



PHOTO: STAR

A woman tends the plants at her vegetable garden at Fulgachh village in Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila. The area sees increasing participation and success of women in farming, especially that of vegetables.

Women engage in farming, outdo male counterparts

S DILIP ROY, Lalmonirhat

A good number of women in different areas of the district have emerged as successful independent farmers, especially of vegetables, doing better than their male counterparts.

"Around five thousand women are independently engaged in farming either on their own lands or leased ones. In many cases, women are doing better than men in agriculture," said Mohammad Nuruzzaman, Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila agriculture officer.

"Three years ago, I received a 15-day training on vegetable farming from the agriculture office and

started farming on four bighas of leased land at the village," said Monowara Begum, 28, wife of Mizanul Islam at Fulgachh village in Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila. "By selling vegetables, I earned Tk 1 lakh in 2011. I earned Tk 1 lakh 35 thousand in 2012 and the earning from the same venture during the last seven months of this year stood at Tk 70 thousand," said Monowara, who earlier worked as a farm labourer for Tk 100 to 125 daily.

Shahana Akhter, 26, wife of Meher Ali of the same village, said she has been producing vegetables on three bighas of land taken

from her husband on lease two years ago.

"My husband failed to get profit from the land, but I am earning good profit by producing vegetables here," she said.

Suro Bala Rani, 32, wife of Nagendra Nath Roy of Baro Kamlabari village of Aditmari upazila, said she has been maintaining the six-member family through producing vegetables on their six biaghs of land in the village for the last four years.

"Four years ago, I took six bighas of land from my husband on lease and started producing vegetables there. Now I can save Tk

70 to 80 thousand yearly after managing family expenditures including education of three children," she said.

"Women are doing better in agriculture as they are hard working and sincere to work. With proper training and technical support, they can do even better and play very positive role in the agriculture sector of the country," said Nurul Islam of Baninagar village of Kaliganj upazila, who won the government's 'best farmer award' from Lalmonirhat district this year.

Abdul Mazid, deputy director of the Department of Agriculture Extension in Lalmonirhat, said, "Agriculture department provides all kinds of support to women farmers in the district as they are doing better in agriculture, especially vegetable production."

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SNIPPETS

Indian clothes seized

A CORRESPONDENT, Comilla

Members of Border guard Bangladesh (BGB) seized huge Indian clothes worth Tk 2 crore on Dhaka-Chittagong highway in Padwerbazar-Biswa Road area of Sadar upazila yesterday morning. The clothes include 1449 pieces of saree and 335 three-piece sets. On secret information, the border guards raided the area and seized a covered van loaded with the Indian clothes, said Lt Col Mamun Al Mahamood, commander of BGB-10. However, the smugglers managed to flee the scene, sensing the presence of the BGB men, said the commander.

Attack on power company man

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur

An official of West Zone Power Distribution Company in the town was injured in an attack by criminals yesterday. The victim is Abdul Mazid, executive engineer of the company. He was admitted to Faridpur Medical College and Hospital. Police said a gang entered the office at 3:00pm and stabbed Mazid and fled. The reason behind the attack could not be known immediately, said Syed Mohsinul Haque, officer-in-charge of Kotwali Police Station.

Man's body recovered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narail

Police recovered the body of an unidentified man from Modhumoti River in Amdanga Balurghat area of Lohagara upazila on Wednesday night. Locals found the body of the man, aged around 47, floating on the river and informed police. The body was sent to Narail Sadar Hospital morgue for autopsy, said Nur Mohammad, sub-inspector of Lohagara police station.

Rice mill worker electrocuted

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Netrakona

An auto rice mill worker was electrocuted in Dhanmohal area of Kalmakanda upazila town yesterday morning. The deceased is Makhon Mia, 35, of Chandpur area in the town. Police and Makhon came in contact with a live electric wire while he was working in the mill at 9:00am. He was rushed to the upazila health complex where attending doctors declared him dead.

Youth falls off train roof, dies

A CORRESPONDENT, Comilla

A youth died after falling from the rooftop of a running train in Rail Crossing Bazar area of Noangolkot upazila on Wednesday morning. The deceased is Manik Miah, 22, son Shamsu Miah of Zeroin village in Bramanpara upazila. Shahidul Islam, officer-in-charge of Laksam Government Railway Police, said Manik slipped to the ground and died on the spot when he was traveling on the rooftop of a Dhaka-bound train at 10:30am.

Schoolgirl raped

A CORRESPONDENT, Gopalganj

A schoolgirl was raped allegedly by a youth at Aamtali village in Kotlipara upazila on Tuesday evening. She was admitted to Gopalganj 250-bed General Hospital after complaining of profound bleeding. Police and family sources said neighbour Rayhan Hawlader, 18, picked up the girl on her way to home and raped her. Rayhan went into hiding after the incident.

ATTACKS ON POLICEMEN IN COMILLA 280 Jamaat-Shibir activists sued

A CORRESPONDENT, Comilla

Police yesterday filed a case against 280 leaders and activists of Jamaat-e-Islami and its student wing Islami Chhatra Shibir on charges of attacking police and obstructing them from performing their duties during Jamaat-enforced hartal in Laksham upazila and in Comilla on Wednesday.

Officer-in-Charge Abul Khair of Laksam Police Station filed the case against 24 named Jamaat-Shibir men, including the upazila ameer and general secretary of Jamaat, and 226 unidentified ones.

Police said the Jamaat-Shibir men brought out a procession at Puran Bazar at the upazila headquarters at around 7:00am.

At one state, they went on

the rampage, vandalised vehicles, including two trucks and seven covered vans. As police tried to disperse the Jamaat-Shibir men, they hurled brick chips and cocktails at the law enforcers.

Another case was filed with Kotwali Police Station in Comilla on Wednesday, accusing 30 identified Jamaat-Shibir men for attack on cops on Laksam Road on the day.

Sub-Inspector Shahidul Islam of the police station filed the case, reports UNB.

Officer-in-Charge Mohiuddin Mahmud of Kotwali Model Police Station said the case was filed against the Jamaat-Shibir men as they injured SI Jasim Uddin of the police station by hurling bombs at a police van on Laksam Road.

Attack on fishermen, five robbers held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bhola

Police arrested five robbers in Char Nasrin area under Tazumuddin upazila of the district on Wednesday night.

The arrestees are Shafiq, 30, Mainuddin, 26, Kallu Dakat, 35, Selim, 25 of Kazi Kandi village under Tazumuddin upazila, and Numobi, 30 of Dalal Bazar village under Borhanuddin upazila.

According to police, a gang of robbers belonging to infamous 'Swapan Bahini' swooped on two fishing trawlers of Nurnobi Majhi and Jahangir Majhi

on the Meghna River at around 11:45pm.

Being informed by the fishermen over mobile phone, police from Char Jahiruddin police camp rushed to the spot and arrested two of the gang members.

The fishermen also caught three robbers while they were fleeing the area and later handed them over to the police.

Sub-Inspector HM Abul Hossain of Tazumuddin Police Station said the robbers were wanted in seven to eight cases filed with different police stations in the district.

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বাংলাদেশ ইনস্টিটিউট অব গ্ল্যান্স (বি.আই.পি.)

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তারিখঃ ১২/১০/২০১৩ইং

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