## **Right to Information changed their lives**

NGO Forum for Public Health

SPSRG project implemented by NSS, Facilitated by NGO Forum and funded by MJF has been implementing different activities in six unions under Amtoli Upazila for ensuring people's right and access to basic services including primary education, primary healthcare, agriculture and social safety-net through the use of social accountability tools since November 2014. SPSRG Project formed a farmer committee in every union and oriented them about the roles and responsibilities of service provider, agriculture service and provided instructions about the obtaining process of that service. Consequently, the farmer committee meeting holds after every three months with Sub assistant agriculture officer. In this meeting farmers are expressing their problem and SAAO is advising to solve their problem one after another. Side by side SAAO orienting them about the govt support new technology, method and bad effect use of pesticide.



Most of the cases farmers of Gulishakhali Union were used old methods of cultivation, they don't know which fertilizer and insects are more effective for which crop and which is the appropriate time for planting? Due to lack of knowledge, their crop production became low. Farmers were getting frustrated and tried to overcome this situation. Though it is mandated by government that, Sub Assistant Agriculture Officer (SAAO) should expend his allotted time to visit every ward 2 days a week at union level. But most of the time he was staying at Upazilla office. As a result, farmers were not getting the proper service.

To be a part of farmers committee Md. Abdur Rob Mridha attended those meetings and

orientations and tried to get those benefit. One day SAAO visited his home and provided some instructions and advised which benefited him. After that, he communicates with SAAO regularly and builds a good relationship with SAAO and he came to know that govt distributes seeds, fertilizers and pesticides for poor farmer. So he applied for this and finally collected some seeds (Sun flower, Lintel etc.) at 24-11-2015 and Corn seeds, Alu-lota, zipsam, Robon, Manganese, Mag fertilizer from Upazila agriculture office. This year Mr. Abdur Rob prepared a display plot where he expend 12 thousand taka for 10 decimal lands and earned 30 thousand taka. Mr. Abdur Rob Mridha led his life with family smoothly. UP Chairman, member



and local elite person visited this field and appreciated him for doing such things. Most of the farmers have become encouraged to see his achievement.

Mr. Abdur Rob Mridha lives at Gulisakhali Union in Amtoli Upazilla of Borguna district. He is 45 years old and has two boys and two girls. It's a matter of unhappiness that he couldn't continue his education after class three. He is a farmer and from the very beginning he takes care of his family with his average monthly income of 4500 taka.

Now a day's farmers of Gulisakhali arranging monthly meeting proactively to solve their problem. SAAO is meetingat UP regularly. Farmers are more aware to claim their rights and service providers are more responsible about their duty. UP chairman follow-ups the progress of agriculture sector. People are now grateful to the SPSRG project.