

English translation:

Man: I started working here as an account officer, which continued for six years. Since then, I have been working until today as an accountant for 26 years. From here, I got transferred to the head office, where I started working as a deputy manager for the administration -- land, property, tea gardens; i.e. to look after everything and be in charge of these things. I look after all of these.

Interviewer: What is your name?

Man: My name is Md. Abul Kalam Mojumdar.

Interviewer: How many children do you have?

Man: I have three sons.

Interviewer: What do they do?

Man: One of them has given his Intermediate Final Exam, one is in Class Eight and the youngest one is in Class Four.

Interviewer: What schools are they attending?

Man: One has taken the Intermediate Final Exam from Dhaka College; one goes to Central Government High School, Motijheel, and the other is in Ideal, Motijheel.

Interviewer: [awkward cut].

Man: This is our tea company... There are three tea companies – Marina Tea Company Ltd., Monipur Tea Company Ltd., and M. Rahman Tea Company Ltd., Rajhdhani Heritage Tea Estates. These are the four companies. I am in charge of them.

Interviewer: [unclear words omitted.]

Man: Yes. [unclear words omitted.] Right.

Interviewer: [awkward cut].

Man: Monipur Tea Estate. PO is a Fertilizer Factory and its district is Sylhet. The head office is in Dhaka. And the road number is 131, house number 60/D, first door. Now, Marina Tea Estate, PO Kulaura and its district is Moulvibazar. Head office is in road number 131... Same address... same address. M Rahman Tea Company, PO Sathgaon

and the district is Moulvibazar. The head office is the same as above. Rajhdhani Heritage Estate is in Savar land, Ashuganj land, both of the lands... both of the lands. Heritage Agro Farms, Monipur Tea Estate head office is the same.

Interviewer: How long have they been there?

Man: About 54 years. And 52 years. And 46 years... And Heritage Tea Estates is three years and Agrofarm is five ... seven ... five years.

Interviewer: What are the things you have to do in your job?

Man: I have to look after the Savar land, Ashuganj, the three tea estates, the company, the agro-farm...

Interviewer: How do you come to office every morning?

Man: I come out of my house and first take a *ricksha*¹ to Bishwa Road, which costs Tk 5. Next I get on the bus which costs Tk 8 and this stops at Mid Badda. Then I get on a bus named Desh Bondhu [Country Friend], which stops at Gulshan 1, and then I walk over to the office.

Interviewer: So you have been working here for many years. Are you satisfied with your job, and how do like working here?

Man: I work well with the management. I work with dedication, commitment, honesty, and enjoy working here very much.

About CultureTalk: CultureTalk is produced by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages and housed on the LangMedia Website. The project provides students of language and culture with samples of people talking about their lives in the languages they use everyday. The participants in CultureTalk interviews and discussions are of many different ages and walks of life. They are free to express themselves as they wish. The ideas and opinions presented here are those of the participants. Inclusion in CultureTalk does not represent endorsement of these ideas or opinions by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages, Five Colleges, Incorporated, or any of its member institutions: Amherst College, Hampshire College, Mount Holyoke College, Smith College and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

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¹ Ricksha/rickshaw: a two-wheeled cart seating one or two persons, drawn by a single individual. Rickshaws in Bangladesh are cycle-powered.