

'Farmer Card Brings a New Era to Agriculture'

Date: 13 April 2026

Agriculture, fisheries, and livestock form the backbone of Bangladesh's economy. Around 70 percent of the population is directly or indirectly engaged in agriculture. To further dignify this vital profession and empower farmers, the Honorable Prime Minister Tarique Rahman has pledged to introduce a "Farmer Card" for all categories of farmers across the country. In line with this commitment, the Ministry of Agriculture has begun distributing Farmer Cards.

The Ministry is working to ensure the maximum scientific utilization of the country's total arable land. In the coming days, the government aims to bring every inch of cultivable land under a comprehensive database. Efforts are underway to restore soil health by reducing acidity, minimize excessive fertilizer use, promote balanced irrigation, encourage crop rotation, and expand the use of local varieties. These initiatives are part of a broader strategy to modernize agriculture and make it export-oriented. In parallel, the government is also planning extensive development in the fisheries and livestock sectors, including sustainable marine fishing.

To build a self-reliant economy, there is no alternative to strengthening the agricultural sector. Farmers are the driving force of agriculture. By bringing approximately 27.5 million farmers under a unified digital database, the sector can be managed more scientifically, enhancing its contribution to the national economy. To achieve this, the government has introduced the Farmer Card.

As part of a pre-piloting phase, Farmer Cards are being distributed in 11 blocks across 11 upazilas in 10 districts. The official inauguration took place on Pahela Baishakh by the Honorable Prime Minister, marking a new chapter in the country's agricultural journey. A total of 22,065 farmers are receiving the card in areas such as Komlapur (Panchagarh Sadar), Uthli (Shibganj, Bogura), Kripalpur (Shailkupa, Jhenaidah), Rajabari (Nesarabad, Pirojpur), Rajarchhara (Teknaf, Cox's Bazar), Aranyapur (Cumilla Sadar), Suruj (Tangail Sadar), Tenapacha (Goalanda, Rajbari), Fultola (Juri, Moulvibazar), Panchpir (Boda, Panchagarh), and Gaibandha Block (Islampur, Jamalpur). Among them, 20,671 farmers will receive incentives.

Through this card, all categories of farmers-including cultivators, livestock farmers, fishermen, and even salt producers where applicable-will be brought under a digital database. The Farmer Card will enable farmers to receive direct cash support, subsidies on agricultural inputs such as fertilizers, seeds, and pesticides, and access to agricultural loans on easy terms with low interest rates. Farmers will also be able to purchase inputs at fair prices, benefit from subsidized agricultural machinery, and access crop and agricultural insurance to reduce risks during disasters.

In addition, farmers will receive training on modern cultivation techniques, access to affordable irrigation, and opportunities to sell their produce directly-helping to reduce the influence of intermediaries. The card will also provide weather updates and pest control advice. Overall, it will ensure the storage of agricultural data and the delivery of services through a unified digital platform. In essence, the Farmer Card will bring all essential services for farmers under one umbrella.

Professional recognition enhances motivation. This card will elevate the dignity of farming as a profession. The Bangladesh of the future will be a Bangladesh of farmers. The Farmer Card will not only strengthen the domestic agricultural landscape but also position Bangladeshi farmers on the international stage. The day is not far when every farmer in Bangladesh will be self-reliant.