

Retail shop for carbide free banana in City



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A retail [shop](#) for carbide free banana at *Krishakor Dukan*, Six Mile, [Khanapara](#), Guwahati was inaugurated by Prabin [Hazarika](#), Director of Horticulture and Food Processing on Thursday.

Mowsam [Hazarika](#), Agriculture Officer informed that fruits are loved by everybody; extremely good for your health [as](#) they are loaded with vitamins and other nutrients that are essential for our growth and development. However the health benefits of fruits are being threatened by human greed. A potentially harmful compound believed to have carcinogenic properties is being used to ripen fruits by corrupt business men and shady market traders who are looking to make a quick buck.

Calcium carbide is a chemical compound that is industrially used in the production of calcium cyanamide for fertilizer and also in welding. When calcium carbide comes into contact with water it produces acetylene [gas](#) that hastens the ripening of several fruits such [as](#) mangoes, bananas and apples. This chemical is extremely hazardous because it contains traces of arsenic and phosphorus which both have dangerous effects on the human body.

However, [Hazarika](#) expressed that, use of ethylene [gas](#) exogenously is considered safe when used in concentration of [10](#)-100 PPM (0.001-0.01%) depending upon the [crop](#), variety and maturity, in ripening chambers at 18-24 Degree Centigrade with 90-95% relative humidity for ripening of fruits.

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