

SUCCESS STORY-1 : SELF RELIANT MITA DAS – A BRIGHT EXAMPLE IN DEVELOPMENT

Mrs. Mita Das was born on 26th June, 1970 at Purahati village of Jhenaidah sadar upazila of Jhinaidah district in a middle class family. She was married to Mr. Iswar Aush Baron Das of Chaklapara of the same upazila when she was a school going student of Class VIII only. Her husband was a worker of a local Rice Mill. He was the only earning person of his family. Gradually the family of Mita has grown to five including three children and the income of her husband could not support the family adequately. They were passing hard days some times without proper meals.

She was looking for an opportunity to work and earn income to support children's education but could not find one. Suddenly she heard a bad news that her husband was no more in this world. He met with an accident his body was strangled and cut by the belt of rice mill into two pieces and causing him killed . The news was absolutely shocking for Mita and the children. The unexpected death of her husband demolished her totally as if life has stopped for a while but she had to live for children. She had no assets except a piece of homestead land. There was none to look after her and children. She was frustrated and mentally disappointed for the catastrophe. Finding no other alternatives she was compelled to live as a vulnerable destitute woman depending on public donation of food but desperately looking for a remunerative job.



After a period of time, one day she got news that Bangladesh NGO Foundation will provide training on sewing and tailoring for women in needs through ADD, a local NGO. Mita was selected for the training and that was really good news in her life. She took part in this training and successfully completed it and received a sewing machine with accessories as grant from BNF and later on she received several training courses for developing skills in this trade.

The tailoring training and sewing machine changed Mita's life. She invested all her devotions and efforts

to become a popular lady tailor in her area. Subsequently she became a self-reliant successful entrepreneur and solvent. She opened a tailoring and sewing training center in her home. The housewives and unemployed women of the upazilla are receiving training from Mita's Center on regular basis and starting their own business. She designed and manufactured new dresses for young women and girls and opened a dress shop in her village. Through different combination of dress making and tailoring training she earns a satisfactory amount of money sufficient for running her family.

Today Mita is a successful woman. Her son is a student of Jhinaidah Cadet College, elder daughter is a student of B.S.S (Hon.) in economics and second daughter is a college student of H.S.C level. Among her assets she has homestead on eight decimals land, sewing machines, tube well, sanitary latrine, two easy bikes, one semi pucca house consisting of three rooms and Tk. 25,000 cash in hand.

Mita is conscious about food, health, education, nutrition, treatment and environment. She is contributing to the society specially ultra- poor woman. She is providing different trainings to them free of charges creating employment opportunities for them. The educated youths are driving her bikes and women are employed in her different IGAs like sewing, block boutique, handicraft, etc. She is interested to establish a large scale institution for handicraft training and marketing.