



Traders sort litchi at the seasonal market set up at Boro Math in Dinajpur town.

PHOTO: STAR

## Dinajpur litchi growers happy with good yield, fair price

To minimise risk during the Covid-19 pandemic, many buyers place orders over mobile

KONGKON KARMAKER, Dinajpur

Litchi is selling for good prices after it hit the market a week ago, much to the happiness of growers and traders who had earlier feared price fall of the popular summer fruit amid the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic.

This year, the famous litchi producing district's largest market shifted to spacious Boro Math (beside the office of the superintendent of police) in Dinajpur town, and so, the buyers and sellers can maintain safe distancing.

Earlier, the regular litchi market lasting around 40 days was held at a relatively small place in front of Dinajpur Police Station.

Litchi is grown in all the 13 upazilas of Dinajpur and most gardeners bring the fruit to the market for sale while it is also sold in truckloads directly from orchards, said growers.

In Dinajpur, there are around 4,000 litchi orchards covering 5,200 hectares of land.

Officials of the Department of Horticulture said litchi production in the district reached 50,000 tonnes although the target was 35,000 tonnes.

All five varieties of litchis including Bombai, Madrazi, China-1, 2 and 3 and Bedana started arriving the newly set up market.

During a visit to Boro Math in Dinajpur town on Thursday, this correspondent found the litchi market buzzing with a large number of sellers and buyers.

There 100 pieces of Bombai litchi is sold between Tk 230 to 350, Madrazi between Tk 150 to 200, China-3 between Tk 400 to Tk 700, and Bedana variety at Tk 500 to Tk 1000, depending on quality and colour.

Initially, the price was not good, but later it started rising, although arrival of wholesale buyers from other districts came down to half this season, possibly due to coronavirus pandemic, said Ashraf Ali, a trader.

"Every year, a large number of

Hundred pieces of Bombai litchi is sold between Tk 230 to 350, Madrazi between Tk 150 to 200, China-3 between Tk 400 to Tk 700, and Bedana variety at Tk 500 to Tk 1000

wholesale buyers come from Dhaka, Sylhet, Chattogram and Barishal, but most of them did not come this time. Many of them are now placing orders over mobile," said Rafiqul Islam, another trader.

Courier transport services, buses, trains and trucks are being used to transport the fruit.

Many people, who came with minibuses, cars and other vehicles, were

seen roaming around and buying litchi.

"Taking protection measures, we a few friends came here to buy litchi. The fruit is available in our area but we want to buy it directly from Dinajpur market," said Tahat Ratul, who came from Bogura to buy litchi for his family and relatives.

Ahmed Sharif Rubel, lessee of the market, said some 800 to 1200 people daily come for selling their produce at the market and they have been asked to follow the guidelines including maintenance of social distancing and use of face mask.

Growing litchi and its trade creates job opportunity for a large number of people in the district.

Mahmudul Alam, deputy commissioner of Dinajpur, said the administration tried to ensure that the growers get fair prices.

Litchi business in the district involves transaction of around Tk 500 crore every season, said Touhidul Iqbal, deputy director of the Department of Agriculture in Dinajpur.

## Brutality on boys on theft charge

UP member among 2 held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

A union parishad (UP) member and his associate have been arrested here on charge of beating two boys mercilessly on suspicion of phone theft at Deodha village in Pirganj upazila.

Superintendent of Police (SP) Mohammad Moniruzzaman said the arrestees are Jahirul Islam, member of Ward no 4 of Sengaoon UP, and Jiabul of the area. Of them, Jahirul was held yesterday while Jiabul was arrested on Saturday.

On June 5, a case was filed with Pirganj Police Station against seven people in this connection. The accused are UP member Jahirul and his accomplices Motaleb, Latif, Anisur, Mansur, Saidur, and Jiabul of the upazila.

Officer-in-Charge (OC) of the police station Prodig Kumar Roy said Motaleb used to propose a woman of the village for developing an illicit relationship for long.

As she had refused his proposal, Motaleb became angry. He then brought allegation of stealing his cellphone against the victim's 13-year-old son and 16-year-old nephew on May 22.

On the same day, Motaleb along with his men took the boys to Latif's house in the village and arranged arbitration. On information, the UP member along with his men appeared on the spot and tied up the hands and legs of the duo. They asked the boys to return the mobile phone which Motaleb claimed was stolen on May 22.

As the boys said they knew nothing about the phone, a group of people, led by the UP member, started beating the duo mercilessly. The offenders also captured the video of the incident. They later sent the video footage of the torture to the woman and demanded Tk 50,000 as compensation.

As she refused to pay the money, the UP member and his accomplices brought the woman along with her son to union parishad's office and beat them mercilessly. They later took treatment at a local hospital.

After three days, several followers of the UP member brought a cow of the woman from her house and sold it at a local haat. On June 5, the woman filed the case, said the OC. This correspondent obtained the video clip of the incident on Friday night.

## Woman killed for dowry

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

A woman, who was beaten mercilessly by her husband allegedly for dowry in Panchagarh Sadar upazila on Saturday morning, died at Rangpur Medical College Hospital the same afternoon.

The deceased was identified as Fatema Jinnah Jotsnya, 25, wife of Delwar Hossain, 35, of Domoni Sarkarpara village.

Police arrested Delwar from his house after deceased's elder brother Safiqul Islam filed a case with Panchagarh Sadar Police Station, accusing five people including Delwar and his mother, the same night.

According to the case statement, Jotsnya, daughter of Giasuddin of Dabarbhanga village in the upazila, was married to Delwar, son of Moinuddin, in 2011.

But since the marriage, Delwar often used to torture Jotsnya for dowry.

As a sequel, Delwar engaged in altercation with his wife over the same issue on Saturday morning, and, at one stage, he hit Jotsnya on the head with an iron rod, leaving her seriously injured.

Injured Jotsnya was first taken to Panchagarh Sadar Hospital, from where she was referred to Rangpur Medical College Hospital as her condition deteriorated.

She died at the hospital while undergoing treatment there around 4:30pm.

Dr Nusrat Jahan, resident medical officer at Panchagarh Sadar Hospital, said several marks of injuries were found on her head.

Sub Inspector Hironmoy Chandra Roy of Sadar Police Station, also investigation Officer (IO) of the case, said during primary interrogation Delwar confessed his involvement in the murder.

## 3 kids drown in Dinajpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Three children died in separate incidents of drowning in Biral and Hakimpur upazilas of the district yesterday.

Villagers, however, rescued another four-year-old victim in critical condition and admitted her to a hospital.

Police said Mawa Sultana, 7, daughter of Motiur Rahman, and Momita Khatun, 8, daughter of Mizanur Rahman, of Ranipur village in Biral upazila, went to take bath in a pond adjacent to their houses yesterday morning and drowned.

Villagers found their bodies floating in the pond, recovered those and informed the police.

In Hakimpur, two minor children Humyara, 6, daughter of Habibur Rahman, and Himu, 4, of Kadirpur village, slipped into a pond while they were playing on its bank and went missing yesterday morning.

Villagers rescued them in critical condition and rushed them to Hakimpur Upazila Health Complex where the doctors declared Humyara dead, police said.

On information, police recovered the bodies and sent those to the hospital for autopsies.

A pal of gloom has descended over the areas.

## Village protection levee freed from UP chairman's illegal occupation



Workers engaged by Kalihati upazila administration dismantling a permanent structure constructed illegally on a village protection embankment along the Jamuna in Gorilabari village of the upazila.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Kalihati upazila administration on Thursday in a drive demolished illegal structures on about 300 metres of embankment along the bank of the Jamuna river in the upazila.

The structures on the embankment were built by Hazrat Ali Talukder, chairman of Gohilabari Union Parishad (UP), in Gorilabari village of the union.

Upazila Assistant Commissioner (Land) Shahriar Rahman said the drive was carried out in the afternoon at the directive of the deputy commissioner (DC) of Tangail.

Bangladesh Bridge Authority (BBA) in a written complaint filed with the Tangail DC had said that

UP Chairman Hazrat Ali illegally constructed concrete structures encroaching on the embankment that the BBA had constructed to protect Gorilabari village, 1.5 kilometres south of the eastern side of the Gangabandhu Bridge on the Jamuna.

In response to a signed petition of around 250 residents of Gorilabari village, the BBA started to build the levee last year, at a cost of Tk 33 crore, to protect the village from the erosion of the river.

UP Chairman Hazrat Ali, also a local Awami League leader, along with his followers, had initially created obstructions during the construction of the levee, claiming ownership of the land.

But after the levee was complete despite his false claim, Hazrat Ali

built concrete structures on the levee to establish his claim on the land, locals said.

During Thursday's drive, assisted by Kalihati police and the BBA, the illegal installations were removed from 300 metres of the encroached levee and several other illegal structures, built with corrugated iron sheets by local union parishad member Abdul Hye, were also removed from the vicinity, Shahriar added.

Upazila Nirbahi Officer Shamim Ara Nipa later visited the area and planted some saplings on the site.

Soon after the drive was over, the BBA resumed the embankment's construction work that had been halted in the area due to the illegal occupation of Hazrat Ali, according to BBA.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার  
জাতীয় নদী রক্ষা কমিশন  
হোসাইন টাওয়ার (১২ তলা)  
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সীমিত দরপত্র পদ্ধতির আওতায় প্রকৃত সরবরাহকারী/ঠিকাদার/নির্মাতা প্রতিষ্ঠান তালিকাভুক্তকরণের বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বাংলাদেশের প্রকৃত সরবরাহকারী/ঠিকাদার/নির্মাতা প্রতিষ্ঠান তালিকাভুক্ত করার নিমিত্ত লটারিক্সিক অগ্রাহ প্রস্তাব নির্দেশক্রমে আবেদন করা যাচ্ছে।

| লট নং | কাজের বিবরণ  |
|-------|--|
| লট-ক  | অফিসের স্টেশনারি ও মনোহারি দ্রব্যাদি সরবরাহ।   |
| লট-খ  | ১। প্রিন্টারের টোনার ও অন্যান্য কম্পিউটারের আনুষঙ্গিক যন্ত্র ও যন্ত্রাংশ সরবরাহ।<br>২। বৈদ্যুতিক সরঞ্জাম।                            |
| লট-গ  | ফটোকপি মেশিনের টোনার ও অন্যান্য আনুষঙ্গিক যন্ত্র ও যন্ত্রাংশ সরবরাহ।   |
| লট-ঘ  | কমিশন কর্তৃক দেশের নদ-নদী, হাওর-বাওড়, জলাশয়-জলাধার পরিদর্শনকারীরা ভিডিও চিত্র ধারণ, সম্পাদনা এবং কমিশনের ইউটিউব চ্যানেলে আপলোডকরণ। |
| লট-ঙ  | কমিশন কর্তৃক বিভিন্ন সময় ১০-২০ মিনিটের বিশেষ ডকুমেন্টারি প্রস্তুতকরণ।   |

২। আপাতী ৩০/৬/২০২০ তারিখ দুপুর ১২:০০ ঘটিকার মধ্যে অগ্রাহী সরবরাহকারী/ঠিকাদার/নির্মাতা প্রতিষ্ঠানের প্যাতে অগ্রাহপত্র/প্রস্তাব কমিশন কার্যালয়ের প্রকাশন ও অর্থ শাখায় রক্ষিত বাস্তব দাখিল করতে হবে। দাখিলের ক্ষেত্রে নিম্নরূপ শর্তাবলী অনুসরণ করতে হবেঃ

ক) প্রতিটি অগ্রাহ প্রস্তাব লটারিক্সিক আলাদা খামে দাখিল করতে হবে এবং খামের উপর লট নম্বর উল্লেখ করতে হবে। অন্যথায় বাতিল বলে গণ্য হবে;

খ) অগ্রাহ প্রস্তাবের সঙ্গে হালনাগাদ ট্রেড লাইসেন্স, TIN সনদ ও ভ্যাট নিবন্ধন সনদের সত্যায়িত অনুলিপি দাখিল করতে হবে;

গ) চেয়ারম্যান, জাতীয় নদী রক্ষা কমিশন-এর অনুকূলে ৫,০০০/- টাকার (অফিসব্যয়) পে-অর্ডার দাখিল করতে হবে।

৩। উল্লেখ্য যে, উক্ত তালিকাভুক্ত প্রতিষ্ঠানের কাজের মান সন্তোষজনক বিবেচিত হলে তালিকাভুক্তির মেয়াদ বৃদ্ধি হতে পারে।

৪। তালিকাভুক্তকরণের ক্ষেত্রে কর্তৃপক্ষের সিদ্ধান্ত চূড়ান্ত বলে বিবেচিত হবে।

মোঃ আমিনুল ইসলাম  
সচিব  
দুলালাপাটীঃ ৫৮৩১৪১০৯  
জিডি-৯৮৬