Julhas's aircraft is a testament to his ingenuity. Built on a tight budget, it features a gasoline engine that can run on petrol or octane, consuming about one litre for every 25 to 30 kilometres of flight. The wings, covered in fabric, span an impressive 32 feet, while the body measures 18 feet long.

The aircraft takes off at a speed of 45 kilometres per hour and can reach a top speed of 70 kilometres per hour in the air. Though it was designed primarily for experimental training rather than commercial use, Julhas is confident that with proper funding and sponsorship, mass production of similar aircraft could be possible.

"I didn't try to fly it higher than 50 feet because this was just an experimental flight. But if I get the support, I believe I can improve the design and make it even more functional," he said in a conversation with The Daily Star.

A story of resilience

Julhas's success is all the more inspiring given the hardships he has faced. Originally from Baghutia in Daulatpur upazila, his family was forced to relocate due to severe river erosion. Financial difficulties meant that despite securing a respectable GPA of 4.25 in his Secondary School Certificate (SSC) examination in 2014, he was unable to continue his education as he had hoped.

"I wanted to pursue a diploma in electrical engineering, but due to our financial situation, I had to settle for admission to a local college. Even then, I had to drop out after just six months," he recalled when asked about his educational background.

Undeterred, he moved to Dhaka and began working as an electronic mechanic. Though life in the city was not easy, Julhas shared that this job allowed him to support his family while quietly nurturing his passion for aviation.