

SUCCESS STORY OF WOMAN FARMER

“Cultivation of indigenous cauliflower cv. *Tha animakhai chabi*”

Profile of the Woman Farmer



Name	: Smt. Keisham Thoibi Devi
Age	: 54 years
Educational level	: Illiterate
Address	: Langpok Mayai Leikai
District	: Bishnupur
State	: Manipur
Pin Code	: 795134
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An innovative farm woman Smt. Keisham Thoibi Devi, w/o Shri K. Khongnem Singh of Langpok Village of Bishnupur district owns 2.0 ha of land where she has been practicing the integration of traditional and scientific cultivation packages of various crops mainly vegetables. She has an innovative idea on cultivation of traditional and indigenous cultivars of various vegetables and procurement of indigenous seeds. She is cultivating most of the indigenous cultivars of major crops and adopting integrated vegetable farming system at her field.

About twenty years ago, Smt. Keisham Thoibi Devi got some seeds of cauliflower cv. *Tha animakhai chabi* from her in-laws. She has attracted to the characteristics of the cultivar when sown in her field. She tagged some desirable plants which had matured early, creamy white coloured curd and were free from insect-pests and diseases for production of seeds for next year cultivation. The selection of seeds from the best curds was repeated for several years and the cultivar was stabilised in 1998. She has been adopting same selection process to maintain the purity of desirable traits. The cultivar is most suitable for early sowing in first week of July and produces narrow elliptical, creamy-white coloured curds. The average weight of the curd is 750 g, having medium compactness and are partially covered by inner leaves. It has delicious taste, tolerant to insect-pests and diseases. The cultivar has got good market price due to its earliness.

Salient features of the Cauliflower cv *Tha animakhai chabi* :

1. Suitable for early sowing (1st week of July)
2. Duration of the cultivar (60 days after transplanting)
3. Fetches good market price due to its earliness
4. Tolerant to insects - pests and diseases as compared to other early varieties
5. Delicious in taste so high demand in market

Smt. could get BC ratio of about 7.4:1 per annum by cultivating Cauliflower cv. *Tha animakhai chabi* .

Since 2005, the seeds of this cultivar have been distributed to neighbouring farmers and relatives for cultivation. Most of the farmers of Langpok village, Nambol, Thiyam and other adjacent villages had been growing this cultivar by procuring seeds from the innovator “Smt Thoibi”. Early maturity, delicious taste and high market price of the variety due to early availability in the market are highly appreciated traits of the variety by the farmers of the region.



Cultivation of Cauliflower cv. *Tha animakhai chabi*



Curd of Cauliflower cv. *Tha animakhai chabi*



Farm woman in her integrated vegetable farm.

Smt. K. Thoibi Devi is a woman progressive farmer of Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Utlou Bishnupur District, Manipur since 2011-12. She is participating various training programmes conducted by this Kendra. She is interested on cultivation of various vegetables mainly on indigenous cultivars like Cauliflower local *Tha animakhai chabi*, Chilli local *Meitei morok*, Cucumber local *Kalen thabi* etc. with the technical supports from the KVK, Utlou. She is practicing the seed production of the indigenous vegetables at her farm and also distributed the seeds to the farmers under the aegis of KVK Bishnupur. The package of practices of various vegetables adopted at her farm is under the guidance of SMS (Hort.), KVK Bishnupur. Thus, her cultivation practice which is mainly focused on indigenous cultivars was so impressive by many organizations, institutes, line departments etc.



She was awarded with the State Award for the innovation of **“Tha Animakhai Chabi: Traditional Cauliflower Variety”** in the **“10th National Grassroots Innovations & Traditional Knowledge Award Function”** during 2019 by **“National Innovation Foundation – India”** (Autonomous body of Department of Science & Technology, Govt. of India. And recently she received IARI- Innovative Farmer Award 2020 during March.

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