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Executive Chairman of BARC Dr. Md. Kabir Ikramul Haque offering crest to Hon'ble Agriculture Minister Dr. Muhammad Abdur Razzaque MP

For achieving SDGs, integrated efforts needed

“There is no alternative of hunger and poverty alleviation to the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals. Our agriculture and farmers are entangled with hunger and poverty alleviation, human resource development and food security.” uttered Dr. Muhammad Abdur Razzaque MP while he was attending the SDGs workshop organized by BARC on 22nd January, 2019. He also pointed out, “With a view to making the SDGs roadmap successful, the present Government is laying the highest

importance on agriculture as the economy of the country is solely dependent on agriculture.” The program was chaired by Dr. Md. Kabir Ikramul Haque, Executive Chairman, BARC whereas renowned Agriculturist Abdul Mannan MP, SDGs chief co-ordinator Abul Kalam Azad, Planning Commission Member Dr. Shamsul Alam, Senior Secretary, Secretary of MoA, Md. Nasiruzzaman were present as special guests. Eminent Agriculturist Dr. M. Kazi Badrudazza was also present as a guest of honour in the program.



BARC Officers and Staffs Paid tribute to the Mural Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at BARC premises on his birth day through placing floral wreath



Seminar on National Seed Fair-2019

National Seed Fair being inaugurated by the Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture

A seminar on *National Seed Fair-2019* was held on 28th June 2019 at BARC. Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Dr. Muhammad Abdur Razzaque, MP was present as chief guest, Md. Nasiruzzaman, Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Md. Fazle Wahed Khondaker, Chairman, BADC were present as special guests. The Seminar was chaired by Ashraf Uddin Ahmed, Additional Secretary & DG, Seed, Ministry of Agriculture. The key note paper was presented by Dr. Md. Iftekharuddula,

CSO, Plant Breeding Division, Bangladesh Rice Research Institute, Gazipur. About five hundred participants from Ministry of Agriculture, different NARS institutes, DAE, BADC, SCA, Universities and private seed organizations participated in the Seminar. The theme of the fair was 'Use of quality seeds to keep crops production increasing'. Speakers of the seminar added that the use of quality seeds could help increase 15%-20% output of the crops.



Hon'ble Agriculture Minister observing the Seed Fair with MOA secretary, EC, BARC and other distinguished professionals

Seventh Meeting of the BIMSTEC Expert Group on Agricultural Cooperation



Participants of Seventh BIMSTEC Expert Group Meeting on Agricultural Cooperation

The *Seventh BIMSTEC Meeting* was inaugurated by Md. Nasiruzzaman, Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture on 24th April 2019. Delegates from 7 member countries including Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand participated in the meeting.

The meeting reiterated the importance of sharing agricultural information and best practices among BIMSTEC Member States and therefore decided to provide with available information related to agricultural cooperation to be uploaded on the website of the BIMSTEC Secretariat. The Meeting reviewed the progress made in agricultural cooperation in

relation to the implementation of the nine identified common projects and decided that the number of common projects for implementation in BIMSTEC Agricultural Cooperation would be reduced to seven. The delegation of Myanmar informed of the First BIMSTEC Ministerial Meeting on Agricultural Cooperation to be held on 11-12 July 2019 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar. The 8th BIMSTEC Expert Group Meeting on Agricultural Cooperation will be hosted in India in early 2020. The meeting also discussed the ways and means to deepen cooperation in Agricultural sector among the Member States.



Seventh BIMSTEC Expert Group Meeting on Agricultural Cooperation

National Workshop on Seed Research, Development and Quality Seed Production in Bangladesh

The national workshop on *Research, Development and Production of Quality Seed in Bangladesh* was held during 20-21 March 2019 at Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council.

The objectives of workshop were delineating an action plan to produce quality seeds and development priorities, future research and development specially quick dissemination of newly released varieties to farmers.

This is in relevance to Seventh Five Year Plan and Sustainable Development Goals to achieve food and nutrition security parallel to sustainable food security in perspective of ever increasing population.

In the inaugural session, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Dr. Muhammad Abdur Razzaque, MP was present as chief guest, Md. Nasiruzzaman, Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Md. Fazle Wahed Khondaker, Chairman, BADC were present as special guests. The workshop was chaired by Dr. Md. Kabir Ikramul Haque, Executive Chairman, BARC.

The key note paper was presented by Professor Dr. Md. Moynul Haque, Department of Agronomy, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Agricultural University, Gazipur.

Two hundred fifty participants from the Ministry of Agriculture, different NARS institutes, DAE, BADC, SCA, Universities and private organizations participated in the workshop.



Dr. Muhammad Abdur Razzaque MP Hon'ble Minister Agriculture addressing the workshop

Workshop on Extension of Indigo Cultivation

A day-long Workshop on *Extension of Indigo Cultivation* was organized by Technology Transfer and Monitoring Unit, BARC held on 19 March 2019 and chaired by Dr. Md. Kabir

Ikramul Haque, Executive Chairman of BARC. Dr. Md. Solaiman Ali Fakir, Professor, Department of Crop Botany, Bangladesh Agricultural University, Mymensingh was present as chief guest in this workshop. The welcome address was delivered by Dr. Fauzia Yasmin, Director TTMU, BARC.

Participants were from BARI, BINA, BSRI, BWMRI, DAE, BADC, DAM and private organizations in two technical sessions and presented 4 papers.

Two presentations from BARI, one from Pataukhali Science and Technology University and one from private organization (CARE). After detailed discussion, a good number of recommendations were adopted in the workshop.



Dr. Md. Kabir Ikramul Haque, EC, BARC addressing in the inaugural session

Asia Open Access Dhaka 2019

Asia Open Access Workshop Dhaka 2019 was held in BARC on March 6-7, hosted by Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) in association with Confederation of Open Access Repositories (COAR).

The Asia Open Access was organized to learn about global trends, share information across Asian countries, and help with local strategies for increasing the adoption of open access and open science in participating countries as well in Bangladesh.

During the inaugural session as the chief guest, Zunaid Ahmed Palak, Minister of State

for Information and Communication Technology Division, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh uttered "Present Government has taken several initiatives for making a Digital Bangladesh."

Government electronic portal is open for all. To create potential human resource, the Government has set up more than nine thousand digital classrooms in primary school throughout the country.

As a result, students are learning Information Technology from their early stage of education. The State Minister also mentioned that the government has to work for big data,



Grand opening of Asia Open Access Dhaka-2019

ics, open data, internet of thinking, blockchain and etc.

The Program Chairperson Dr. Wais Kabir, Executive Director, Krishi Gobeshona Foundation KGF mentioned, "As BARC is the apex body of the National Agricultural Research System, it would like to take the leadership of making the data, information and knowledge available and accessible to promote linkage among the policymakers, researchers, educators, and other stakeholders."

The regional scholars, academicians, thinkers, researchers and intellectual community shared

their knowledge and utilized that in their respective fields.

Mr. Komala Ranjan Das, Additional Secretary, MoA was present as special guest. In his speech he wished whole-hearted co-operation for Open Access movement in country.

He also added, "Whenever the data and information are made openly available, informed decisions can be taken by farming community and whenever the research outputs are made openly available, the agricultural sciences and the research progress in accelerating manner for the public good."



Participants from different countries on Asia Open Access Dhaka-2019

BARC Principal Documentation Officer and Asia Open Access Dhaka 2019 coordinator, Dr. Susmita Das opined, “If the mind is in fear, it is restricted, it can’t see the light.” She also added, “We all should be open and at the same time, be positive in our attitude towards accepting and delivering!” She also hoped that public awareness had been increased about open data of science, education, agriculture, and nutrition.

“Present Government has taken several initiatives for making a Digital Bangladesh. Government electronic portal is open for all.”

The latest developments related to the COAR next generation repositories initiative work being done in other countries in Asia were

presented by COAR Executive Director Kathleen Shearer. Participants also discussed the unique opportunities in the country that could be leveraged to move things forward, in particular, the strong support by the Government for “Digital Bangladesh”, a strategy to modernize and provide digital and open access to government services, data and information.

In the Concluding and Recommendation Session, Md. Nazim Uddin, Head of the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh (ICDDR, B) Library and Information Center division presented the recommendations from the key points of the conference including open access policies, increasing the use of open licenses, modernization of open repositories.

Besides, Centre for Open Knowledge (COK) President Professor Mostafa Azad Kamal emphasized the needs for Open Education Policy.

Finally all the participants and distinguished guests agreed that the country needs to develop a national open access policy to uphold the research activities of different government organizations and leads the nation as a data-driven country.



Dr. Md. Kabir Ikramul Haque, Executive Chairman, BARC offered certificates among the participants

Training Course on Technical Report writing and Editing

Agricultural Information Center, BARC organized a 5-day training course on *Technical Report writing and Editing* held on 9-13 February 2019 at BARC.

The main objective of training program was to make the NARS scientists and other officers involved in publication activities and aware of

the scientific and modern techniques of technical writing and editing so that scientific publication and other reports would be more enriched. 25 scientists from NARS institutes and DAE attended the training program.

In the closing ceremony chief guest Dr. Md. Kabir Ikramul Haque, EC, BARC distributed certificates among the participants. During his speech, he highlighted the importance of the training on technical report writing and editing.

Strengthening Research-Extension Linkage for Barishal Region

A day long workshop entitled *Strengthening Research – Extension Linkage* for Barishal, Region was held at the Regional Agricultural Research Station (RARS), BARI, Rahmatpur, Barishal on 29th June 2019. About 100 participants from Barishal region of DAE, DoF, DLS, BARI, BRRI, BINA, SRDI, and PIUs and PMU of NATP-2 attended the workshop. Mr. Sanat Kumar Saha, Project Director, PMU, NATP-2 and Additional Secretary, MoA was the chief guest and Dr. M. A. Wohab, Director (Research), BARI, Gazipur

presided over the inaugural session. The Special Guests were Mr. Md. Manzur Hasan Bhuiya, Deputy Project Director, DPD, PMU, NATP-2 and Joint Secretary, MOA; Krishibid Sainur Azam Khan, Additional Director (AD), DAE, Barishal region; Dr. Muhammad Shamsul Alom, Chief Scientific Officer (CSO), RARS, BARI, Rahmatpur, Barishal; Dr. Kanai Lal Swarnaker, Divisional Deputy Director, DLS, Barishal; Dr. Md. Oliur Rahman, Divisional Deputy Director, DoF, Barishal. M. Harun-ur- Rashid, Training and Communication Specialist, PMU, NATP-2 welcomed the participants. He highlighted the objectives of the workshop as-



A view of the workshop on strengthening Research Extension Linkage

strengthen the linkage between research and extension, and to select suitable regional technologies for quick dissemination. BARI, BRRI, BINA, BLRI, BFRI presented the technologies suitable for Barishal region.

Dr. M. A. Wohab appreciated the efforts of NATP-2 for organizing the workshop and assured technology support from BARI to NATP-2. DPD, PMU, NATP-2 suggested to disseminate the selected technologies to the CIG farmers in the forthcoming seasons in the region and hoped that the adoption of

Training on Awareness Building on Act and Policies of Bangladesh Agriculture

The Training on *Awareness Building on Act and Policies of Bangladesh Agriculture* was held on 26-27 February 2019 at BARC.

The objective of the training was awareness building to the scientists and officials of different organizations on act and policies related to Bangladesh Agriculture. A total of 40 scientists and officers from NARS institutes (BARI, BRRI, BJRI, BSRI, CDB, BWMRI, BSRTI

such technologies would increase the productivity and production of the region. Dr. Md. Abdur Razzaque, Sector Coordinator- Extension, PMU, NATP-2 appreciated the feedback from extension functionaries about a minor crop like 'Bombai Morich' for benefit of farmers. Dr. G.P. Das, Research-Extension Linkage Specialist, PMU, NATP-2 expressed his observation how the participation of the research and extension together initiated lively and friendly discussion among the participants for the need of the region.

The Project Director urged all to work closely for strengthening the relationships among different departments and also to cultivate the selected technologies so that the farmers particularly CIG farmers are benefited. He suggested the concerned to follow up with the region for implementation of the decisions. Researchers, extension personnel and guests- all combinedly identified the following technologies for wide scale extension in the Barishal region by the respective department.

and BARC), DAE, SCA, NATA and other private organizations (BRAC, ACI Seed, LalTeer Seed and Supreme Seed) were attended the training program.

Dr. Md. Kabir Ikramul Haque, Executive Chairman of BARC was present as chief guest where Dr. Mian Sayeed Hassan, Director, PIU-BARC, NATP Phase-2 attended as special guest and Dr. Md. Aziz Zilani Chowdhury, Member Director, Crops, BARC chaired the inaugural session.



A view of the training program

Three (TOT) Program on Livestock, Fruits & Fisheries Technologies

A day-long *Training of Trainers* (ToT) training was organized by Technology Transfer and Monitoring Unit, BARC on 9th January, 2019 at Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute (BLRI), Savar, Dhaka. Md. Azharul Amin, Additional Director, BLRI chaired in the inaugural session.

Dr. Fauzia Yasmin, Director (TTMU) was present as special guest in the inaugural session. The welcome address was delivered by Dr. Nasrin Sultana, PSO & Head of Training, Planning and technology testing division, BLRI, Savar, Dhaka. The objective of the training programme was to update Upazila Livestock Officer's knowledge regarding livestock technology generated by BLRI and transfer those to the framers' field. BLRI and BARC acted as resource persons on the training course.



Inaugural ceremony of TOT at BLRI, Savar

Training of Trainers (ToT) program on Fruit technologies was held on 21 January 2019 at Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (BARI), Gazipur chaired by Dr. Madan Gopal Saha, Director, Support Service BARI. Dr. Md. Sayed Nurul Alam, Former Director, (Planning and Evaluation) of BARI and Dr. Fauzia Yasmin, Director (TTMU) of BARC were present as chief guest and special guest in the inaugural session respectively. The welcome address was delivered by Dr. Monoranjan Dhar, CSO of Horticulture Research Center, BARI. The objective of the training programme was to handover the modern technologies on fruits to Upazila Agricultural Officer's and updated the knowledge about fruit technology, generated by

BARI coordinated and funded by BARC to disseminate at farmers level.



Training program at BARI, Gazipur

Addressing blue economy, another day-long *Training of Trainers* (ToT) training was organized by Technology Transfer and Monitoring Unit, BARC on 6th March, 2019 at Marine



Inaugural Session of TOT at Marine fisheries and technology station, Cox's Bazar

Fisheries and Technology Station of Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute, Cox's Bazar chaired by Dr. Md. Zulfikar Ali, CSO & Head, Marine Fisheries and Technology Station, Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute. Dr. Fauzia Yasmin, Director (TTMU) was present as chief guest in the inaugural session. The objective of the training programme was to introduce and update the knowledge on modern marine technologies to Upazila Fisheries Officer's, generated by BFRI. Thirty Upazila Fisheries Officer received this training around the region.

Researcher of BFRI and Director (TTMU) of BARC are the resource persons on the training course.

Tree Plantation and National Fruits Fair 2019



A Colorful Rally of National Fruits Fair-2019

Aiming at showcasing different varieties of seasonal fruits grown in the country, The three-day *national fruit fair* organised by Ministry of Agriculture on the premises of AKM Giasuddin Milky Auditorium at Farmgate in Dhaka.

Agriculture Minister Dr. Muhammad Abdur Razzaque inaugurated the fair. Ministry of Agriculture organizes the fruits fair every year

with the objectives of encouraging the production and consumption of various seasonal fruits in Bangladesh. ‘Planned fruits production will provide nutritious food’ is the theme of this year’s fruits tree plantation programme.

Bangladesh has already secured seventh position in mango production while it is the eighth largest guava producing country in the world.



Hon’ble Agriculture Minister Dr. Muhammad Abdur Razzaque observing the Fair with other distinguished guests



A delegation from IRRI led by DG, IRRI Dr. Matthew Morell made a courtesy call on EC, BARC Dr. Md. Kabir Ikramul Haque and exchanged views on agricultural cooperation



Participants of the workshop on Conservation Agriculture-based Sustainable Intensification: Experiences and Prospects



Hon'ble Agriculture Minister and Hon'ble Commerce Minister observing the Fair with other distinguished professionals

National Vegetable Fair 2019

Hon'ble Agriculture Minister Dr. Muhammad Abdur Razzaque MP inaugurated the three-day *National Vegetable Fair-2019* at the Krishibid Institution Bangladesh (KIB) in Dhaka with aim of encouraging our farmers, practicing safe vegetable cultivation and combating food adulteration. Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi and renowned Agriculturist Adul Mannan MP were also present at the inauguration as special guests.

In this event, the agriculture Minister said that food production has increased in our country in recent years, and that Bangladesh has made good progress in terms of grain cultivation. "Now, we need to improve nutrition in these foods and prevent adulteration," he also added, "Despite working hard, Bangladeshi farmers do not get fair prices for their products. It is very sad and I challenge to make farming activities more profitable."

Dr. Razzaque further uttered that ensuring nutrition and safety of foods, and making agriculture profitable are two

" Now, we need to improve nutrition in these foods and prevent adulteration "

main challenges being faced by the country's agriculture sector.

Special Guest, Hon'ble Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi pointed out that there is no shortage of food in Bangladesh, and in order to reduce wastage of locally produced vegetable, export must be increased.

Speaking at the inaugural ceremony, Agriculture Secretary Md. Nasiruzzaman said: "We are organizing the fair along with an objective of safe and quick vegetable production, popularizing vegetable production technologies and to increase vegetable exports."

Emeritus Professor and ex-VC of BAU Dr. M. A. Sattar Mandal, former Managing Director of Hortex Foundation M. Abdul Jalil were also present at the opening session as discussants.

The BARC Newsletter is published quarterly by Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) to provide news and information on agricultural research and development the NARS and other concerned organizations in Bangladesh.

Any query concerning the newsletter or its contents, comments and suggestions for our endeavour would highly be appreciated.

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