

CultureTalk Bangladesh Video Transcripts: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>
On Tea Production and Sales

English translation:

Man: My name is Shikhdar Gaziur Rahman. Okay. Shikhdar Gaziur Rahman. I have one son ... only one son.

Interviewer: What does he do?

Man: He is at university...North South University.

Interviewer: What is his class year?

Man: He is in his third year.

Interviewer: What is his major?

Man: Electronics and Telecommunications.

Interviewer: What do you do?

Man: I am the secretary at Monipur Tea Company.

Interviewer: What is your name?

Man: My name is Shikhdar Gaziur Rahman.

Interviewer: Where do you work?

Man: I work at Monipur Tea Company Limited.

Interviewer: What is your designation?

Man: Company secretary.

Interviewer: How long have you been working here?

Man: 43 years running.

Interviewer: Did you work anywhere else in the past?

Man: No, never. This is my first job...Our garden is Monipur Tea Estate, Phenchoganj. Leaves are picked from the garden and brought to the factory and manufactured.

Interviewer: Then?

Man: Afterwards they are processed. There are different grades for the tea, around five or seven. They are then auctioned and sold off to Chittagong. None of the companies have the permission to sell the products locally.

Interviewer: You [sell] all of the products?

Man: Yes, auction sale.

Interviewer: But, do you export them?

Man: We do not export them, we sell them domestically...From there

Interviewer: Brokers?

Man: Yes, the brokers then collect them, fix each of the prices, and sell it to third parties, who then export the goods. [Unclear words omitted.] Different countries buy the goods. Anyone can buy them. There are buyers from Pakistan who purchase the goods.

Interviewer: Where do all the goods go?

Man: Ah, there are packagers who package the goods and export them to other countries. There is local consumption.

Interviewer: So, can all these big companies that sell in local markets buy and sell your products?

Man: Yes, yes! They surely can. [Phone ringing.] Many parties buy the products, including *Ispahani*, and other parties purchase the goods to export to Pakistan. But all the goods that are produced are first sent to warehouses in Chittagong. There are different warehouses, which are divided into sections. National brokers and other brokers are present and each has their own party. Auctions take place and different prices are listed for each grade of BOP.

Interviewer: What is BOP?

Man: Broken Orange Pekoe.

Interviewer: What does that mean?

Man: BOP is a particular grade of tea. Different grades such BOP, PF (Pekoe Fannings) are available, which are then auctioned and bought according to the grades required. Some of these are not available in the local market. If the sellers in the market have permits, then they can purchase the tea in the auctions.

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