

Flag-ribbon method to save vegetables

A Kurigram farmer says the system is cost effective

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kurigram

A vegetable farmer in Kurigram Sadar upazila has been successful in reducing labour cost by applying flag-ribbon system in his crop field.

Farmer Habibur Rahman, 50, son of Abdur Rahman of Hariram village in Belgachha union under the upazila, invented the system, which uses polythene, rejected ribbons of tape recorders and bamboo sticks.

Habibur cultivates different vegetables in char areas of the upazila by leasing land every year. He found that flocks of little birds (bulbuli) would eat his brinjals. As a result, he could not make a profit from brinjal cultivation.

He employed labourers to chase away the little birds, spending a lot of money for labour payments. At one point he observed that the birds flew away when they heard sounds. This observation led him to devise the system.

He leased land for four months at

Bhogdanga union in September last year and planted brinjal plants in 30 decimals of land.

He bought white polythene paper and made triangular pieces with it. He then stuck bamboo sticks in the brinjal field and tied the polythene pieces on top of the bamboo sticks. Then he tied the rejected tape-ribbons from stick to stick.

The polythene pieces flap on the bamboo sticks and the ribbons create a sound when the air blows over them, scaring away the birds from the field.

Labourer Abdul Jalil, 35, of Majherchar village said, "I was employed last year for chasing birds from the brinjal fields by beating a tin drum. But no labour is needed this year due to the flag-ribbon system."

Farmer Habibur Rahman said, "I spent a lot of money chasing bulbuls from the brinjal fields, and could not make a profit. This year I have not spent any money for that purpose."



Vegetable farmer Habibur Rahman with the flag-ribbon system he devised to chase away little birds from his brinjal field in Majherchar village of Bhogdanga union under Kurigram Sadar upazila.

PHOTO: STAR

Nine arrested while entering Bangladesh

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

Members of Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) detained nine people, including women and children, at Daulatpur border while they were entering Bangladesh from India yesterday.

BGB Battalion-21 Company Commander of Daulatpur Camp Md Abdul Samad said on information the border guards conducted the drive in the area in the morning and arrested them.

The traffickers, however, managed to flee, said Samad, adding that the arrestees went to India in search of jobs and had been staying in New Delhi.

Man killed by nephew

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

A youth killed his uncle in Neugi village under Phulbaria upazila of the district on Sunday.

The victim was identified as Abdur Rahman, 45, of the village.

Quoting locals and the victim's family members, Officer-in-Charge (OC) of Phulbaria Police Station Rifat Khan said Rahman and his nephew Kabir Hossain, 30, a mental patient, locked in an altercation over burying a new-born baby at a local graveyard.

At one stage, Kabir hit Rahman on the head with a bamboo stick, injuring him severely, the OC said.

Rahman was taken to Phulbaria Upazila Health Complex and later shifted to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital, where he died that night.

On information, police recovered the body and sent it to the morgue for autopsy.

Police arrested Kabir the same night. He was produced before a Mymensingh court yesterday, which sent him to jail, police said.

Victim's son lodged a case with Phulbaria Police Station yesterday, accusing Kabir, his father and a brother.

ONE MONTH OF LAWMAKER LITON MURDER Police yet to find killers

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

One month into the gruesome murder of lawmaker Manzarul Islam Liton, the killers are yet to be arrested or identified, despite law enforcers' intensive investigation over the matter.

Police detained as many as 128 people, mostly belonging to BNP and Jamaat-Shibir, for interrogation in this connection and shown arrested 23 people as suspects. Police interrogated 12 arrested people on different terms of remand and now all are in jail.

Police also interrogated slain Liton's family members on several occasions. They are Liton's wife Khurshid Jahan Smrity, elder brother-in-law Badrul Ahsan Betar, elder sister Afroza Bari, younger sister and plaintiff of Liton murder case Fahmida Bulbul Kakoli, driver Khandaker Forkan Ali, caretaker Yusuf Ali, neighbour Class VIII student Jewel Mia, and several near relatives, friends and party men.

Liton's wife Smrity blamed Jamaat-Shibir activists for her husband's murder.

Police and other law enforcement agen-

cies interrogated Liton's brother-in-law Badrul Ahsan Betar on several occasions as he was an eyewitness to the incident and helped in shifting critically bullet injured Liton to Rangpur Medical College Hospital.

"My house is under police watch and law enforcers interrogate us every now and then. I saw the killers before the murder took place, as I entered my sister's room through the drawing room. I think I can identify the killers if I see them again," said Badrul.

Ruling party lawmaker from Gaibandha-1, Manzarul Islam Liton was shot by unknown assailants at his Masterpara house on December 31, 2016 and he died at Rangpur Medical College Hospital shortly afterwards.

"We are applying all strategies to find clues to the lawmaker's murder and expecting to get success soon," said Ashrafuzzaman, investigation officer of Liton murder case.

"We suspect the murder took place in a planned way and as so, it may need some time to solve the mystery," said Atiar Rahma, officer in charge of Sundanganj Police Station.

Tangail by-polls today

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

The by-election to the Tangail-4 (Kalihati) constituency will be held today.

The contestants are Awami League candidate Hasan Imam Khan (boat symbol), Ataur Rahman Khan of Bangladesh Nationalist Front (television symbol) and Imrul Kayes of National People's Party (mango symbol).

All preparations, including sending election materials to the centres, are complete to hold the election peacefully, said Mohammad Tajul Islam, assistant returning officer.

Some 1325 policemen, 1498 Ansar members, 25 executive magistrates, two judicial magistrates, 25 mobile teams and eight striking forces of the law enforcers will work to maintain law and order in the election, he added.

There are 3,07,700 voters in the constituency, of them, 1,52,833 are male and 1,54,867 female.

The constituency fell vacant following the resignation of lawmaker Abdul Latif Siddique, also a sacked minister, in September 2015.

On September 15, the Election Commission (EC) announced the schedule to hold the by-polls on October 28 that year.

But the by-election was suspended due to legal complexity over the validity of the candidacy of Krishak Shramik Janata League President Abdul Kader Siddique.

However, all legal complexities were cleared as the Supreme Court on January 18 this year upheld the cancellation of his nomination and the EC on January 24 decided to proceed with the by-polls.



Members of Youth Engagement and Support (YES), a body of Sacheton Nagorik Committee of Transparency International Bangladesh, bring out a cycle procession in Jamalpur town yesterday as part of their awareness campaign against corruption.

PHOTO: STAR

125kgs of hemp seized from truck Kurigram court sends the truck driver to jail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kurigram

A large quantity of hemp worth about Tk 12.50 lakh was seized from a truck covered with tarpaulin in Rajarhat upazila of the district yesterday.

Police recovered 125 kilograms of hemp in ten sacks from the truck and arrested the driver, said Kurigram Sadar Police Station Inspector (Investigation) Rowshan Kabir.

Kabir said members of Detective Branch (DB) of police, acting on a tip-off, stopped the Rangpur-bound truck on Kurigram-Rangpur highway in Selimnagar area of the upazila around 3:45am yesterday.

He said the arrestee is Harun Ur Rashid, 32, son of late Younus Ali of Dakkhin Bulupara village in Joypurhat municipality of Joypurhat district.

Police also seized the truck.

Later, police produced Harun before the Kurigram Chief Judicial Magistrate's Court, which sent him to jail, Kabir said.

Trafficked girl rescued after 17 months

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

A teenage girl who was abducted from Ghatail upazila in the district in 2015 was rescued on Sunday from the Benapole border in Jessore 17 months after her disappearance.

Members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) rescued her with the help of Indian Border Security Force (BSF), Border Guard of Bangladesh (BGB), local police and immigration police.

The Crime Prevention Company-3 of Rab-12 in Tangail revealed this at a press conference at its office here yesterday.

Rab Commander Muhammad Mohiuddin Faruki produced the girl before the journalists, saying that she was trafficked to India after abduction by a gang of human traffickers on August 17 in 2015. Later, she was sold to a brothel in Delhi, Faruki said.

Faruki said the victim's parents filed a complaint with the elite force on September 29 after an anony-

mous caller from India on September 25 the same year demanded Tk 5 lakh for her release. The caller also said the girl was in India, he added.

The elite force then started investigation over the matter and arrested 11 members of the traffickers' ring from different parts of the country.

The arrestees gave confessional statements to a court under Section 164, Faruki said, adding that they abducted the girl, trafficked her to India and sold her to a Delhi brothel.

Rab sought Interpol's help to rescue the girl, he said.

Sensing the Indian police's preparation to rescue the girl, the traffickers left her in Indian territory near Benapole border on January 28.

Being informed, Rab members went to the border and rescued the girl on Sunday and took her to Tangail, said Faruki, also investigation officer of the case.



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e-Tender Notice

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Tender ID No.	Package No.	Description of works	Online (e-GP System) tender publication date & time	Online (e-GP System) tender closing date & time
82465	BARI/B&G/JOY/100.01(92)/195	Repairing and Renovation of Sewerage Line at Training Center, BARI, Gazipur	17.01.2017 18:30	02.02.2017 14.00
82479	BARI/B&G/BM/Madaripur/123.01(07)/	Supplying, Fitting & Fixing of Gate Valve, Non-Return Valve, PFI Panel, P.C. Pole at RPRS, Madaripur	17.01.2017 13:30	02.02.2017 14.00
82460	BARI/B&G/JOY/100.01(92)/199	Repairing of C-9/A, C-12/F, C-15/10, C-16/G, C-6/C, C-10/D, C-13/G, C-13 No. Building (Sewerage Line), D-1/L, Maloti-7, Mohuya-9, 10, Maloncho-9, 10 and Repairing of Roof Mohuya-Maloncho Building at BARI, Gazipur	18.01.2017 12:00	05.02.2017 14.00
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This is online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. e-Tender registration is essential to submit e-Tender. Fees have to be deposited for downloading the tender documents from e-GP Portal through any registered bank. For further information and guidelines contact e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

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Associate Project Analyst

The ADB-Bangladesh Resident Mission (BRM) was established to assist its Headquarters in the implementation of projects and programs, in project processing, country programming, and economic and sector work. It also coordinates ADB's activities with other resident diplomatic and donor missions, NGOs, academic institutions, local think tanks, private sector and other members of the civil society.

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