

Assam to promote 'Bhut Jalakiya', the hottest chilli of the world

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Mowsam Hazarika 6 September 2009 29089 views

'Bhut Jalakiya' (*Capsicum chinense* Jacq.), which is famous as hottest chilli of the world, is gaining popularity in Assam . Assam Agriculture Minister Pramila Rani Brahma instructed the Directorate of Horticulture & Food Processing, Assam to promote this kind of chilli, initially in Golaghat & Baksa districts of Assam , under Technology Mission for Horticultural Development. In this connection, the Directorate of Horticulture & Food Processing, Assam has organized a zonal level workshop on spice crops in the auditorium of District Library at Golaghat on 4th September, 2009 with a day long programme. By inaugurating the this workshop, Assam Agriculture Minister Pramila Rani Brahma appealed the farming community of Assam to come forward for the expansion of the cultivation of 'Bhut Jalakiya', for which the Directorate of Horticulture & Food Processing, Assam is going to offer several incentives to the concerned farmers. All together 300 ha of land will be brought under the cultivation of 'Bhut Jalakiya', under this new initiative. Dr. H. Barooah, Director, Horticulture & Food Processing, Assam said that, there are tremendous opportunities to earn money from the cultivation of this 'Bhut Jalakiya'. Dr. R C Das, Dr. Lochan Saikia , Dr. A. K . Bhattacharjya and Dr. B C. Bora from Assam Agricultural University were present as resource person in the workshop. Gautom Goswami of ITC also expresses their willingness to associate this innovative project. Mrigendra Kalita, Agriculture Secretary , Assam was also present in the workshop as Guest of Honour.

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BY MOWSAM HAZARIKA

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