

Lalbanu: Sheltering Neighbours during Floods

Participant Profile	
Name	Lalbanu
Age	33
Date of Joining CLP	May 2012
District	Kurigram
Village	Ghughumari char
Marital Staus	Married
Implementing Organisation	RSDA



Lalbanu lives in Kurigram, a district often affected by floods. As part of the CLP support, Lalbanu’s homestead was raised on a plinth 60 cm above the highest known flood level. This plinth is currently protecting her family and her neighbours.

“As we are living in a river, it is important our house is raised on a plinth. This allows us to survive”

Before the CLP, Lalbanu and her family were severely affected by floods. Her house has been destroyed four times and they have had to temporarily move in search of shelter. Lalbanu says this always caused much suffering. During the last flood, before joining the CLP, her house was submerged. They decided to remain in their house and raised their bed above the flood level. They lost clothes, kitchen utensils and chickens. They were forced to live in very precarious conditions with no food and no water. They could not bathe and didn’t even have access to a latrine.

“Now we are in a good position. Other people can come and stay on our plinth”

Lalbanu’s home has now been raised on a plinth. This is the first year her family is remaining safe and dry during the flood season. Even though they are surrounded by water, she feels comfortable. Her plinth is even providing shelter to surrounding non CLP participants. Eight families have sought refuge on Lalbanu’s plinth. She is happy to help her neighbours.

