

Cabbage now can be grown throughout year

AMANUR AMAN, back to Kushtia from Chuadanga

Cultivation of a special variety cabbage has become a profitable venture for Chuadanga farmers.

Although traditionally a winter vegetable in Bangladesh, cabbage can now be grown throughout the year, thanks to the initiative of a local NGO that brought KKR variety of cabbage seed from Japan and introduced it to Chuadanga farmers April this year.

Farmers sowed the special variety cabbage seed on around 300 bighas of land in several fields of Jibon Nagar upazila in Chuadanga district, said sources at the Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE).

The fast growing vegetable, harvested within one and a half months of sowing the seed, has already come to the market and farmers are making good profit by selling it.

"I earned Tk 3 lakh by cultivating the vegetable on seven bighas of land. I had spent Tk 70,000 for it," said Shamsul Alam, a farmer of Bazdia village in Jibon Nagar upazila on Thursday.

The production cost of cabbage cultivation per bigha is about Tk 10,000 to 12,000 and the produce is sold for Tk 40,000 to 45,000, growers said.

During visit to some cabbage fields, this correspondent saw good yield of the vegetable, each weighing 2kg to 4kg.

People are buying the vegetable as it is available at least six months before its usual season winter, said farmer Sajibul.

The popular nutritious vegetable is also being supplied to other parts of the country including Karwan Bazar, one of the largest wholesale markets in the capital.

Taki and Company in

Japan produced and marketed the KKR variety of cabbage seed and it reached farmers in Chuadanga following initiative by local NGO Palashipara Samaj Unnayan Sangstha.

A team from Taki and Company recently visited Chuadanga to examine its production there.

"This variety of cabbage can be cultivated and produced round the year in a country like Bangladesh," Mukaiede Yoko, a vegetable specialist of the company, told this correspondent.

Warm and humid climate condition helped fast growth of the special variety cabbage, said Rezaul Karim, deputy director of Chuadanga DAE.

Warning against excessive use of pesticides to grow the cabbage, he suggested bringing the cultivation under 'integrated pest management' for the sake of safety to public health.



PHOTO: STAR

Cabbage, traditionally a winter vegetable of Bangladesh, sees successful cultivation at a field in Jibon Nagar upazila of Chuadanga district during this summer, showing bright prospect for year-long farming of the nutritious item.

SNIPPETS

Lightning kills two

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kishoreganj

Two people were killed by lightning in Nikli upazila of the district yesterday. The deceased were identified as Tanzil Mia, 16, son of Adis Mia of Bhatibhoratia village and Lokman Hossain, 15, son of Masud Hossain of Dampara village. Police and local sources said, Tanzil was struck by thunderbolt during heavy rain at 11:30am when he went for fishing at Molarbanda village. On the other hand, Lokman was killed by lightning while bringing his cow from Kathalkandi field near his house in the morning.

Shrimp traders fined

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sathkira

A mobile court fined 12 shrimp traders Tk 12,000 for running business without license at Tarali Bazaar in Kaliganj upazila yesterday. The court, in separate drives, also sealed off three other fish depots at Tentulia bazaar for polluting environment. Acting on a tip-off, a mobile court led by executive magistrate Rejaul Karim raided the fish market at Tarali Bazaar and fined the traders. Later, the team sealed off three fish depots owned by Amir Ali, Mujibar Rahman and Amirul Islam at Tentulia bazaar.

Stalker jailed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

A stalker was jailed for one month for sexually harassing a female homeopathic doctor in Baufal yesterday. The stalker was identified as Jasim Uddin, 25, of Gosinga village under the upazila. Mrinal Kanti Dey, acting upazila nirbahi officer (UNO) of Baufal, also assistant commissioner (land), delivered the judgement at about 1:00 pm on the day. Mobile court sources said, Jasim was sexually harassing Mahmuda Begum, a homeopathic doctor of Golabari area under the same upazila for long. On the day, when Mahmuda was returning home from a training programme, Jasim made an indecent remark at her. Mahmuda informed the UNO about the matter. Later, locals caught Jasim and the UNO handed down the punishment.

Man 'murders' wife

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Natore

A woman was killed allegedly by her husband at Sarishabari village under Singra upazila in the district on Tuesday night. The victim was identified as Rozina Begum, wife of Mukul Hossain of the village. Police and local sources said, Rozina and Mukul locked in a quarrel over a trifling matter at night. At one stage, Mukul beat up Rozina and later strangled her. On information, police recovered the body yesterday noon. A case was filed with Singra police station in this connection.

JCD procession foiled

SUST CORRESPONDENT

JCD Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (SUST) unit yesterday took out a procession in the city protesting price hike of CNG gas. The JCD men brought out the procession from Madina Market at around 4:00pm and paraded the main streets. When the procession was entering the university campus, police intercepted it at the main gate. Later, JCD held a rally in front of the main gate with its SUST unit convener SM Jahangir in the chair. Jahangir in his speech said as the AL led grand alliance has failed to run the country it should immediately go for midterm election. He alleged that the SUST administration deployed police at the entrance to the university to foil their peaceful programme.

Boy drowns in Khulna

UNB, Khulna

A boy drowned in a shrimp enclosure at Shibbati village in Paikgachha upazila on Tuesday. The deceased was identified as Monirul Islam, 4, son of Abdul Majid Sarkar of the village. Neighbours said Monirul was playing near the shrimp enclosure in the morning. Suddenly, he fell in the water and drowned. Later, local people recovered the floating body of Monirul from the enclosure.

'Bring killers of Limon Mishra to book'

Human chain in Dinajpur demands

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

A human chain was formed in Dinajpur town yesterday demanding immediate arrest and exemplary punishment of the killers of Limon Mishra.

Organised by Sachetan Nagarik Samaj, a platform of the townspeople, teachers, students, businessmen, NGO workers, cul-

tural activists and local political leaders and workers joined the human chain in front of Dinajpur Press Club in the morning. Limon's family members, including his wife Indu Banerjee, also took part in the programme.

A gang of stalkers stabbed Limon, 28, in front of Lily Square in the town at around 7:00pm on May 4 as he protested teasing of his

wife Indu, a third year management student of Dinajpur Government College, on her way to the college earlier on the day.

Limon was rushed to Dinajpur Medical College and Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries at around 10:30pm.

His father Phani Mishra filed a case with Dinajpur Police Station against eight people the same night and one of the accused named Sumon Sarker, 23, son of Montu Sarker of Rajbari area in the town, was arrested in the early hours of May 5.

Other accused in the case are Rubel Rahman, 26, Ajoy Shil, 24, Tanmoy Goswami, 23, Bakul, 26, Rajan, 24, Sumon Prosad, 22, and Subir, 21.

Addressing a rally in front of the press club, the speakers alleged that the accused in Limon murder case are moving freely under the nose of the law enforcers and putting pressure on the victim's family to withdraw the case.

At the rally, Parimal Chakraborty Tapan, convener of Sachetan Nagarik Committee, announced that black flags will be flown atop all houses in the town for three days from today.

He said the committee will hold a press conference on May 22, launch a mass signature campaign in the town on May 25 and submit a memorandum to the deputy commissioner on May 26 demanding arrest of the killers.

25 passengers hurt as truck hits train at level crossing

UNB, Dinajpur

Twenty-five passengers were injured as a stone laden truck hit a train at a level crossing near Mammathpur rail station in Parbatipur yesterday.

A Lalmonirhat-bound commuter train, coming from Thakurgaon was hit by the truck at noon, witnesses said.

Several injured were admitted to local hospital

while two others-truck driver Faruk and a passenger Khodeja to Dinajpur Medical College Hospital.

Angered at the accident, local people held a Dhaka-bound mail train to press home their three-point demand that included making level crossing gate at the spot and appointing gate-man and arrangement to halt train at Mammathpur station.

Train services on

Dinajpur-Parbatipur route remained suspended for hours following the incident.

Another report from Brahmanbaria said: Train services on Dhaka-Sylhet and Sylhet-Chittagong routes remained hampered for three hours from 8am yesterday as an engine of Balla local train went out of order near Mukundapur station in Bijoy nagar upazila.



PHOTO: STAR

Rab arrests Abdul Alim alias Halim, 46, a suspected activist of Harkat-ul-Jihad and seizes from his possession arms and bomb making materials at Aratpur Masterpara in Jhenidah on Tuesday night.

Sundarbans pirate Raju wants to surrender with gang

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Most wanted pirate of the Sundarbans Raju Molla, 40, wants to return to normal life along with his cadres laying down arms and ammunition.

He has made a written appeal in this regard to the government through Mongla UNO Dr Mizanur Rahman.

Mizanur Rahman said he received the petition on Sunday which was sent to him by courier service. He forwarded it to the deputy commissioner of Bagerhat on the following day.

Son of Jalal Molla of Amrhatata village under

Mongla upazila in Bagerhat district, Raju Molla maintains a group of over a hundred cadres having at least 35 most modern arms and huge ammunition. He also has four fast moving engine boats under his control, sources said.

According to police, Raju started committing different crimes in the Sundarbans and around its coastal belts since 1995 along with his cadres. He is wanted in several criminal cases such as murders, extortions, robberies and kidnappings for ransom, filed with different police stations of Bagerhat district, police further said.

The notorious pirate said in his petition that he would

surrender with all his cadres, arms and ammunition if government grants him amnesty.

"I will surrender on the very day of granting me amnesty," Raju was quoted as saying in his petition.

Meanwhile, chairman of Dublarchar Fishermen Community and a valiant freedom fighter Major (ret'd) Ziauddin also said that Raju Molla, ringleader of notorious Raju Bahini had wanted to surrender to the government laying down his arms and ammunition.

Ziauddin, who was sub-sector commander of the 9th sector in the Sundarbans region during liberation war in 1971, is now convener of a

newly formed platform, 'Sundarban Bachao Karmashuchi.' The platform was aimed at helping government root out crimes in the mangrove forest and campaign for making the world heritage site one of seven natural wonders at the final race on November 11 this year, sources said.

The retired Major told this correspondent on Tuesday that a section of dishonest forest officers and members of different law enforcing agencies are virtually helping the criminals in the forest and coastal belts. They are doing this just for their personal gain, he said.

IIUC TOWER

14 Storied Exclusive & Luxurious Commercial Centre at Agrabad C/A Chittagong

SPACE READY FOR RENT

IIUC Tower
Ground Floor, Plot #9
Agrabad C/A, Sk. Mujib Road
Chittagong, Bangladesh
T 880-31-2521200
M 880-1713 364 810
E iiuc_tower@iiuc.ac.bd

www.iiuc.ac.bd

Exclusive Commercial Complex | Agrabad C/A, Chittagong