

Success Story of a Traditional Muga Farmer

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Pankaj Rabha, who is 55 years old resident of Batakuchi village, Boko in the Kamrup District of Assam is a traditional muga farmer. It has been 32 years since he have been working on muga culture. Due to his hard work he was able to overcome all the hurdles that come in his way and innovate some new techniques in Muga Grainage. He have been able to provide employment to 10-15 numbers of unemployed youths in his area. Muga culture is the main source of livelihood to his family.

He received the best Muga Granieur Award 2012-13 from the Government of Assam. He along with a group of officials of the State Sericulture Department, Assam visited China in 2014. He acquired great experience from the various Sericultural activities going on in China. Various works of Pankaj Rabha related to production of disease free seeds, preservation of muga seed cocoons in the remote areas of Assam and Meghalaya were published in some of the renowned magazines like The Wolf (Published from Canada), Indian Silk, Eastern Panorama etc and newspapers like The Hindu, The Telegraph, Assam tribune etc. Every year visitors from different countries like Canada, Australia, USA, Japan etc visited his home. He and his wife was felicitated by IIT Guwahati for their contribution in the field of Muga culture. He was also invited as a state guest in the Krishi Unnati Mela, 2018 held at IARI, Pusa New Delhi.

His wife Kanika Rabha who is also engaged in Muga Reeling has also received The Women Achivers award of Assam 2014-15 from the Ministry of Textile, Government of India. Every year 120-130 kg of Muga eggs (Dfls) were produced at his grainage unit. Eggs were supplied to all over Assam where Bodoland Territorial Area District took the major quantity. He also have a reeling unit where his wife looks after it and annual production from his reeling unit is more than a 100 kg of muga raw silk. He had also started a muga weaving unit recently and the fine muga fabric produced from his weaving unit was exported to Japan. Due to his effort he have been able to established his village as "Muga Model Village". Many



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youngsters from the nearby areas was inspired by his noble work in the field of Muga Culture. He has become a role model "Muga Culturist" worthwhile in Kamrup district, Assam.



Muga Grainage Unit



Muga Reeling Unit



Visitors from Canada



Visitors from Arunachal