

## Transformation: from wage labor to shop owner

“I have two children that one is daughter (12 years) and another one is son (7-years) and daughter is reading in class IV. She has got first child after two years married and passed two years very well. After 4-5 years, she has issued second child and has been passing days with four members very difficulties. Her husband is unemployment and a day labour that couldn't bear family cost as well as study cost of her daughter and cannot manage work from outside. So, I have to maintain them living cost every day by domestic services with other neighbor's houses. She added more that Teesta river eroded her homestead and taken shelter near by a neighbor house. As a result, I faced lot of family problem tremendously but I have no own cultivated land and living life hand to mouth”



The Ulipur Union under the Kurigram district is the home of many Mazeda Begums who are struggling to live a decent life with their family. The “Recovery Support to the Flood Affected Families of North-Western districts of Bangladesh” project 2015 has been implemented by RDRS Bangladesh in partnership with DanChurchAid and the DeSHARI consortium and funded by ECHO. Mazeda Begum, is one of the beneficiaries of the project.

“I was selected for Cash For Work with 30 days employment @ Tk.200/day and after the end of work, I have received a total of Tk.6,000. I kept the total sum and the next stage, I received another support of Tk.3,000 as livelihoods from the project. So, a total of Tk.9,000 and added other amount of savings, I have managed a stationary shop at Paccar Matha road near Thetra Bazaar and purchased shop goods about Tk. 15,000-16,000.” Mazeda said.

I and my husband both sit in the shop as shopkeepers at an alternative time. We make a business of Tk. 500-1000 per day. Now, I have secured mode of livelihood and passing days happily. The consumers of my shop are increasing day by day. I have a plan to increase my capital and invest more in the shop. I wish to expand the shop as well as increase the variety of goods available.

Cash for work of RSFAF project bring success and solvency to Mazeda's family by omitting sufferings. A lot of rural roads with culverts, ground of institutions and Madrasas are developed by Cash for Works. The local people and elite's gratitude and expressed satisfaction for the development works through funded by ECHO-DCA and implemented by RDRS Bangladesh.