPR authorities in finding alternative site and reconstruction of the CPR structures at alternative sites identified by the communities. It was learned that there are a few concerned communities requesting compensation equivalent to the cost of pucca (concrete) construction even if the affected structure is only made of tin (galvanized iron corrugated sheets). The Project Resettlement Policy only prescribes the replacement cost for affected structures which includes these CPR units.

61. Affected persons will experience the loss of livelihood sources mainly due to temporary disruption and the loss of shops/businesses, and income from rented structures and agricultural lands. The displaced households will experience loss of income due to the relocation of commercial structures. In addition, wage earners such as employees of shops and businesses and those working on the affected agricultural lands will also incur income losses. According to the preliminary JVC validation results, as of the end of January 2017, a total of 2,674 such households will experience direct and indirect impact on their income. The affected households have been verified by JVC.

## **5. Income and Livelihood Restoration Program (ILRP)**

62. The RP Implementing NGO has identified eligible persons from the vulnerable affected households to be covered under the Income and Livelihood Restoration Program (ILRP) following the JVC confirmation of the inventory of losses. It can be noted that only severely affected and vulnerable EPs are entitled to participate in the ILRP.

63. In addition to allowances for the loss of income from business or employment and vulnerable grant to the affected households, an Income and Livelihood Restoration Program (ILRP) will be implemented for the benefit of severely affected and vulnerable households (SAVH). There are so far 95 vulnerable households identified. One member of each vulnerable household as well as households losing more than 10% of existing land holding will be eligible to participate in the ILRP. Prior to ILRP, one member of all affected households will participate in a personal finance program organized by the RP implementing NGO. A separate NGO will be engaged by BR to conduct the needs assessment, design and implementation of the ILRP. The ILRP will have two main components, that include: a) employment assistance; and b) livelihood projects. The procurement process for the ILRP implementation contract is on-going, with BR PIU taking the lead in the selection of a suitable NGO contractor.

64. The first SMR raised the concern that the EP may not use their compensation and benefits in a sustainable way. While the personal finance program orientation may help guide the EPs to use their compensation, unless the ILRP can be implemented soon, whatever amounts received by the affected persons may be used up in non-productive or income generating endeavors. It is hoped that the selection process for the suitable ILRP contractor will conclude at the soonest possible time.

## **6. Participation in construction activities**

65. One of the components of the ILRP is employment assistance. The NGO hired to plan and implement the ILRP will assist the EPs eligible for the ILRP and interested in employment to find suitable job in the ALDLP and other possible endeavors. Following the resettlement plan's support for the preferential employment of interested and qualified vulnerable affected persons in civil works construction, the ILRP NGO will coordinate with the contractor and subcontractors on their labor requirements and qualification standards, and match the available positions to qualified and interested eligible EPs. The NGO will likewise assist the EPs to complete their application requirements including arrangements for skills training to enable the EPs to be qualified for the job opening of their interest, which may go beyond construction work. In providing employment to local affected persons, the contractors will not discriminate between men and women in terms of wages for similar type of work. The resettlement INGO is sharing this ILRP information to the affected persons during in their regular information campaign.

## **7. Progress in Relocation of APs**

66. The Resettlement Plan identified the households who need to physically relocate as either titled homestead/ business owners, informal settlers (squatters) on BR land and renters. Most of the affected structures are businesses in urban centers and some homesteads in rural areas. The titled households are receiving compensation under law from the Deputy Commissioners' offices. A good number of households (914) have already received their compensation for land (only for titled EPs) and structures. Notices have been issued to non-titled EPs informing them to vacate their occupied areas within 15 days of payment of their compensation. The 15 days moving time was requested by the non-title EPs themselves to BR. The actual payment schedules are relayed

to EPs at least a week beforehand. The final processing and handover of check payments to EPs are conducting in a public place with proper recording documentation to ensure the transparency of the process.

67. BR RU and INGO continues to focus on completing all necessary documentation to conduct the payment of non-CCL compensation and other benefits to non-title and title EPs. These steps included: a) the validation of JVC inventories in the field; b) the review of EP files and entitlement cards; c) finalizing the payment estimates and tools for check payment of replacement cost of affected structures and other benefits. For the non-title EPs, payments were for the replacement cost of structures and grants for shifting of the structures and reconstruction at alternative sites; assistance for vulnerable groups, including women-headed households. For TEPs, payments were so far for “top-up payments” covering the gap between the DC’s assessed value for affected land and structures and replacement cost. The External Monitors actively participated in the validation of JVC inventories and review of the EP files and compensation cards prior to actual payments; as well as witnessing the actual preparation of the check payments on-site and handing over of these checks to the non-title EPs.

68. **Affected “Sweeper” NEPs at Comilla Station.** Among the displaced NEPs are members of the “Sweeper” community that have established a colony within the Comilla Station. Of the 28 households residing in the colony, there are 10 affected sweeper households and one temple-tree that need to be relocated.<sup>9</sup> This resettlement impact resulted from a major revision of the Comilla Station design during the construction period. The design change entailed: a) the relocation of the Engineer’s office and accommodation into the northeastern portion of the station; b) the expansion of the 40 room dormitory also located the northeastern corner of the station, to incorporate the Engineer’s office and accommodation, and contractor’s main field office; and c) saving of the government elementary and high school where the Engineer’s office and accommodation was intended to be located. The 10 sweepers AND 1 CPR were impacted in order to give way to the construction of the expanded dormitory site to accommodate the new buildings. The big tree on which the CPR had been built will likewise need to be cut down. The revision of the Comilla station design had not been referred to ADB for their information.

69. Efforts were made by BR RU to find a suitable relocation site for the displaced NEPs, however, the host community of alternative sites had refused to accept the “Sweepers” since they have a different culture, religion, and way of life. In the end, BR RU decided to reclaim a portion of 2 ponds within the Comilla Station, one of which is just adjacent to the “Sweeper” colony, while the other is just nearby across the track. Eight displaced HH agreed to relocate to the site beside their colony, while the 2 others decided to go on the other site. The displaced EPs took about two months to rebuild their plain single story homes using new materials purchased from the compensation provided by BR RU. As of the reporting time, there were 7 residential structures in place, 5 are completed and two under construction. Eight of the displaced “Sweepers” who have already been paid compensation had dismantled their own structures prior to relocating. However two “Sweepers” EP have pending GRC cases. One had left their dilapidated house standing in place, even if he and brother have also built two houses in the relocation site. Another EP that had not been included in the original inventory had already dismantled his house, and moved on to another house. He was not identified as an EP prior to the modification of the Comilla Station. The temple had not yet been relocated since the “Sweeper” congregation that owns the temple, had not yet secured their bank account, to which the check payment will be deposited. Action on this bank account documentary requirement preparation is being assisted by the INGO Samahar.

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<sup>9</sup> The ADB mission in August 2017 visited the area and requested to modify the dormitory design to avoid the temple-tree. The temple-tree is therefore no longer affected.

At the time of writing of this report, the decision was not to relocate the temple tree, as the ADB mission who visited the site in August 2017 requested that the design of the dormitory to be revised to avoid impacting the temple.

**70. Illegal Structures Obstructing Work of Contractor.** The civil works contractor CTM had commenced its works last November 2016. However, BR in cooperation with the 2 Deputy Commissioners (Comilla and Brahmanbaria) had been unable to clear totally the ROW along the 72km long track. There are still many non-titled structures owned by informal settlers, encroachers and CPRs. In view of ADB's requirement not to start the relocation process or construction works before payments in a certain section, as outlined in the RP, the Contractor is encountering difficulty in carrying out its work and avoiding causing any damage to the non-titled structures still standing in the ROW. BR is still in the process of paying compensation and other benefits to non-titled EPs whose non-movable assets are still found standing along the ROW. The Contractor has already filed claims for time extension, additional cost and profit as a result of delays which they (Contractor) attributed to the presence of the non-titled structures along the ROW. The CSC is reviewing these claims from the Contractor. BR RU and the INGO Samahar is finding ways to expedite processing and payment of compensation that will lead to the removal of these non-titled structures along the track ROW.

**71. Grievance Redress Committees to address documentary issues affecting NEPs .** For EPs unable to receive compensation over affected properties due to conflicting ownership issues and major errors in the JVC inventories, efforts will be made to resolve these issues following the Project's Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM). The established Grievance Redress Committees (GRCs) have already convened and will continue to meet to resolve these issues to the satisfaction of all concerned parties. Else, unresolved cases will have to be elevated to the appropriate court of law. The INGO will be tasked to provide assistance to the EPs while the cases remain unresolved within the Project life. Should the cases still remain unresolved beyond the Project life, arrangements will have to be made by BR, for the EPs to get support until the case is resolved.

## **8. Consultation, Information Campaign and Participatory Process**

**72.** Consultation and disclosure of information on project resettlement policy, processes and roles of stakeholders have been an integral part of the project management through the Resettlement Unit within the PIU and involving the INGO. Representatives of the communities and affected persons have been nominated to participate in local committees like grievance redress committees (GRC) and property valuation advisory committees (PVAC). Consultation, information campaign and participation process have been pursued through open consultation meetings, focused group discussion, and personal contact. As per the guidelines of ADB and EIB, BR has disclosed the updated RP in a form of Information Brochure and Leaflet in Bangla language to the local stakeholders. The INGO field teams have distributed 5,475 leaflets, 4,170 Information Brochure and organized 96 AP consultation/Group discussion meetings as of 30 June 2017.

**73.** The INGO is continuing the processes of consultation and participation by involving the affected households and their communities. Thus, consultation will remain as an integral part of Project management and implementation.

**74.** The Resettlement Workers have been contacting the Affected Persons to inform them about the compensation and resettlement benefits. They are motivating and assisting the EPs to

furnish the documents i.e. rent receipt, nationality certificate, land registration documents etc. that are necessary to get approval to claim their respective CCL compensation.

75. Personal contact with the Affected Persons (APs), focus group discussion (FGD) & stakeholders meeting etc. have been carried out by the INGO to inform the affected persons regarding project impact, their entitlements, compensation payment procedure and grievance redress mechanism. Table 13 contains details of the status of the Information Campaign.

**Table 13: Status of Information Campaign**

<b>Actions</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Planned Total up to December 2019</b>	<b>Achieved as of 30 June 2017</b>
Distribution of Information Brochure	EP	8,000	4,170
Distribution of leaflets	No.	10000	5,475
Personal Contact	EP	10000	1,350
AP Consultation Meetings	Times	120	96
Publicity by loud speaker	Hours	400	125
News Paper notifications	Times	4	None

## **G. Grievance Redress Mechanism**

76. Fifteen Grievance Redress Committees (GRCs) have been formed at the Project and Union level. These include 14 GRCs for each of the Union exercising jurisdiction over the areas traversed by the 72-km railway track from Akhaura to Laksam. The GRCs were formed following the official directives from the Ministry of Railways (MoR) with effect from 3 March 2016. The GRC composition, scope and process of grievance resolution and timeline have been discussed in Table 7 above. It has been reported that about 176 cases were filed with the respective GRCs, and so far 20 have been resolved.

77. The most recurrent complaints were about the slow pace of compensation payment by the respective DCs for affected assets of titled EPs, unresolved affected assets ownership, and non-recognition of widows as heir of affected assets. BR and INGO are mandated to follow the Project Resettlement Policy and existing Bangladesh laws on property in resolving of these cases at the Project level. The INGO resettlement workers are providing assistance to nontitle holders to comply with the documentary requirements. BR-RU requested the convening of the concerned GRCs to resolve the above issues which had been discussed in Section 3.7 above. The decision of the respective GRCs is expected to follow once the documentary requirements are available to enable a number of non-title EPs to claim their check compensation.

78. It had been mentioned in the first Semi-Annual SMR that there were titleholders hat were not satisfied with the amounts for affected lands paid by the concerned DCs. These complaints are being addressed by the BR RU through the payment of “top-up payments” and other grants provided in the RP Entitlement Matrix. During the reporting period, about 45 TEPs were paid their “-up payments” for the affected land. From this total number (45 TEPs), 18, 18 and 9 are from Sections 1, 2 and 3, respectively. A total amount of BDT 7,770,177.7 were paid to 45 titleholders as “top-up payment”.

79. The INGO has developed a grievance petition format for the aggrieved persons producing grievances to the GRCs at Union and Project Level, as appropriate. The following table format will be used to report the status of complaint resolution and included in the second SMR.

**Table 14: Status of complaint resolution as of 30 June 2017**

Areas	No. of complaints received	No. of complaints settled	No. of cases recommended for payment	No. of cases rejected	No. of GRC sessions
Comilla	122	20	20	-	2
Brahmanbaria	54	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	176	20	20	-	2

## H. Issues and Recommendations

80. In the first Semi-Annual Report, a number of issues had been raised covering several areas from resettlement policy to management style of BR RU. This section seeks to review these issues, the actions that have so far been taken, and what still needs to be done. Table 15 contains the summary of the issues identified, a brief description, its status and recommendations.

**Table 15. Issues Raised in First and Second Semi-Annual Report, Current Status and Recommendation**

Issue	Brief Description	Status and Recommendations
Replacement cost of land	<p>Entitlement Matrix does not provide replacement cost of land since:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EPs bear the cost of documentary stamp and registration;</li> <li>• DC deducting income tax from compensation (computed at 2% and 1% the value of affected asset in urban and rural areas respectively).</li> </ul>	<p><b>STATUS:</b> Issue is still pending.</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDATION:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BR and ADB to consider amending the RP Entitlement Matrix to provide CCL EPs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Allowance to pay for documentary stamp and land registration;</li> <li>b. Allowance for the income tax reimbursement (2% and 1% the value of affected asset in urban and rural areas respectively) as is the practice in other projects.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• BR with support of INGO to prepare necessary documentary support, process and pay reimbursement of documentary stamp and income tax for land payments.</li> </ul>

Issue	Brief Description	Status and Recommendations
Inadequate assistance for Self relocating physically displaced vulnerable EPs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Self-relocation is the preferred relocation mode prescribed in the approved updated Resettlement Plan</li> <li>• Assistance is needed by displaced EPs to enable them to be properly relocated in suitable location especially the poor squatters and other vulnerable groups.</li> <li>• Absence of relocation support will adversely affect the lives and livelihood of displaced EPs especially the vulnerable groups.</li> </ul>	<p><b>STATUS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BR with INGO support is providing assistance to vulnerable displaced persons. The 11 displaced “sweepers” HH were provided a suitable relocation site adjacent to their present colony site within the Comilla Station;</li> <li>• INGO is tasked to among its other mandate, to assist the displaced EPs, most especially the vulnerable groups in finding suitable relocation sites.</li> </ul> <p><b>RECOMMENDATIONS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BR through the INGO to extend its assistance to other economically disadvantaged displaced households such as poor squatters in matters like:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. individual planning for identification of alternative permanent relocation site including rental accommodations or purchase of suitable land;</li> <li>b. mobilization of local community resources in-order to identify alternative relocation sites and develop a relocation plan for each displaced household;</li> </ol> </li> <li>• For the rest of displaced persons that are not economically disadvantaged or vulnerable, BR through the INGO will provide resettlement assistance upon request.</li> </ul>
Non-payment of compensation for trees planted by squatters in BR lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updated RP Entitlement matrix include payment of compensation to squatters for their affected trees planted within ROW.</li> <li>• BR has policy disallowing squatters from planting nor cutting trees in railway lands;</li> <li>• The Contract between BR and CTM (Civil works contractor) names the Contractor as the owner of trees found within the ROW with the exception of trees planted by the Forestry Department;</li> <li>• Trees claimed to have been planted by squatters are of small diameter, and have low to no commercial value, mostly useful as poles or for firewood.</li> </ul>	<p><b>STATUS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BR has agreed to pay compensation to squatters who claim to have planted some affected trees located within the Project ROW. INGO Samahar had been instructed to validate the affected trees claimed to have been planted by the squatters.</li> <li>• Not paying compensation for affected private trees on public land would result in non-compliance with the RP and the ADB’s Safeguards Policy Statement.</li> </ul>
Pending implementation of Income and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Poor squatter EPs lack adequate knowledge in managing their personal finances.</li> </ul>	<p><b>STATUS:</b></p>

Issue	Brief Description	Status and Recommendations
Livelihood Restoration Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If not provided with proper guidance, their compensation and other benefits may be unwisely spent and be gone in a short time. Displaced EPs may then be in a worst condition as compared to their pre-Project socio-economic condition.</li> <li>A comprehensive income and livelihood program need to be in place prior to displacement of EPs, especially the economically severely affected and vulnerable groups.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lectures in personal finance management were reported to have been provided by INGO;</li> <li>The procurement process for the selection of a suitable NGO for planning and implementation of Income and Livelihood Restoration Program (ILRP) is on-going. A winning bidder is expected to be mobilized in September 2017.</li> </ul> <p><b>RECOMMENDATIONS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>INGO to keep track of the self-relocation site of displaced EPs especially those who have not yet been paid and those eligible for Income and Livelihood Restoration Program (ILRP) so that it will be easier to gather them for compensation payment and/or to participate in the ILRP.</li> <li>INGO to closely coordinate with the LIRP NGO to minimize delay due to non-familiarity with site conditions and address of displaced EPs.</li> </ul>
Disclosure of Compensation Rates for land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CCL EPs complaining on compensation rates provided by Deputy Commissioners.</li> <li>PVAC had reviewed the current market prices for land, and had determined the rates to be used for providing supplemental compensation to TEPs.</li> <li>However, CCL EPs not aware of ultimate price of land to be given by BR.</li> <li>BR RU and CSC had validated TEPs, their affected lands and socio-economic condition.</li> </ul>	<p><b>STATUS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BR through INGO had been disclosing information to EPs on their entitlements.</li> <li>Processing and delivery of top-up payment on-going. 45 TEPs have so far received payment. Payment for other TEPs grants as defined in the Entitlement Matrix is forthcoming.</li> </ul> <p><b>RECOMMENDATIONS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BR through INGO to inform CCL EPs of the final rates of cash compensation for acquired private lands, as well as other grants due to them;</li> </ul>
Land Ownership Claims over BR lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BR lands within ROW also claimed by some EPs</li> <li>Consultation meetings were held to resolve the ownership issue with the participation of Deputy Commissioner's land acquisition office.</li> <li>BR RU willing to pay compensation for lost land if it can be proven that claimants indeed own the contested plots of lands within the ROW.</li> </ul>	<p><b>STATUS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BR had been reviewing ownership claims over its railway lands.</li> <li>BR RU had been coordinating closely with the concerned Deputy Commissioners Office to resolve the ownership issue. The DC office will be responsible to acquire the lands if these are proven to be privately-owned.</li> <li>BR had uploaded additional funds to the concerned DC office to cover the cost of land acquisition work.</li> </ul> <p><b>RECOMMENDATIONS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BR to continue its review of land ownership claims made by private individuals, in-order to resolve such issues which may delay project implementation.</li> </ul>

Issue	Brief Description	Status and Recommendations
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BR to continue to coordinate with the DC Offices in order to fast track the land acquisition process</li> </ul>
Reburial of Affected Graves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Affected graves need to be relocated in a culturally and religiously acceptable manner.</li> <li>Appropriate guidance is needed by INGO for carrying out such relocation work.</li> </ul>	<p><b>STATUS:</b> No relocation has yet been done for affected graves;</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDATIONS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Need to consult appropriate religious and local authorities for guidance in the acceptable manner and cost of such relocation.</li> <li>Adequate funds be made available for relocation of graves following recommended method by concerned religious and local authorities.</li> </ul>
INGO Work Programs and Progress Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>INGO needs to prepare monthly and bi-annual work programs for approval of BR-RU prior to implementation.</li> <li>Approved work programs to be the basis for monitoring of INGO resettlement work by external monitor as per ADB requirements</li> <li>INGO Monthly progress reports should be concise in order that the work progress and problems can be understood and appropriate action taken.</li> <li>INGO reports are to be submitted following agreed deadlines;</li> <li>CSC Corrective action plan on RP implementation recommended in their Monthly Progress Report to be reviewed, reconciled with INGO work programs and agreed with BR-RU for implementation.</li> </ul>	<p><b>STATUS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>INGO had been instructed by BR-RU to improve their performance following the recommendations made in the first and second semi-annual report.</li> </ul> <p><b>RECOMMENDATIONS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The performance of the INGO to comply with the recommendations will be reviewed by the end of the third quarter. Appropriate action will be undertaken by BR-RU in the event the performance of the INGO does not improve.</li> <li>Workshop to be organized by CSC resettlement team to review INGO operations and develop workable measures on how to streamline and improve their (INGO) operations.</li> <li>CSC resettlement team to provide guidance to INGO in the preparation of regular resettlement progress reports.</li> </ul>

81. There similarly are a number of resettlement-related Issues that were not covered in the first Semi-Annual Report that need to be highlighted for resolution. These issues are basically operational in nature and can be resolved within the BR RU. **Table 16** contains the other outstanding issues, their status and recommendations.

**Table 16: Other Outstanding Issues, their Status and Recommendations**

Issue	Brief Description	Status and recommendations
Delayed payment of grants and other benefits due to CCL EPs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Titled EPs are paid Cash Compensation under the Law (CCL) by concerned DCs (Comilla and Bramanbaria) for loss of affected private land within the ROW, and non-movable assets on affected lands</li> <li>In addition to CCL payments, titled EPs are also entitled to</li> </ul>	<p><b>STATUS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BR RU and CSC completed the validation of TEPs and their affected land and socio-economic condition, which is the basis for payment of “top-uppayment” and other grants.</li> <li>BR RU with the support INGO had started paying TEPs (45 HH) for “top of</li> </ul>

Issue	Brief Description	Status and recommendations
	<p>grants and other benefits that are listed in the RPs' Entitlement Matrix.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The priority of BR RU and INGO's compensation payments are for non-CCL EPs.</li> <li>• There is a need for BR RU and INGO to also process and pay CCL EPs their benefits in conformity with the approved updated RPs.</li> </ul>	<p>payment". Payment of other TEPs will follow in the next reporting period.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TEPs will also receive other grants defined in the RP Entitlement Matrix</li> </ul> <p><b>RECOMMENDATIONS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BR RU with INGO support, to continue their efforts in paying TEPs their Non-CCL compensation and grants.</li> </ul> <p>82.</p>
Delayed relocation of Common Property Resources (CPR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The updated RP has identified 3 Physical Cultural Resources (PCR) and 49 Common Property Resources (CPR) along the Project rail alignment.</li> <li>• INGO has verified so far 26 CPRs (15 and 15 in Sections 1 and 3) that may be affected and will need relocation.</li> <li>• INGO claims none of the PCR will be affected.</li> <li>• There are CPRs in formerly private lands (already handed-over to BR) whose owners have been paid by concerned DCs. However, the relocation status of these structures is not covered in INGO reports.</li> <li>• Some EPs request valuation for CPRs such as mosque be equivalent to pucca structures even if these are tin sheds.</li> </ul>	<p><b>STATUS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BR RU with INGO support had started to pay the owners of mosques (3 in Section 1),</li> <li>• Processing and actual payment for other Mosques are forthcoming</li> </ul> <p><b>RECOMMENDATIONS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BR RU and INGO to continue their efforts to compensate the owners of the affected mosques, and find suitable relocation sites for those that will be totally displaced</li> </ul>
Delayed JVC validation of Inventories for Project affected structures, commercial renters and displaced employees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JVC validation for structures in Section 1, 2 and 3 completed.</li> <li>• No validation of INGO inventory of affected commercial renters of BR and private lands; as well as their displaced employees</li> <li>• Unless JVC validation is completed, processing of compensation to EPs cannot proceed.</li> </ul>	<p><b>STATUS:</b> JVC validation of affected structures in Section 2 was completed in January 2017. No JVC validation for affected commercial renters of BR and private lands; and their displaced employees.</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDATIONS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JVC to fast track the validation of affected commercial renters of BR and private lands.</li> <li>• CSC resettlement team to join the validation work</li> </ul>
Grievance Redress Committee action on EPs documentation issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Among the issues preventing payment of compensation to Non-title EPs is: a) inadequate documentary support; b) affected assets ownership issues; and confirmation on correction of errors in JVC verified inventories.</li> <li>• GRC needs to review requests made by EPs for confirmation on</li> </ul>	<p><b>STATUS:</b> Two (2) GRC meetings were held, resulting in the resolution of 20 out of 176 cases.</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDATIONS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BR RU to continue to initiate the holding of GRC meetings to resolve the pending issues.</li> </ul>

Issue	Brief Description	Status and recommendations
	<p>documents that will complete their requirements and thus allow payment of compensation and other benefits.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GRC also needs to concur on the corrections to JVC validated inventories to allow processing of payments.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>INGO to assist EPs with outstanding issues to bring their concerns to their respective GRC for early resolution.</li> <li>INGO to promptly advise BR RU of pending cases at GRC that have already been resolved, and provide assistance in processing compensation payment of concerned EPs.</li> </ul>
Relocation of Engineer's Site Office resulting in displacement of 11 "Sweeper" EPs in Comilla Station.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The original detailed design of the Comilla Station had been revised but the change had not been reported to ADB.</li> <li>It was envisioned that the Comilla Station will be converted into a Commercial Hub in Comilla City in addition to its role as train station. However up to the reporting time, no such master plan had been prepared.</li> <li>The revision entails: a) relocation of the Engineer's site office to the northeastern portion of the station; b) expansion of the lot area to be occupied by the 40 room dormitory from less than 200 m<sup>2</sup> to about 3,728 m<sup>2</sup> to accommodate the Engineer's office, Engineer's accommodation, Contractor's main office and parking lot;</li> <li>The expansion of the 40 room dormitory resulted in the displacement of the 10 Sweeper EPs and 1 temple;</li> <li>The transfer of the Engineer's site office also avoided the resettlement impact on a combined elementary-high school, the Additional Signal Master Office and Accommodation.</li> </ul>	<p><b>STATUS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Of the 11 "Sweeper" EPs, 8 have been paid, 2 have cases to still be resolved by the concerned GRC; and 1 temple (CPR) whose congregation needs the opening of a bank account for compensation to be paid by BR to the owners.</li> <li>Relocation site within Comilla Station had been established, displaced Sweepers have built new houses, affected structures have been dismantled by EPs except 1 who's owner had not yet been paid pending GRC resolution.</li> <li>The modification of the Comilla Station and Construction of the relocated Engineer's site office, accommodation, and Contractor's site office had commenced without ADB's prior knowledge.</li> </ul> <p><b>RECOMMENDATIONS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BR PIU to instruct the Contractor to prepare a master plan for the Comilla station following the recommended theme by ADB which is a commercial hub.</li> <li>All improvements in the Comilla station be made consistent with the approved master plan;</li> <li>A Due Diligence Report need to be prepared for the displacement of the Sweeper EPs as a result of the design modification.</li> </ul>

## V. IMPLEMENTATION OF OTHER SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

### A. Implementation of Gender Action Plan

83. Gender Action Plan (GAP) is implemented by Bangladesh Railway, civil works contractors, CSC and INGO. The CSC has a social team of 5 members led by the International Social, Resettlement and Gender Specialist. The team is currently composed of 4 members one of which is a female (Ms. Nadia Khuku – Junior Resettlement Specialist). The Contractor has environmental safety managers to oversee gender inclusive construction of station buildings and associated facilities and a Gender Specialist is attached to the INGO for gender mainstreaming in resettlement process. BR has designated its Deputy Director (Resettlement) as its Gender focal

person responsible to among others, oversee and ensure gender inclusive civil works and resettlement management. Within the RU organization, the Assistant Engineer (concurrently responsible for the ALDLP Environmental concerns) is also a female. Three members of the INGO are Women in Development Specialist, Social Development Specialist and Personal Finance Trainer respectively..

84. As of the end of June 2017, the GAP continues to be implemented. The CSC has requested the Contractor to submit their labor policy that includes their conformity to the Gender Action Plan (GAP), policy with regards to the hiring of women; and position, rates and number (if any) allocated to women. Inquiry was also made on facilities to be installed in the office, workers camps and work areas with gender consideration. The response to these gender-friendly inquiries is still being awaited from the Contractor.

85. The CSC social team will review the first railway station developed under the project at the operational stage to see the effectiveness on gender compliance. Similarly, a survey will also be conducted by the CSC social team on the acceptability of gender facilities installed at the first train station to be constructed. The survey results will be provided to BR as guide for designers of future railway stations.

86. Shortly after the commencement of the construction contract, the HIV/AIDS Prevention subcontractor was likewise mobilized. The NGO UDOY with experience in such field at a similar railway upgrading project, was selected to implement the program. Details of this activity can be found in the next section.

87. During the first quarter of 2017, a meeting was held at the Bank's Bangladesh Resident Mission in Dhaka, primarily to discuss the reporting requirements by ADB on GAP implementation. Present during the meeting were ADB Gender Specialist team, CSC International Social/Resettlement/Gender specialist and Junior Resettlement/Gender specialist. The meeting covers the progress in ALDLP GAP implementation and reporting format and frequency of submissions. Following the BRM meeting, the ALDLP had been regularly submitting Quarterly GAP implementation progress reports utilizing the agreed format.

## **B. Implementation of HIV/AIDS and anti-human trafficking awareness training activities.**

88. As earlier mentioned, the subcontractor for implementing the HIV/AIDS prevention program had been mobilized shortly after the commencement of the works by the main contractor CTM. The NGO "UDYOY" had been selected by the CSC as the most responsive organization from among others proposed by the main Contractor. NGO UDOY has organized a team lead by medical doctor as team leader which has vast experience in HIV/AIDS prevention work in the country, and supported by health and social workers. Two of the team's staff are women who also serve as its social survey enumerators.

89. Following the submission and subsequent approval of their work program, the UDOY team proceeded to conduct a social survey on HIV/AIDS awareness among local communities around the Project train stations and major work areas. By the end of June 2017, the team had: a) completed the baseline HIV/AIDS awareness survey involving 901 respondents, of which 405 (54%) are women; b) held 15 HIV/AIDS prevention orientations that were attended by 481 Project construction workers; c) conducted health clinics right after each HIV/AIDS prevention orientations.

### **C. Compliance with Core Labor Standards**

90. Core labor standards observed in Bangladesh are resolutions from seven fundamental conventions of ILO (Convention Nos. 29, 87, 98, 100, 105, 111, 182) ratified by the Government of Bangladesh covering forced labor, abolition of forced labor, freedom of association and collective bargaining, equal remuneration, discrimination, and worst form of child labor. Bangladesh also ratified the labor inspection convention (governance convention no. 81), working hour (technical conventions no. 1) and many others. The contractor is expected to follow the ILO labor standards at work places.

91. The contractor has officially commenced work in 1 November 2016 after receipt of the Notice to Proceed from the Employer. Significant work had actually materialized by the start of January 2017. This reporting period had witnessed significant construction activities starting from the two 10km ends of the track, along with priority areas along the track, where temporary Construction facilities were installed. These facilities included: field offices, stock yard, fabrication yards, temporary storage areas, worker's accommodations, garage/motor pool, etc. Despite the significant construction activity, no senior nor technical personnel hired to work on site is a woman.

## **VI. REFERENCES**

1. Ministry of Railways, Bangladesh Railway; Draft Akhaura-Laksam Double Line Project (ALDLP) First Semi-Annual Social Monitoring Report (January – June 2016);
2. Ministry of Railways, Bangladesh Railway; Draft Akhaura-Laksam Double Line Project (ALDLP) Second Semi-Annual Social Monitoring Report (July - December 2016);
3. Ministry of Railways, Bangladesh Railway; Monthly Progress Report for the Implementation of Resettlement Plan, June 2017; Samahar;
4. Ministry of Railways, Bangladesh Railway; Draft Monthly Progress Report for the Implementation of Resettlement Plan, May 2017; Samahar;
5. Ministry of Railways, Bangladesh Railway; Akhaura-Laksam Double Line Project (ALDLP), Updated Resettlement Plan, June 2015.

**APPENDIX 1: PHOTOGRAPHS**

Plate 1. Project Director Hoque (left) and CE Q. Asam (center) are given an on-site briefing on the progress of the construction works in Comilla station by Contractor Officials.



Plate 2. Assistant Engineer (Environment) Tanya Mustafa (left) hands over the compensation payment to a poor EPs, while DD (Resettlement) Rahman (center) and CSC Resident Social/Resettlement/Gender Specialist (2nd from left) looks on.



Plate 3. NGO UDOY HIV/AIDS Awareness survey team (right and left), interviewing an elderly man (center) in a neighborhood adjacent to the Comilla station.



Plate 4. CSC Junior Resettlement Specialist Ashiek M. (lower left) reviews EP documents prior to releasing check; while CSC Nahdia Khuku (resettlement & Gender Specialist) other INGO staff and EPs watch



Plate 5. CSC Junior Resettlement Specialist Ashiek Mahmoud inspecting a semi-pucca building (between km 142+00 to km155+200) that will be affected by the Project implementation.



Plate 6. DTL Abdullah (center) chairs the Weekly Meeting when the Project Gender Action Plan (GAP) was presented by CSC Resident Social/Resettlement/Gender Specialist



Plate 7. INGO Samahar Team Leader Chowhury (center), local government representative (left) hands over the check payment to an Non-title. DD A. Rahman (2nd from right) and BR RU staff (3rd from right) looks on.



Plate 8. DD Anisur (center), AD Tania (right), and representatives from Deputy Commissioner's Office Dhaka (left and background) inspecting a tin shed illegally built at the BR Iconic Building site in Dhaka City.



Plate 9. Representative of an affected Mosque (center) receives the check payment. Giving the check were BR representatives led by DD Anisur (3rd from right) as well as INGO Samahar TL (right).



Plate 10. ACE Saidur (right) hands over a check payment to an affected "Sweeper" female head of household, while DD Anisur (left) and INGO Samahar Team Leader (2<sup>nd</sup> from left) looks on.



Plate 11. NOG UDOY HIV/AIDS Prevention OIC Coordinator Hatashe delivers a lecture to Project Construction Safety Engineers and Workers on prevention on the spread of the disease



Plate 12. ACE Saidur (right), DD Anisur (center) and CSC TL Lee (left) inspects the proposed canal relocation site near Lalmai station.



Plate 13. CSC Junior Resettlement Specialist Ashiek Mahmoud (2nd from right) interviews Mr. Rahman (2nd from left), the owner of the lot that DC Comilla failed to acquire. CTM engineers look on.



Plate 14. CSC Junior Resettlement Specialist Bidhan (right) interviews an EPs at Bridge #262



## APPENDIX 2: HIGHLIGHTS OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION MEETINGS

### HIGHLIGHTS OF MEETINGS CONDUCTED

Day	Persons Met	Activity/Issues	Remarks
7 June 2017	20 Entitled Persons from Bagmara Market, Mouza Asshatola, Comilla District. Section 1	Focus Group Discussion on the schedule for self relocation by Displaced EPs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FGD was conducted by INGO Area Manager (Comilla) and CSC Nadia Khuku (Junior Resettlement and Gender Specialist)</li> <li>EPs which are mostly owners of market structures, commercial renters and store employees;</li> <li>TEPs and NEPs have already been paid compensation by DC Comilla (private properties) and BR RU with support of INGO Samahar;</li> <li>EPs have not vacated the site since they are still earning income from market sales.</li> <li>EPs inquired when their compensation for loss income will be paid. INGO representative said that this will be given as soon as the Livelihood and Income Restoration Program is on-board; so they can use the amount as capital for new business;</li> <li>Only severely affected and vulnerable groups are however eligible for the LIRP benefits.</li> <li>TEPs were concerned that once they dismantle their structures and leave the area, BR may no longer pay their "top of payment".</li> <li>CSC and INGO representatives that attended the FGD informed the TEPs that they will receive their "top of payment" and will just need to be patient since BR is committed to pay this amount.</li> <li>TEPs and NEPs committed to dismantle and vacate the ROW when BR is ready to commence construction in the area.</li> </ul>
15 June 2017	15 Entitled Persons and 1 local government representative from Mouza Sasongacha, Comilla District, Section 1	Focus Group Discussion of the schedule for self relocation by Displaced EPs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FGD was conducted by CSC Nadia Khuku (Junior Resettlement and Gender Specialist) and INGO Resettlement Worker (Comilla Office)</li> <li>EPs are mostly landowners who had encroached into BR lands (East and West side of track) and installed non-titled structures (i.e. garden, kitchen, toilets, rooms for rent, store, etc.); there are a few poor informal settlers that also installed tin sheds along the ROW.</li> <li>About 41 NEPs located at the Eastern side of the track have been paid compensation. No payment done in the Western side of the track.</li> </ul>

Day	Persons Met	Activity/Issues	Remarks
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only 15 out of the 41 EPs already paid compensation attended the meeting.</li> <li>• Most NEPs agreed to vacate the place right after the Eid Holiday.</li> <li>• There were however, some EPs that had demolished their non-titled structures even before the committed date.</li> <li>• There is 1 affected mosque (Common Property Resource) within the ROW, near the intersection of the track and the Dhaka-Chitangong By-Pass road. Necessary documentation needed for payment is not yet complete. Will require further assistance from INGO to complete requirements, then processing and payment will follow.</li> </ul>