

China orange sees successful farming in Khagrachhari

KAFIL MAHMUD, Khagrachhari

A newly introduced high-yielding variety of orange has seen successful cultivation in the district, following research by Bangladesh Agriculture Research Institute (BARI) at its Hill Agricultural Research Station in Khagrachhari Sadar upazila.

Cultivated on experimental basis, 22 trees on 100-square-metre area yielded 20 to 25 fruits each this season.

The botanical name of the China-origin fruit is Citrus reticulata.

It turns yellow when fully ripens and weighs 30-40 grams each. Its thin peel is very easy to remove.

With 13.2% total soluble solids and 1.16% acid, the juicy fruit is sweet in taste, said officials of Hill Agricultural Research Station, Khagrachhari office.

The species is planted from May to July. The sapling can be obtained from seed or grafting.

About 625 saplings are planted per hectare. Trees start fruiting within 3-4 years and 35-40 fruits are harvested from a four-year-old tree, said Senior

Scientific Officer Dr Mohammad Abdur Rouf, referring to their research.

The trees flower during March-April and the harvesting period is November-

December.

"Sandy soil with good drainage facility, like that in the eastern hilly areas of Bangladesh, is suitable for the species. With proper

irrigation and mulching, it can provide high yield as the variety is less vulnerable to pests and diseases," the official said.

Dr Mohabbat Ullah, chief scientific officer of Khagrachhari office of BARI, along with four senior scientific officers Dr Mohammad Abdur Rouf, Mohammad Mazharul Karim, Shahadat Hossain and Mohammad Salim started research on the orange variety in 2008 and saw the successful cultivation this season.

"The China-origin variety of orange is a new addition to the fruits of Bangladesh. We have sent a proposal to the authorities of National Seed Board for its registration as 'BARI Kamala-2,'" Dr Mohabbat said.

"Many local fruit gardeners are now seeking assistance from BARI to raise orchards of the newly introduced fruit. Its cultivation bears bright prospect for the country as huge amount of orange is imported from abroad every year," he said.



PHOTO: STAR

This high yielding China-origin variety of orange has seen successful cultivation at Agriculture Research Station in Khagrachhari Sadar upazila, thanks to the initiative of five researchers of Bangladesh Agriculture Research Institute.

Month of Victory



PHOTO: STAR

This graveyard on a hillock at Kullapathar village in Kasba upazila under Brahmanbaria district holds the mortal remains of 101 freedom-loving people who were martyred by the Pakistan occupation forces in early December of 1971. The martyrs include 51 freedom fighters who were killed in December 5 battle in the area that saw a crushing defeat of the enemy troops.

Here sleep 101 patriots who laid lives for country

SHEIKH MD SHAHIDUL ISLAM, B'baria

With the graves of 101 Liberation War martyrs, Kullapathar village in Kasba upazila under the district reminds us of the patriots' supreme sacrifice for the country's independence.

The bordering area remained a stronghold of freedom fighters during most of the Liberation War. The Pakistan troops made several failed attempts to capture this spot, a key strategic point of Liberation War in the eastern theatre.

On several occasions, the freedom fighters ambushed the Pak army at Salda Railway Bridge area when the enemy tried to enter

Brahmanbaria, Habiganj, Sunamganj and Sylhet zones through railway from Chittagong.

Guerrilla attacks by the freedom fighters made it a tough job for the occupation forces to move towards the areas.

Freedom fighters also engaged in quite a few face to face battles with the enemy troops at the key strategic point.

After a fierce battle on December 5 in 1971, valiant freedom fighters defeated the Pakistani troops and captured their goods and weapons from railway wagons. The next day, they declared Kashba a free area.

Fifty one freedom fighters sacrificed their lives in the fight. They were laid to

eternal rest on a hillock donated by the family of freedom fighter Abdul Karim.

Decomposed bodies of 50 unidentified people including 33 men, 12 women and 5 children, who were killed by the Pakistani soldiers and their local collaborators during the previous few days in surrounding areas, were also buried there.

In honour of the martyrs, every year freedom fighters and local administration arrange programmes and place wreaths at the hilltop graveyard of Kullapathar.

The government has taken a project to preserve the area as a Liberation War memorial and work is on for the purpose.

DEADLOCK AT ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY

Two groups of teachers scuffle as 'unwanted' treasurer comes to office

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushiya

Two groups of teachers at Islamic University (IU) got locked into a scuffle at the campus over the ongoing issue of removal of the university vice chancellor, pro vice chancellor and treasurer yesterday (Wednesday).

A group of 50/60 teachers went to the office of Treasurer Prof Shahjahan Ali at about 1:00pm after hearing that he is in the campus after around 13 days of 'illegal' absent, said Prof Yakub Ali, president of Islamic University Teachers Association.

Another group of teachers loyal to the treasurer was already there.

The scuffle between two groups of teachers began when the agitating teachers asked the treasurer to leave the office immediately, saying that he was 'unwanted' in the campus.

Prof Yakub alleged that the teachers loyal to the treasurer and some newly appointed employees also threatened to kill them.

At one stage, Treasurer Sahjahan Ali calmed the situation by assuring that he will leave the campus, witnesses said.

Earlier on November 20, Vice Chancellor Prof Alauddin, Pro-Vice Chancellor Kamal Uddin and Treasurer Shahjahan Ali left the campus in face of agitation by IUTA.

Prof Alauddin and Prof Kamal Uddin came to their offices on November 27 to appear before a probe body of University Grants Commission but the two key persons did not come to the university after that, said sources at the registrar's office.

On November 27, Treasurer Prof Shahjahan Ali was handed over the charge of acting vice chancellor but he also remained absent in the campus without taking any formal leave since November 28, the sources added.

Asked by journalists, the treasurer said that he went to the campus yesterday for signing some important files. He however, declined to comment on the scuffle

among the teachers.

After the incident, IUTA in an urgent meeting held at its office in the university announced fresh programme of 'locking' all university offices from December 17, after election of IUTA to be held on December 15.

The university has been facing deadlock for the last three months, following a serious controversy over appointment of 132 teachers and staffs in the university on September 7.

The IUTA alleged massive corruption and nepotism in the recruitment. They threw movement on September 8 and started a 'no work' programme demanding cancellation of the recruitment and removal of the vice-chancellor, the pro-vice chancellor and the treasurer of the university.

No class and examination was held at the university during the period while the first year honours admission tests for 2012-13 academic year has been postponed due to the movement.

Abducted college girl rescued

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

A college girl was rescued four hours into abduction from Borochohit area under Kapasia upazila of the district on Tuesday.

Police quoted locals as saying that a gang of 15 criminals led by Azizul Islam Morol of Pabur village and Mozammel of Borochohit village in Kapasia upazila came to Demra village under Kaliganj upazila in a microbus at around 2:00pm.

The gang stormed into a house of the village, beat up the family members and took away the girl, a student of Taraganj College in Kapasia.

Locals caught one of the gang members as he failed to board the microbus. They beat up the kidnapper and later handed him over to the police.

Being informed, Kapasia police launched a drive in the upazila and rescued the girl from the house of Mozammel at Borochohit village at around 6:00pm.

During rescue operation, the kidnappers swooped on the police with lethal weapons, prompting the law enforcers to open fire in self defence. Azizul Haque was injured in police firing and arrested on the spot.

Law enforcers arrested two other kidnappers--

Girl rescued while being trafficked to India

UNB, Benapole, Jessore

Police rescued a young girl while she was being trafficked to India through Sadipur border of Benapole on Tuesday morning.

Police also arrested three traffickers from there. The arrestees are Jewel, 21, son of Abdul Wahid, Sajib, 20, son of Nur Islam, and Arman, 20, son of Sabed Ali of Shankerpur area in the district town.

Sub-Inspector Motiur Rahman of Benapole Port Police Station said a police team, acting on a tip-off, raided the area, rescued the girl and the arrested the three.

The girl hails from Ulshi village of Sharsa upazila.



PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH

This culvert at Naobhanga on Kalapara-Kuakata road has remained in an awful condition, posing risk for commuters and tourists to Kuakata sea beach. The photo was taken a few days ago.

জাতীয় সঞ্চয় পরিদপ্তর

ক্ষুদ্র ক্ষুদ্র সম্পদ করে আহরণ গড়ে তুলি সঞ্চয়ের নব জাগরণ

সঞ্চয়পত্রে বিনিয়োগ করুন নিরাপদ ও ঝুঁকিমুক্ত থাকুন

- **পরিবার সঞ্চয়পত্র (৫-বছর মেয়াদী):** মুনাফার হার ১৩.৪৫%, এক লক্ষ টাকায় প্রতি মাসে নীট মুনাফা ১,০৭০/- (এক হাজার সত্তর) টাকা।
- ◆ ১৮ (আঠার) ও তদূর্ধ্ব বয়সের যে কোন বাংলাদেশী মহিলা
- ◆ যে কোন বাংলাদেশী শারীরিক প্রতিবন্ধী (পুরুষ ও মহিলা) এবং
- ◆ ৬৫ (পঁয়ষাট্টি) ও তদূর্ধ্ব বয়সের বয়োজ্যেষ্ঠ যে কোন বাংলাদেশী নাগরিক (পুরুষ ও মহিলা) নির্ধারিত ফরমে এই সঞ্চয়পত্র ক্রয়ের আবেদন করতে পারবে।
- **পেনশনার সঞ্চয়পত্র (৫-বছর মেয়াদী):** মুনাফার হার ১৩.১৯%, এক লক্ষ টাকায় প্রতি তিন মাসে নীট মুনাফা ৩,১৪৫/- (তিন হাজার একশত পঁয়তাল্লিশ) টাকা।
- **৫-বছর মেয়াদী বাংলাদেশ সঞ্চয়পত্র:** মুনাফার হার ১৩.১৯%, এক লক্ষ টাকায় মেয়াদান্তে (৫-বছর) নীট মুনাফা ৬২,৯০০/- (ষাট্টি হাজার নয়শত) টাকা।
- **৩-মাস অন্তর মুনাফাভিত্তিক সঞ্চয়পত্র (৩-বছর মেয়াদী):** মুনাফার হার ১২.৫৯%, এক লক্ষ টাকায় প্রতি তিন মাসে নীট মুনাফা ৩,০০০/- (তিন হাজার) টাকা।

৬২/৩, পুরানা পল্টন, এন.এস.সি টাওয়ার (১৮ তলা), ঢাকা-১০০০।

www.nationalsavings.gov.bd