

# IMPACT SERIES-04



Executive Director of National Development Programme (NDP) Md. Alauddin Khan with NDP Chairperson Aleya Akhtar Banu is receiving the 14th Citi Microentrepreneurship Award 2018 from Md. Abdur Razzak (Agriculture Minister of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh)

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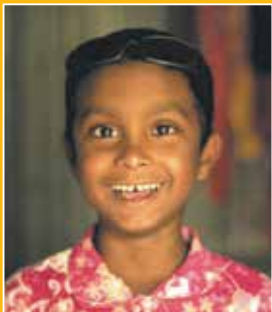
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**NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (NDP)**

*Dedicated towards improving livelihoods of the poor people*



## Now Munna can see the beautiful world

7 years old Munna Sheikh had been suffering eye problem shortly after birth. But his parents did not understand it in the very beginning. He could not see anything. When they realized it, they were very broken. Then they went to physician. The physician suggested them for immediate operation. The doctor told them, Munna's eye lens is damaging day by day. So they should not be late. This operation needs at least 65 thousand taka. But they had not enough money.

Munna's parents walk to the door to door to collect money but didn't get enough. They felt helpless themselves.

Munna lived in a village of Kutipara in Bagbari at Kamarkhanda upazila under Sirajganj district. His father Md. Anoar Hossain is a day labor. He has no land. One day Munna's father received a free eye treatment campaign at the NDP headquarter in 2019. He came to that campaign with his son Munna. The ophthalmologist advises for quick operation of his son. And the doctor said he had major problems with one eye lens and other eye is in minor problem. NDP's Health Services Programme supports finance and manages Munna's eye operation from Professor M. A. Matin BNSB eye hospital in Sirajganj. After a successful operation in one of his eyes he started to look better in that eye. The doctor immediately suggested another eye operation.

Munna is now happy like other children. He plays with his friends and studies in home regularly. He is now preparing himself for school.







## Priti Rani has made an ENRICH house

At the age of fifteen Priti Rani married to Shyamol Chandro Shil. At this time she did not understand well about marital life. She was married in a very poor house. Her husband worked in a hair dressing shop. So it becomes difficult for her husband to bear the expenses of the family with four children. Her husband and Priti Rani became worried. From then Priti Rani tried hard to get success. She fell again and again because she had not enough money. One day in 2014, Priti Rani expressed her desire to tell stories to her neighbors. One of them reports about the ENRICH program. Then she became a member of the ENRICH program. After knowing about the program she become motivated.

Once Priti Rani expressed her desire to buy a cow. But she had only 20 thousand taka. She could not buy a cow with that amount. Then she went to ENRICH program and received fifteen thousand taka loan. She bought a cow by 32 thousand taka. She received different types of trainings like cattle management, duck and chicken rearing, vegetable cultivation etc. After becoming member of ENRICH program she got 5 thousand taka as grant for seasonal vegetable cultivation.

She started her business with cattle and vegetables cultivation. She did not had to look back. She gained success. Now she has 2 cows, 48 pigeons, 29 chickens and a vegetable garden. She earns daily from her vegetable garden and meets their family demand. At present, after meeting their demand and deducting all cost she saves 7 thousand taka per month.

Again Priti Rani receives training on ENRICH house. She follows everything and made an ideal house. Her house looks like a garden. Many people are motivated to see her success and trying to make a dream house. Priti Rani is now a happy family. Her eldest son studies at BSc in Dhaka and second son attends higher secondary school.





## Monirul is now self dependent

A young man Md. Monirul Islam is differently able. He is 24 years old. He lives in Naggati village of Belkuchi upazila under Sirajganj district with his father and mother as well as three siblings. He is the eldest among his siblings. His father is a day labor and mother is a housewife.

When Monirul was five months he wound on both legs. He took treatment from a rural doctor. He suggested various medicines and push injection. Monirul became very sick. From then he cannot move his legs. His parents admitted him Sheikh Fozilatunnesa Mujib General Hospital for better treatment. Doctor consults with Monirul's parents and can know the details of his treatment. The doctor said that treatment was totally wrong.

In 2009, Disability and Development Project staff of the NDP went to Monirul's house. He talked with him and his parents. The project initially managed a disability allowance card with the coordination of the Belkuchi upazila Social Welfare Department. Then the project talked with his family and donated a wheel chair for moving. In 2010, the project arranged a job in near shop for Monirul. After 6 months Monirul wish to open a shop by himself. The project came ahead to help him and give 50,000 taka loan without any interest. He gets success. Now he earns 10,000 taka per months and every month he gives 5,000 taka to his family. He wants to expand his business. His family and relatives as well as his neighbor love him very much.





## Vegetable cultivation in three levels is becoming popular



Monija Begum (35) is a successful farmer of Jhaoil village of Kamarkhanda upazila under Sirajganj district. She is a hard worker and always receives new technology. Besides, as a member of Hasna Hena Women Somity of NDP she gets updated agriculture technology information from NDP's agriculture programme. One day in a meeting of the somity she knows about three levels vegetables cultivation method. In 2017 she got training on it from Agriculture Programme. Before training she did not believe it. Some days later agriculture programme gave her seeds, fertilizer, labor cost for layer prepare and some other costs as grant for cultivating vegetables to follow this method in 2019. First she selects a abandoned place of her home. By the motivation of the agriculture programme she cultivates vegetables of three layers in 1.5 decimals of land. In first level she sows peanuts, radish, couch, red herbs, eggplant, tomato and second level she sows local bean, fade, jhinga etc. In third level she sows hybrid green gourd. She spends a total amount 3,100 taka including all seeds, labor and other raw materials for preparing shed. After 1 month she starts gain from her vegetables garden and gets huge success in within a short time. Now she earns 4/5 thousand taka per month. Seeing her success, neighbors are cultivating vegetables in this manner. Seeing her success neighbors are cultivating vegetables following this method. At present, vegetable is being cultivated in the surrounding villages including Jhaoil village.





### **Abdur Rashid is a Successful Entrepreneur**

Abdur Rashid Molla is the son of the deceased Ayub Ali. He is the third child of his family but older among boys. He took over all the responsibilities of that 8 member's family. They have only 16 decimals of homestead. He learned very little from the school. So, there was no way of earnings him without selling labor. In this way he would bear all the expenses of his family. But it was very difficult to afford all the expenses of his family. In the meantime he married off his two sisters. After marrying the two sisters' he decide to get married. Within six years of marriage he becomes the father of six children. Again he was in financial trouble. One day his wife Ajeda Begum went to Somity (Cooperative) of NDP for learning about income generating activities and motivated by respective officer's facilitation. Initially he admitted as a member of the somity and took loan BDT 5,000 taka and purchased some fishing nets from nearby hats. He used to go around the countryside selling these nets. He earned a little profit. He repaid the money and borrowed 10,000 taka. He was continuing his business. In 2015 he took training on fishing net making. After receiving training he made fishing nets by his family members. Day by day his business expanded. Again he took loan. Same way he took 7 times loan. Finally he has taken out a loan of taka 1,20,000. Now he is a successful entrepreneur. 15 women workers are working in this business. Besides, his wife and older son also work here. He married off his four daughters well. Now he earns at least thirty thousand taka a month. He wants to be a bigger entrepreneur. Many have now started working as small entrepreneurs under his watch.





## Aklima leads a happy life

Aklima Khatun, a resident of Sarkarpara village of Kaliaboripur union in Sadar upazila of Sirajganj district. 31 years Aklima is a mother of 3 boy. She was very happy with her husband Mintu (36) for first 2 years. But her husband after being follower of a Pir did not make any inquiries of Aklima. On the other hand Aklima often harassed by her father in law's family members. On 10th January 2018, Mintu fiercely beat her with little excuse for family matters. She went to her parent's house. Aklima was aware of the activities of the Sufia Kamal Women's Torture Prevention Team of the NDP's Combating Gender Based Violence (CGBV) Project. She never opened mouth about her husband's torture before. But this time she raised an allegation against her husband and informed to the leader of Sufia Kamal Women's Torture Prevention Team. Then Aklima presented her tortured story among the members' of the team and project staffs. According to the decision, the members of the women's group met with the guardians of both sides and talked about the consequences of domestic violence.

Considering the importance of the complaint, women's team called a meeting with the combination of project staff, union parishad member, 13 members of the women's team, president of male team and his other members, local elite, victim Aklima and Mintu. The guardians and witnesses of both parties, including Aklima and Mintu presented their statements in the arbitration. At one point in Salish Mintu became angry and said "I am a male and my wife has bound to follow my commands". Otherwise she can do other thing. After Mintu's speech, members of the women's group, including the leader of the women's group, highlighted the consequences of domestic violence, its impact on families and children and the Prevention and Protection of Family Violence Act-20, Legal Aid Services. Then Mintu realized his mistakes.

Aklima was deprived of the rights of the wife and her children's paternal rights, but today, the NDP's Combating Gender Based Violence (CGBV) Project has established the rights of her family. In addition, Aklima has been independent on receiving sewing training through the project. Due to his dependence, his dignity has increased in the world. Aklima said many women who suffer like her will regain their rights in the world and will be encouraged to become independence on them by implementing the project. She is currently happy with her family.



## **Al Mahmud has changed his destiny by working hard**

Al Mahmud Lalon is a man of Khakchara village of Chakla union of Bera upazila under Pabna district. He grew up in a poor family. Due to financial problems, the study could not go far. But as the eldest son of the family, he has to take all the responsibilities. He goes to Dhaka to find a way to earn. At first he works as a servant in a shop. But there he cannot do well. He comes back to home.

He is about to do business. But he had not enough money to do business. Still he started a business van repairing with a little capital. He fails again. He decides to set up a business with a loan from the Chakla Credit Support Programme of NDP. He gets loan 20 thousand taka. This time his business started running well. Gradually he began to grow his business. Currently he owns 8 vans and operates all the rentals. Besides, he has a van service center. His monthly average income is 25 thousand taka. He has created employment of 8 people. At present he owns 7 lac taka assets. Now he is a successful businessman although he had little education. But he wants to educate his children.







## Local service provider Sohel's fate returns to rural animal treatment

There are six members of Md. Sohel Rana's family including parents. He is from Kansona village of Ullapara upazila of Sirajganj district is a successful rural veterinary

service provider. Once he was abroad. Being abroad for a few years, he could not figure out what to do after return. He has a few cows in his house. In 2016, One day he participated in a training on Value Chain Project implemented by NDP in collaboration with PKSF under the PACE project. He noticed there was no good animal service provider in the area. Then he showed his wishes with field facilitator of the Value Chain Project. He was then trained for one month through veterinary service through the district livestock department assisted by the project.

Since then he has been providing veterinary service in the area covered by the value chain project. Gradually his reputation spreads all around due to good treatment with low cost. He always keeps in touch with the Upazila Livestock Department. His business is expanding day by day. Now he is a successful businessman. Currently he owns a veterinary drugstore. He also has bought a motorcycle. He provides his veterinary service nearby villages. At present he earns 50 thousand taka a month. Now he wants to build a large dairy farm so that there are eight to ten people employed. Throughout this career, he wants to contribute to the socio-economic development by spreading new technologies of livestock farming among the people. Most recently he has involved in artificial breeding. Many youths in the area now follow Sohel Rana to make way for their income. Already three small business started seeing his success.





## Mukta Khatun on the path of self-reliance

Mst. Mukta khatun (30) lives in Shimla Purbopara village of Raiganj Upazila of Sirajganj district. Her father worked in the police department. She is younger of her two sisters. She is the child of a fairly middle-class family. At the age of the fourteen, she was married to the same village in a joint family. She was then in the class eight. But from the childhood her dream was to be highly educated as well as to participate in social activities. Her husband only knows how to read and write. On the other hand Mukta loved to play, dance and sing. But her husband is not culturally minded.

Mukta is currently the mother of three children. Among them two are girls and a boy. Her older daughter studies in class eight and younger daughter studies in nursery. It becomes difficult for her husband to bear the expenses of the family. Mukta gets worried and does not know the fate of this child like her. That way, their studies cannot be stopped. She become a member of the EES project implemented by the NDP. Becoming a member of EES project she received

training on gender, nutrition and improved animal management towards the beginning of 2019. She also got support vegetable seeds, fodder seeds and 4,500 taka as a pass-on gift from the project.

Mukta khatun starts homestead gardening according to Goispur Model by the technical assistance of project staff. Then she planted 70 papaya sapling and 13 lemon sapling. Inspiration of the training she also cultivates hydroponic fodder in rainy session without any support of the project. She purchases 70 ducks by pass-on gift money. She gets busy with her farming. The vegetables produced from her garden are consumed by family members and some distributed free to her team members. Still, she sells a thousand taka vegetables in the first step. She gives some money to her husband as a cost to the family. Her husband is very happy.

A few days later, she heard the news about the benefit of cattle rearing. But she had no sufficient money to purchase cow. She reveals her wishes to her husband as well as group members. She gets loan from the project facilitation and purchase cow. Then decided to buy a bull and bought a cow by thirty five thousand taka. From then on the Mukta's life began to change. She started making profit by cultivating fodder and vegetables. Her present income is at least 15,000 taka a month. She is very happy with her family. Her husband is also happy. Her daughters are studying well now. Neighbors are copying of her business.





## Khadija has started a new life

A traditional pastoral union of Belkuchi Upazila of Sirajganj district situated along the Jamuna River, bearing witness to the time. Every year, most of the families of the village become victim of river erosion and floods. Illiteracy, malnutrition, disaster risk, child marriages, dowry, women-torture, deprivation of services are all a normal image of this village.

Khadija khatun is a fellow inhabitant of village Gaschapri. She was married to Mohammad Shamim of the same village at the age of 13. Khadija becomes the mother of three daughters in 7 years of marriage. Her husband is a day labor and its difficult to care his family properly.

With the technical assistance of CARE Bangladesh, funded by USAID and the Government of Bangladesh, NDP started implementing the SHOUHARDO-III program at 36 villages in 4 union of Belkuchi upazila in Sirajganj district from 2016. Khadija's family was included in the program as a continuation of the work and her husband Md. Shamim become a member of field crops team and get  $(4500+1500)=6000$  in total from the project. Although the family had 3 daughters but the hope of a boy is always in the mind of Shamim-Khadija couple.

Khadija re-conceived at the age of 37 to fulfill their dreams and hopes. She did not understand the danger of being conceived at this age. Within 2 to 3 months of conceived, her body condition worsens: low blood pressure, frequent fever, excess weakness etc. She was selected as a member of ration recipient under SHOUHARDO-III program. She received counseling with health department staff through regular joint monitoring,

checkup, iron and calcium tablets, confirm delivery, ration distribution, produce fruit list and she get all services, including assistance with delivery plans.

Her labour pains suddenly started on 20 May 2019, as she gave birth to a daughter with the help of a community clinic. Khadija and her children are healthy now. For this, she expressed her gratitude to the NDP (SHOUHARDO-III) programme and hoped that such services would reach all the homes.





Mini Marathon



Science Fair



Student Adolescent Conference



Football Competition



Stick Playing



Cleaning Campaign

## Students are influenced to think positive

The Culture and Sports Programme is being implemented by NDP in collaboration with PKSF in Sadar and Kamarkhand upazilas of Sirajganj district. Through the program a variety of cultural and sports activities are implemented with the students of thirty high schools, eleven madrasas and seven colleges in two upazilas. As a result, thousands of students are participating on different sports and cultural activities instead of using unnecessary internet. Besides, various cultural events are organized with the people of this area. Various competitions are organized including debate competition, science fair, mini marathon, football, kabaddi, badminton, wall magazines, Quran reciting competition, boat race etc. As a result, the spirit of competition has developed among them. Schools, madrasas and colleges are now more focused on sports and cultural competitions than ever before. Besides, members of the parliament, district administration, upazila administration, upazila council, union council and education and sports department are present in various competitions. Implementation of these activities has increased the coordination among the public representatives, administration, educational institution and sports organization in the area. Now the students, even the administration and educational institutions are in contact with each other.