



## Appointment of New CEO



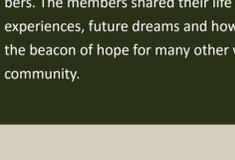
Mr. Saeed Ahmed

Mr. Saeed Ahmed has been appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Kazi Shahid Foundation (KSF) from February 2017. Mr. Saeed is a familiar face to many, as he is the Chief Human Resource Officer (CHRO) of KSF's parent concern Gemcon Group for more than 10 years. He is an accomplished leader and got great organizational skills. Hopefully, KSF will flourish more and work as a family under his strong and dynamic leadership to reach the rural communities for betterment of their livelihoods.

Mr. Saeed has been serving Gemcon Group since October 2006. Before joining Gemcon Group Mr. Saeed also served HeidelbergCement Company Bangladesh Ltd. as General Manager, Human Resources & Administration, Ekushey Television Ltd, as Head of Human Resources & Administration, Delta Life Insurance Company Ltd. as Senior Vice President, HRD, Training & Administration, International Development Enterprises (IDE) as Deputy Director, HRD, Training & Administration, Beximco Pharmaceutical Ltd. and Beximco Agrochemicals Ltd. as Planning Officer, Factory Incharge, and Sales Promotion Officer.

Mr. Saeed did his MBA from IBA, Dhaka University and also M.Sc and Honours in Chemistry from Department of Chemistry, Dhaka University.

## General Secretary and Tilda Swinton's Visit to KSF



With KSF's beneficiaries

At Kazi Shahid Shikhon Kendra (KSSK)

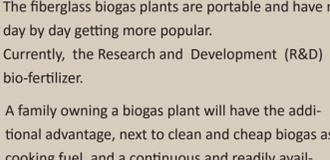


Ms. Swinton is talking to a child of KSF Member

In November, Kazi Shahid Foundation's General Secretary Dr. Kazi Anis Ahmed and world famous Academy Award (Oscar) winner Hollywood actress Ms. Tilda Swinton, renowned German visual artist Mr. Sandro Kopp, Dhaka Lit Fest organizers Ms. Sadaf Saaz and Ahsan Akbar made a visit to KSF program area in Rowshanpur and met the members. The members shared their life changing experiences, future dreams and how they became the beacon of hope for many other women in the community.

The distinguished guests also visited KSF's pre-school learning center named Kazi Shahid Shikhon Kendra (KSSK) at Madhupara, where they had marvelous time with the tiny tots. The young learners entertain the guests by reciting poems, singing songs, drawing pictures as they had prominent painter Sandro Kopp among with them. Ms. Tilda played with them made paper fan and other crafts, she was quite amazed with the children's creativity, who are very tender aged (below 5 years).

## Reintroducing Biogas and Bio-fertilizer Program



Mr. Jay with his prototype biogas plant

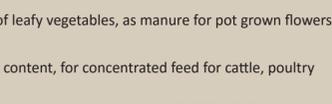
KSF Biogas Program was first introduced to the beneficiaries in collaboration with University of Liberal Arts (ULAB) more than 10 years ago. These biogas plants were brick-layered plants and did face some disadvantages and beneficiaries lost their interest in the program. In 2015, Biogas Program was revived and given the responsibility to re-establish the program at full potential to Mr. Jay Ohlmacher. Following his guidance and enthusiasm very recently, KSF has signed a Partner Organization (PO) Agreement with Infrastructure Development Company Limited (IDCOL) to reintroduce the Biogas Program with improved and modern technology based Fiberglass Biogas Plants.

The fiberglass biogas plants are portable and have many advantages over the brick-layered biogas plants and day by day getting more popular. Currently, the Research and Development (R&D) division of KSF is working on the bio-slurry usage as bio-fertilizer.

A family owning a biogas plant will have the additional advantage, next to clean and cheap biogas as cooking fuel, and a continuous and readily available supply of high quality fertilizer for crops. Biogas slurry can be used as:

- Basal manure and a foliar application or spray as plague repellent
- Increase soil fertility (cation exchange capacity), and improve the soil structure and water retaining capacity, to prevent soil erosion
- Treatment of seeds for higher germination, disease resistance, better yields, improved coloration of fruits and vegetables, and tenderness and taste of leafy vegetables, as manure for pot grown flowers and vegetables
- Increase the feed value of fodder with low protein content, for concentrated feed for cattle, poultry and fish and the production of earth worms and algae
- Bio slurry contains enzymes which stimulate hunger for more food intake and better nourishment of animals as a means to increase quality and quantity of organic fertilizer production at the farm levels
- Increase the availability of nutrients for soil micro-flora like nitrogen fixing and phosphorus solubilizing organisms to reduce and recycle the use of phosphate, a non-renewable source which is being depleted globally

Reduction of wastewater, water pollution, greenhouse gas emissions and noxious odors, to reduce weed growth and to reduce attractiveness to insects or flies, also biogas slurry reduces the number of pathogens through sanitation and as such, it is almost pathogen free.



Fiberglass biogas plant



Fiberglass biogas plant installation in progress

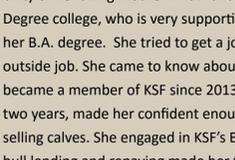
## Biogas Training for KSF Staffs and Beneficiaries



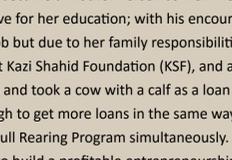
Training on fiberglass biogas digesters

The modern fiberglass biogas plant technology is completely new to Bangladesh. It needs continuous training for the installation and maintenance for those who are working on the technical side as well as who are getting this for their usage. KSF has arranged a three day long Biogas Training Program on August 5-7, 2017, in corporation with IDCOL for KSF staffs to learn the technology of biogas and the fiberglass plant installation process. There are also ongoing training programs every month for the beneficiaries and staff members of KSF on Fiberglass Biogas Plants and Bio-slurry usage. These trainings encourages KSF members to get biogas plants and to help their households having better and cleaner energy source, additionally, they can use bio slurry as nutrient rich fertilizer for the crops.

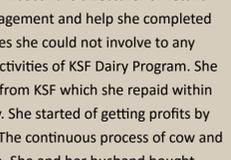
## Champion's March: Fency Apa



Fency with her most favourite calf



In front of her fiberglass biogas plant



Taking care of her cattle

Mst. Afroza Begam (Fency) one of Kazi Shahid Foundation's exemplary member and she has become a prominent local entrepreneur from a housewife. She got married at her teenage before completing her Secondary School Examination and took the responsibility of her ailing mother in law and became a mother herself as well. Her husband is a Lecturer of Tetulia Degree college, who is very supportive for her education; with his encouragement and help she completed her B.A. degree. She tried to get a job but due to her family responsibilities she could not involve to any outside job. She came to know about Kazi Shahid Foundation (KSF), and activities of KSF Dairy Program. She became a member of KSF since 2013 and took a cow with a calf as a loan from KSF which she repaid within two years, made her confident enough to get more loans in the same way. She started getting profits by selling calves. She engaged in KSF's Bull Rearing Program simultaneously. The continuous process of cow and bull lending and repaying made her to build a profitable entrepreneurship. She and her husband bought farming land, tea garden, fish farming pond, also employ several workers for assisting in the farm.

Afroza is now leading a fully organic livelihood. Her family uses this cow dung for organic farming and to minimize the wastage of cow dung. She is the first KSF member who has installed the fiberglass biogas plant in her household.

"Using biogas for cooking makes life easier and I have time for myself." - Afroza

She is using bio slurry in her tea garden, kitchen garden and fish pond as organic nutrient source. Her realization after becoming a beneficiary of KSF made her what she is now. Currently, she earns substantial amount of money and can also look after her family. She has two daughters and one son who all are studying at primary and secondary level. She is leading a very happy and a successful life. Afroza is a role model in her community and she is thankful to KSF. Her accomplishment encourages others to move forward and make a change to their lives.

## The Torch Bearers of KSF: Md. Abdul Alim



Md. Abdul Alim, Assistant Coordinator

"It always amazes me the appreciation we get for the work we do and the treatment we receive as one of their family member when we meet our beneficiaries on a daily basis. I have never felt this way before working with KSF"- Md. Abdul Alim, Assistant Program Coordinator of Kazi Shahid Foundation (KSF) expresses his work experiences at the organization.

in-charge of KSF-Rawshanpur Branch. Currently, he is taking care of more than 500 beneficiaries and working actively to achieve the targeted goals for the branch.

Md. Abdul Alim is the Torch Bearer for KSF's current e-Newsletter issue. His motivation and enthusiasm for work as well as KSF members for KSF's service and overall work ethics is quite admirable. His suggestion for his co-workers is to learn how to be multi-tasking and grow awareness of the surroundings. He always has a positive attitude and up for any new challenges. He is a good team leader as well as a team player, and a role model of KSF's core values.

According to Alim the exemplary observation regarding working in Panchagarh for KSF is to be able to contribute in the community and the environment at the same time, are the most precious feelings for him. It is a great accomplishment that his hard work has some impact on the dairy industry and the changes bring to the landscapes of entire Panchagarh through the organic livelihoods practice of using cow manure.

He was born in Jibon Nagar, Chuadanga. He has obtained B.A. (pass) degree from Darshana Government College and started his career in development sector. Before joining Kazi Shahid Foundation he worked with Coast Trust and then Onnesha Foundation. Working with KSF gives him the understanding about the major differences between KSF's core values and other conventional micro-credit mechanisms. It has been magnificent 10 years for him serving the community through uplifting the concept of women empowerment. Alim is happily married with two children, loves to watch cricket matches with family and friends. His favorite cricket team is Khulna Titans.

## Publications and Presentations



The Saskatchewan Environmental Industry and Managers Association (SEIMA), 2017, Saskatoon, Canada



Ontario International Development Agency Conference, 2017, Ottawa, Canada

There are a number of International journal articles and book chapter have been published and presented papers on Kazi Shahid Foundation's Dairy Program and Biogas Program at several national and international conferences such as, Canada, Malta, Portugal and Bangladesh. The list of publication and presentation is given below:

- "Climate Change and Sustainable Energy in Rural Bangladesh – An Innovative Approach", 22nd Annual International Sustainable Development Research Society Conference Proceedings, p: 781, (ISDRS 2016), 2016.
- "Climate Change and Sustainable Energy in Rural Bangladesh – An Innovative Approach", (July 29, 2016). Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=2815991>, Social Science Research Network Journal, 2016.
- "An Innovative Dairy Model Leading to Sustainable Development for the Rural People of Bangladesh", OIDA International Journal of Sustainable Development 10:08, 2017.
- "Engaging Rural Women in Entrepreneurship Through an Innovative and Sustainable Dairy Model", In: Leal Filho W., Mifsud M., Pace P. (eds), Handbook of Lifelong Learning for Sustainable Development. World Sustainability Series, Springer, Cham. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-63534-7\\_18](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-63534-7_18), 2018.
- "Climate Change and Sustainable Energy in Rural Bangladesh – An Innovative Approach", 22nd Annual International Sustainable Development Research Society Conference (ISDRS 2016), Lisbon, Portugal, 12-16 July, 2016.
- "An Innovative Dairy Model Leading to Sustainable Development for the Rural People of Bangladesh", 2nd Conference on Sustainable Development, Center for Sustainable Development, University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh, 10-11 February, 2017.
- "Engaging Rural Women in Entrepreneurship through an Innovative and Sustainable Dairy Model", World Symposium on Lifelong Learning and Sustainable Development, Valletta, Malta, 2-4 March, 2017.
- "An Innovative Approach towards Sustainable Energy in Rural Bangladesh", SustainTech 2017, The Saskatchewan Environmental Industry and Managers Association (SEIMA), Saskatoon, Canada, 16 March, 2017.
- "An Innovative Dairy Model Leading to Sustainable Development for the Rural People of Bangladesh", International Conference on Sustainable Development 2017, Ontario International Development Agency (OIDA), Carlton University, Ottawa, Canada, 09-10 August, 2017.

## Program Highlights

**5,856**  
Current Loanees

So Far  
**1.9 Million**  
Liters Milk Collected from the Cooperative and Brought About Better Nutrition for Kids

Monthly Household Income Reached  
**2,500 BDT**  
(30 USD)

New Interventions:  
**09**  
Fiberglass Biogas Plants Installed &  
**252**  
Bull Rearing Loans Distributed

**Employment Generation**  
**36,000+**  
in Panchagarh Area

**30 Million**  
Kg of Cow Dung has been used for transforming the landscape of Bangladesh's only organic tea garden, Kazi & Kazi Tea Estate

**Cumulative Savings Balance in BDT**  
**12 Million+**

So Far  
**150 Batches**  
Got Training on Dairy Farming and Vermi Composting

**Decreased Mortality Rate:**  
For Cow From 1.92% (2016) to  
**0.74%**  
For Calf From 3.61% (2016) to  
**1.10%**