



## TANGAIL

Ask any mishti connoisseur of what they know about Tangail, and the answer would be its famed 'Porabari Chamcham'.

Chamcham is a soft, syrup dripping, often white sweet, although we speak not of the famed one from Porabari, but of Bilpara area in Basail instead.

Many local patrons claim that this variant has surpassed its famous predecessor in taste. It is slightly longish, like a rounded pillow. The chamcham here is also slightly different from traditional white ones, as the Porabari's one is deep brown, and the Bilpara version is light brown, and has a somewhat hard exterior around a soft syrupy centre.

The best reputed maker at the moment happens to be Newaz Ali of Newaz Ali Mishtanno Bhandar, a sweet making veteran of 25 years!



## CHAPAINAWABGANJ

If you thought Chapainawabganj is famed only for mangoes then think again. It also has a wonderful and well-known chamcham, as well as Shandesh, which is also known as Pera or Misri.

The making of chamcham in the region is essentially a family affair, as the descendants of the originally famous maker now have separate sweet shops.

"Since the milk supplied during winter is thicker, the sweets are tastier then," said Korun Sarker, one of the owners of the original chamcham store of the area.

Sometimes they make huge chamchams, about 6 kilograms large! These are made on special orders for weddings and such



occasions and are much pricier than regular sized sweets, he said.

The area's well known and very tasty Shandesh, which is locally known as Pera or Dom Misri, can be had in its locally best version at Monkosha Bazaar, at the shop called Shudhir Mishtanno Bhandar.

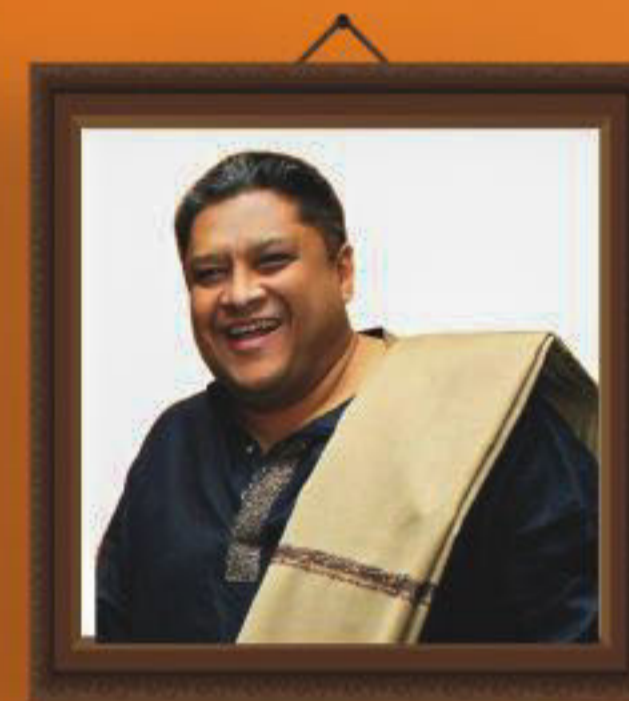
The family-owned set up has been in the pera making business for over 85 years. To make Pera, a large quantity of milk is slow-boiled till it is reduced to a solid state, called mawa. This mawa is then shaped into various designs by moulding in some water. The Hilsa shape or the leaf shape pera are most popular, Bipod Saha, the owner of Shudhir Mishtanno Bhandar, said.



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