

Standard Chartered and Channel i honour the heroes of Bangladesh's agriculture sector through 6th Agrow Award



Dhaka, Bangladesh, 8 Jan 2021 - Standard Chartered Bank and Channel i recognized the contributions of individuals and institutions who have served as outstanding examples in the agriculture sector of Bangladesh in recent time through the sixth Agrow Award. An award giving ceremony was organized at The Pan Pacific Songargaon recently. Mr. Muhammad Abdur Razzaque MP, Honourable Minister, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh graced the ceremony as the Chief Guest.

This year, Agrow Award honoured the contributions in 9 categories, including 2 new categories, Best Journalist (agriculture) and Best community as disaster fighter. This year's winners were:

- **Lifetime Achievement:** Dr Kazi M Bodruddoja (pioneer of Kazi Peyara)
- **Farmer of the Year – Female:** Shahida Begum (Hybrid onion farmer)
- **Farmer of the Year – Male:** Md. Shakhawat Hossain (Malta farmer)
- **Heroes for change:** Ershad Mahmud (Cattle rearing of endangered Gayal species)
- **Jury Special:** Prof Dr Lutful Hasan & Kohinoor Kamal
- **Best agricultural organisation in research, Innovation and Technology:** Janata Engineering (Manufacturer of agricultural machinery)
- **Best agricultural organisation in support and execution:** ARBAN (Modern vegetable and crop cultivation, fisheries)
- **Best Journalist (agriculture):** Md Amirul Islam Hiru (Working as a journalist for more than 50 Years in agriculture sector)
- **Best community as disaster fighter:** LEDARS

These winners were selected through a rigorous jury session, chaired by Shykh Seraj, Director and Head of News, Channel i. The panellists were Prof Dr Md Shahidur Rahman Khan, Vice Chancellor, Khulna Agricultural University; Dr. Md. Rafiqul Islam Mondal, Ex. Director General, Bangladesh Agricultural Research. Institute (BARI); Dr. Atiur Rahman, Ex. Governor, Bangladesh Bank; Md.



Asadullah, Director General, Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE); Rezaul Karim, Head of Programme, World Food Programme Bangladesh; Dr. F.H. Ansarey, CEO, ACI Agrolink Ltd.

Speaking on the occasion, **Mr. Naser Ezaz Bijoy, CEO, Standard Chartered Bangladesh** said, "Our battle against Covid-19 once again showed the true mettle of the character of Bangladesh's heroes of the agriculture sector. Their bravery, ingenuity and tireless efforts has ensured that even during a pandemic, agricultural production has been resilient, ensuring food security for a nation of 160 million. I am grateful that today we have the opportunity to recognizing their immense contributions to our nation's continued progress and prosperity."

Shykh Seraj, Director and Head of News, Channel I, said, "The contributions of the farmers, institutions and the individuals, who are working relentlessly to take the agriculture sector forward are immense, and cannot be measured by an award. Yet, we hope that by recognizing their achievements, Standard Chartered Bank - Channel i Agrow Award will inspire the next generation of leaders in the agriculture sector. The contributions of this year's winner are already taking our nation forward, and their incredible stories of success, will continue to serve as inspiration for the journey ahead."

The winners in each category received a crest and a certificate from the Honourable Minister for their exemplary contribution. The total prize money for various categories were BDT 2,400,000.

The Standard Chartered Agrow Awards recognizes the leaders and innovators that are taking our agriculture industry forward, with the goal of promoting the disseminating technology and best practises at all levels of the industry. This year will mark the sixth edition of Agrow Award.

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