



IMPACT STORY

IMPROVING FARMING, IMPROVING LIVES

Atul Chandra Roy, a farmer from Bangladesh, has evolved from being a conventional cultivator to a progressive influencer in his community. A turning point for Atul and his wife, Sandhya, was to get involved in the SRFSI project as a zero-tillage implementer.

Farming is not as profitable as it is a noble occupation, believes Atul Chandra. Having only six mouths of food for his family was a big everyday challenge for Atul until last year when he decided to use zero tillage on his farm. Despite constant cautioning of total failure, Atul decided to venture into the uncertainty of new technology of Zero-Till. But his audacity was well paid when he earned extra Tk 25,000 BDT using zero till machine for the first time.

Being the first farmer to demonstrate Zero Till farming in his village, Atul now advocates the use of the machine.

The extra income has been crucial for Atul and his wife, as they are now able to spend it on their children's education. Atul now prefers Zero-Tillage because it saves a lot of expenses and additional work providing him enough time for other priorities too. His future plan is to buy a ZT machine and start a business by renting it out.



Photo: RDRS, Bangladesh

Atul Chandra, a farmer from Bangladesh



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The support provided by SRFSI project implemented by CIMMYT is helping farmers to produce more at lower cost. Atul's experience has changed local perception that crops will not grow without tilling land and to some extent his own belief that farming is not profitable occupation. Now they see farming without tillage is full of possibilities and opportunities to make profitable farming livelihoods.