

press release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Standard Chartered and Channel I announce the launch of Agrow Award 2019



Dhaka, 5 May 2019 – Standard Chartered Bank, Bangladesh and Channel i has jointly announced the commencement of Standard Chartered - Channel i Agrow Award 2019, at a press conference held in Dhaka recently.

Agrow Award will recognize the best performing individuals and institutions for their significant contributions to the agriculture sector of the country. This year, awards will be presented in eight different categories: Farmer of the Year – Male; Farmer of the Year – Female; Outstanding Grassroot leader; Jury Special; Best Agricultural Organization in Research, Innovation and Technology; Best Agricultural Organization in Support & Execution; Best Agricultural Exporter and Lifetime Achievement Award.

Speaking at the press conference, Naser Ezaz Bijoy, Chief Executive Officer, Standard Chartered Bank said, “Accounting for around 14% of national GDP and more than 40% employment, the agriculture sector still holds the key for Bangladesh’s transformational growth aspiration. Agrow Award aims to support and enable the real heroes on the ground who, through their innovation, courage and dedicated efforts, are driving this sector forward.”

He added, “I am delighted to have Channel I as partner with us in this initiative, and I am sure that together we can take this initiative to new heights.”

Faridur Reza Sagar, Managing Director, Channel i, said, “Agriculture is at the root of Bangladesh and Channel i moves onward with the motto Hridoye Bangladesh (Bangladesh in Heart). Not only is Channel i attaching more significance to farming and farmers in its specialized agricultural programme, but these issues also have noteworthy space in other programmes of Channel i, Bangladesh's largest private satellite TV. Farming is not just a job, it's a way of life. So, those who are working for farming and farmers are essentially working for life itself. I firmly believe Standard Chartered Bank - Channel i Agrow Awards 2019 will inspire the farming sector and farmers towards achieving further development.”

Shykh Seraj, Director and Head of News, Channel I, said, “The indigenous talent of the farmers and their innovative endeavours are mostly taking the farming sector ahead in Bangladesh. However, it definitely is true that along with the government support, different organizations and institutions stood beside the farmers. Private sector research and innovations have made the road easy for the farmers, as well. They should be recognized.”

He added, “Inspiration always gives velocity. The timeliness of farming and the future of farming in the face of climate change should be our prime focus at the moment. Those farmers, institutions and the individuals – who are working relentlessly to take the farming sector forward, by inspiring and recognizing them and also letting the mass people think about the farming realities, Standard Chartered Bank - Channel i Agrow Awards 2019 will definitely play a massive role. I would like to add, it should not only be framed by just an award. The recognition should be spread around the country so that it inspires another individual and organization across the country. So that the next innovation turns into something even more special. I would personally try to do this and would earnestly request others to do the same.”

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 fifth edition of Agrow Award. Till date, there have been 26 award winners, including 8 individuals and 16 organizations and institutions.

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Previous Winners

Category	2014	2015	2016	2017
Best Agricultural Organization in Research & Innovation	BARI	Lal Teer Seed Ltd.	Ispahani Agro Ltd.	BIRRI
Best Agricultural Organization in Support and Execution	Alim Industries Ltd	BRAC	Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE)	ACI Crop Care & Public Health
Best Agricultural Exporter	Creation Private	Seamark Group	Bengal Braided Rugs Pvt. Ltd.	BaSe Bangladesh
Farmer of the Year - Male	Khan Asaduzzaman	Md. Billal Sikder	Abdus Sattar Sana	Md. Sher Ali Saddar
Farmer of the Year – Female	Alia Begum	Fatema Zohora	Hosne Ara Begum	Anju Sarkar
Farmer of the Year - Subsistence Market Farmer Group		Integrated Farming Group	Group for Vegetable Cultivation Through Rainwater Harvesting	Md. Nurul Haq (Babul). & His Group
Best Use of Technology in Agriculture	n/a	Amar Desh Amar Gram	Alim Industries Ltd	Soilsafe by Kranti Associates

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