



4th National Development Fair 2018 4-6 October

Development Strides by Unstoppable Bangladesh



Achievements of Bangladesh Agricultural
Research Council during the last ten years



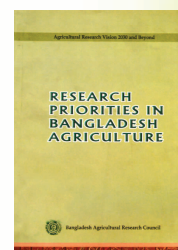
Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council

www.barc.gov.bd

Achievements of Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council during the last ten years

Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) provides essential directives for National Agricultural Research System (NARS) and associated institutes on the basis of National Policies on research planning, priority setting, program coordination, monitoring and evaluation, improving research quality and human resource development. Wider responsibility is entrusted on the council through enacting BARC Act 2012 by expanding areas, integration and strengthening to make country's agricultural research more vibrant, tailored and effective. It offers suggestions on food production and poverty reduction as per priorities of the government.

- ❖ **Development of Research Priority and Vision Document 2030:** BARC as an apex body of NARS institutes reviewed the different policies of the government and set research priorities. As per national demand and global warming, research issues are prioritized and compiled as Vision document 2030 on the basis of field and region specific demand. The vision document has been prepared for 12 sub-sectors of agriculture as an effective visionary future agricultural research guideline.



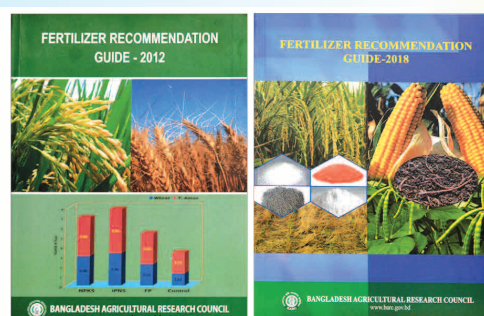
- ❖ **Formulation of National Agricultural Policy:** BARC coordinated the formulation of 'National Agricultural Policy 2018' under the supervision of Ministry of Agriculture in continuation of 'National Agricultural Policy 2013' considering the context of global climate change, current issues and national demand identified by different stakeholders.



- ❖ **Action Plan Preparation on UN SDG Goal 2:** Under supervision of MoA, BARC has coordinated outlining an action plan for achieving SDG Goal-2, '7th Five year plan (2016-2020)' and 'Vision Document 2021'.

- ❖ **Variety Release:** BARC through National Technical Committee of National Seed Board (NSB) reviews institutional proposal and recommends release of new variety considering yield and quality of 7 notified crops (rice, wheat, potato, sugarcane, jute, kenaf and mesta) to the NSB. In the last ten years, more than 170 varieties of different crops were recommended to NSB for release.

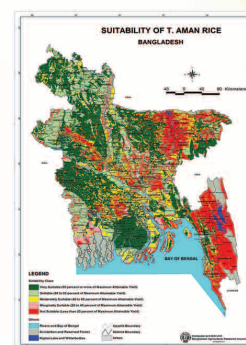
- ❖ **Fertilizer Recommendation:** Based on research conducted by different NARS institutes on various crops at different agro-ecological zones, region specific fertilizer rates are compiled. In continuation of Fertilizer Recommendation Guide (FRG) 2012, FRG-2018 has been published both in Bangla and English version, also available at BARC website (www.barc.gov.bd).



- ❖ **Execution of Program for increasing Rice and Pulses Production:** This program has been executed during 2009-2011 throughout the country by DAE, BADC and NARS institutes coordinated by BARC to increase rice and pulses production. Under the program Breeders, Foundation and Certified seed of high yielding varieties were produced and distributed to the farmers. Consequently, production of rice and pulses have been increased by 17.5 and 15%, respectively.

- ❖ **Agricultural Biotechnology Support Project (ABSP-II):** BARC coordinated the ABSP-II project since 2005. Under the project BARI has released four *Bt*-brinjal varieties following government approval and three more are in the pipeline. Besides, research efforts on development of late blight resistant potato varieties are continuing.
- ❖ **Asian Food and Agriculture Cooperation Initiative (AFACI):** BARC is working as a national focal point with AFACI project funded by Korean Government since 2010. Under the project germplasm collection and conservation of various crops, development of stress tolerant varieties, good agricultural practices, pest management and postharvest technology development activities are being under implementation.
- ❖ **National Agricultural Technology Project-I (NATP-I):** As a joint effort of MoA and MoFL, NATP-I funded by the World Bank was executed during 2007-2014 to make a vibrant and efficient agricultural management system. Through the project 78 local and 30 foreign PhD were persuaded towards human resource development and more than 50 varieties and improved production technologies of crops, fisheries and livestock were developed.
- ❖ **National Agricultural Technology Project-II (NATP-II):** To increase national agricultural productivity, income and livelihood of small, medium and marginal farmers the project titled 'NATP-II' for 2015-2021 is undertaken with financial support of World Bank. Since fiscal year 2016-17 about 190 Competitive Research Grants (CRG) and 39 Program Based Research Grants (PBRG) are being funded through the project. Besides, for human resource development, 80 local and 60 foreign PhD scholarships are awarded under the project.
- ❖ **Agriculture Technology Transfer Project:** The BARC implemented Japan Debt Cancellation Fund (JDCF) funded project 'Agriculture Technology Transfer Project' during 2005-2010 to improve the livelihoods of small and marginal farmers through transferring agricultural technology and marketing their products. A total of 55 technologies of crops, livestock, fisheries and agroforestry were validated and transferred in 43 upazilas through this project. Subsequently, 16744 farmers were trained, 11840 field days and 767 demonstrations were organized on selected technologies.
- ❖ **Human Resource Development Plan:** In 2010, a comprehensive 'Human Resource Development Plan 2025' for short, medium and long term higher education is formulated by BARC. Following the plan, under development and revenue fund 150 PhD, 10 Post Doc and 1209 trainings were persuaded. In addition, 1800 scientists/officers had opportunities for skill development, 16744 farmers were trained and 11480 field days were organized.

- ❖ **Land Suitability Assessment and Crop Zoning MAP:** BARC has compiled crop zoning map for 17 crops to increase crop production based on soil, climate and region specific suitable crops in cooperation with NARS institutes and DAE. In continuation, preparation of crop zoning map for 300 upazilas are in progress.



- ❖ **Appropriate Agriculture Technology for the South:** A book titled 'Appropriate Agriculture Technology for South' is prepared by BARC comprising suitable technologies for 14 southern coastal districts towards implementation of 'Southern Master Plan' in the line of overall agricultural development to achieve food sufficiency and poverty reduction.

- ❖ **Seaweed Production:** BARC integrating attempts to boost up blue economy through implementing the artificial culture of seaweed under the project titled 'Capacity Building for Conducting Adaptive Trials on Seaweed Cultivation in Coastal Areas' with the co-operation of BARI. Seven edible seaweed species were grown successfully under nursery condition and one species (*Hypnea*) has been found suitable for commercial production in open sea.

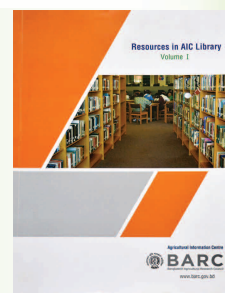


- ❖ **Farm Mechanization:** BARC provides directives, suggestions and technical assistance to different universities and NARS institutes on different aspects of farm mechanization including irrigation, water management and post harvest technologies. In the perspective of labour shortage in agricultural production and minimizing postharvest losses, farm mechanization Road Map 2021, 2031 and 2041 has been developed.



- ❖ **Awareness of safe food and balanced diet:** A well pictured "Food Plate" has been developed by BARC for healthy daily life and knowledge on proper nutrition and its popularization among mass people about safe food intake. An ample number of "food plate" has already been distributed through training and workshop among stakeholders like extension workers, academicians, print and electronic media and other available platforms for disseminating nutrition information and knowledge.

- ❖ **Action Plan for Digital Bangladesh:** BARC renders services through database setup using research results/technologies, financial management, procurement, human resources and publications of NARS institutes. A data hub has been established at BARC for data management activities efficiently. Besides, weather related data are being retained to continue GIS activities to mitigate future risk in agriculture and help to increase production.



- ❖ **International and Bilateral Collaboration:** BARC has signed MoUs' and bilateral agreements with different countries, national, regional and international institutions for exchanging and upgrading technological advancement. Through the MoUs' research, skill development and sharing technical know-how are being exchanged, benefiting the signing countries and institutes.

- ❖ **National Agricultural Display Centre (NADC):** At BARC premise in 2016 NADC is being setup to create interest and inspire the students, teachers, scientists, extensionists, farmers including visitors from home and abroad on agricultural history-heritage, success stories, agricultural inputs, crop varieties, production techniques etc. of Bangladesh.



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