



BARC

Newsletter

Towards Building Advance Intelligent System for Agriculture



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Seventh D-8 Agriculture Ministerial Meeting Held in Dhaka

The 7th D-8 Ministerial meeting on Agriculture and Food Security Promoting Climate Smart Agriculture was held during 12-13 January, 2022 at BARC in Dhaka. The meeting was organized by the Ministry of Agriculture in collaboration with Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) and the D-8 Secretariat. The meeting was held in hybrid mode. The Bangladeshi delegates led by Hon'ble Agriculture Minister Dr. Muhammad Abdur Razzaque MP joined the meeting at BARC in

person while the delegations from the other seven Muslim countries joined virtually. The Senior Officers' Meeting on January 12, 2022 was presided over by Mr. Md Sayedul Islam, Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture while the Ministerial Meeting on January 13, 2022 was chaired by Hon'ble Agriculture Minister Dr. Muhammad Abdur Razzaque MP.

The member countries of D-8, an alliance of eight developing countries, have discussed the

negative impacts of climate change in the D-8 countries and sharing of available climate-smart agricultural technologies for the benefit of the member countries. On behalf of Bangladesh, a project concept note was placed in the meeting that includes joint research, innovation, development and expansion of advanced agricultural technologies to be carried out in the D-8 countries to address the impacts of climate change.



Dr. Muhammad Abdur Razzaque, Hon'ble Minister, MoA addressing the meeting

Hon'ble Agriculture Minister said "The production system will be most affected by climate change in the world. In the face of global warming and climate change, it will play a

very significant role in ensuring food and nutrition security. In addition, 60 percent people of the alliance live in rural areas and are largely dependent on agriculture. To sustain

agricultural production and food security in the future, innovation and expansion of climate-smart crop varieties and technologies must be increased."

On the first day, secretaries and high-level officials of the D-8 member countries joined the meeting. On the second day, the delegations led by the Agriculture Ministers joined the meeting. The delegations were from Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan and Turkey. The member countries have agreed to Bangladesh's proposal to take up a 'multinational integrated project' for the promotion of climate-smart agriculture technology.

Besides, the representatives of Islamic Development Bank Group, Food and Agriculture Organization

(FAO), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT) joined the program in person.

Mr. Md Sayedul Islam, Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture said "climate change is currently a major threat to agricultural production and affecting crop production, health and productivity. Under this situation, innovation and application of climate-smart technology have to be increased to keep the food production system sustainable."

D-8 Secretary General Isiaka Abdul Qadir Imam and representatives from the member countries Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan and Turkey- spoke on the challenges, possibilities, actions and increasing cooperation in agriculture and food security. "Dhaka Initiative" was adopted on the concluding day of the seventh D-8 Ministerial Meeting with commitments to sharing climate-smart agricultural technologies for the benefit of the member countries.

Seminar on Turkish Agricultural Research Advancement

A seminar titled *Turkish Agricultural Research Advancement* was organized by Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council on 25 January, 2022. A Turkish delegation consisting of four bio-technologists participated in the seminar and presented papers on the progress of Agricultural Biotechnology in Turkey.

The seminar was chaired by Dr. S M Bokhtiar, Executive Chairman of BARC. Executive Director of CDB, Director General of BWMRI and many other scientists from BARC and other agricultural research organizations under NARS were present in the seminar.

An open discussion held after the paper presentation. Dr. SM Bokhtiar, Executive Chairman of BARC thanked the presenters and mentioned that Turkey is one of the leading countries in production and export of wheat, sugar beet, cotton, milk, poultry, tomato and many other vegetables and fruits.

He appreciated the advancement of Turkey in agricultural biotechnology. He also mentioned the importance of learning those technologies through visiting Turkey and sharing knowledge and experiences by a team of scientists of Bangladesh. Participants asked several things regarding the application of biotechnology in wheat, rice, pulse and oilseed

production and speed breeding techniques.

Dr. Bokhtiar also proposed signing a Memorandum of Understanding for agricultural research cooperation or formulating a joint research project with Turkey.

As many as 65 scientists and officers from BARC, BJRI, BSRI, BINA and CDB were present in the seminar.



Seminar on Turkish Agricultural Research Advancement

Celebration of 52nd Independence Day

Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council celebrated the Independence Day with enthusiasm, dignity and solemnity through organizing different events. Executive Chairman Dr. S M Bokhtiar hoisted the national flag and offered wreaths to the Mural of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman with BARC officials.

Member Directors, Directors, scientists, officers and staff participated in the valuable discussions and cultural programs on the event of celebrating the 52nd independence of Bangladesh. Dr. S M Bokhtiar, Executive Chairman, BARC was present as the chief guest of the program.



Dr. S M Bokhtiar, Executive Chairman, BARC hoisting the national flag

International Mother Language Day Observed

With due solemnity Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council observed International Mother Language Day on 21st February 2022. High officials paid homage to the Father of the Nation by placing wreaths at the statue of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at BARC campus.

Later, a discussion meeting and a Doa Mahfil were held in BARC conference room with the participation of different level officials of BARC.



BARC Officials placing floral wreath at Bangabandhu's Mural.

Study of the Hazardous Chemicals in Broiler

An inception workshop on Qualitative and Quantitative Study of Hazardous Chemicals in Broiler was held on 13 January 2022 at BARC. The inception workshop was chaired by Dr. SM Bokhtiar, Executive Chairman, BARC. The workshop was organized by Livestock Division, BARC. The workshop was inaugurated by the chief guest Wahida Akter, Additional Secretary (Administration), Ministry

of Agriculture, Dr. S M Jahangir Hossain, Director General, BLRI and Mr. Manzur Morshed Ahmed, Member (Public Health and Nutrition), BFSa were present as the special guests. Dr. Kazi Md. Kamaruddin, Consultant, Livestock Division, BARC; Dr. Nathu Ram Sarker, Director (Livestock and Fisheries), KGF; Dr. Md. Mostafa Kamal, Project Director, Quality Control Laboratory, DLS were

present as discussants. Dr. Nazmun Nahar Karim, Member Director (Livestock), BARC express gratitude to the guests and professionals for their generous presence in the important workshop. Special Guest Dr. S M Jahangir Hossain, Director General, BLRI spoke on economic importance of the poultry sector in Bangladesh. The Chairperson in the workshop Dr. S M Bokhtiar, Executive Chairman,

BARC stressed on the uses of national laboratory resources with quality and authentic data generation. He thanked the chief guest, special guests, scientists and professionals for attending the workshop. Dr. Bokhtiar reiterated the importance of safe broiler production for sustainable and profitable enterprises. Chief guest Wahida Akter, Additional Secretary, MoA accentuated the importance the food safety issues in the country. She disclosed the desire of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina under the background of the project. She believed the findings of the project would help to rectify the public anxiety about safe broiler meat consumption and marketing. The workshop was attended by the academia, scientists and

professionals from organizations like BARC, DLS, BLRI, NIB, Universities as well as different

public and private stakeholder organizations.



Wahida Akter, Additional Secretary (Administration), MoA graced as chief guest and Dr. S M Bokhtiar, Executive Chairman, BARC chaired the workshop

Forestry and Agroforestry Technologies for Professionals

A two days long training on Forestry and Agroforestry Technologies for Professionals was held at BARC on 02-03 March, 2022. Forty professionals participated from different NARS institutions (BARC, BARI, BRRI, BJRI, BSRI, BTRI, SRDI, CDB), extension agencies (DAE, BFD), non-government organizations (BRAC, Caritas, Arannyak Foundation) and others (CEGIS) related to the subject-matters.

Participants enjoyed ten different lectures delivered by renowned scientists and experts. Dr. Mian Sayeed Hassan, MD-NRM, BARC acted as Course Director, while Dr. Md. Saifullah, MD, Admin & Finance, and CSO (Forestry) executed the duty of Course Coordinator. The Executive

Chairman, BARC, Dr. S M Bokhtiar was present at the inaugural session as chief guest. In the closing session, two participants expressed their encouraging opinion regarding the training. The Executive Chairman

inspired the organizer of the training and accolades for the excellent training manual. Course completion certificates were distributed, among the participants for their successful participation.



Dr. S M Bokhtiar, Executive Chairman, BARC addressing the training program

Safe Livestock Food Production in Bangladesh: Status and Way Forward

Livestock Division, BARC organized Review Workshop on *Safe Livestock Food Production in Bangladesh: Status and Way Forward* on 27 February 2022 at BARC. The inaugural session was

graced by chief guest Dr. S M Bokhtiar, Executive Chairman, Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council and Dr. Nazmun Nahar Karim, Member Director (Livestock), BARC chaired the

session. The technical session was graced by special guest Dr. S.M Jahangir Hossain, Director General, Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute. The workshop was attended by the academia, scientists

and professionals from organizations like BARC, DLS, BLRI, University, and different public and private stakeholder organizations. At the outset, Dr. Mohammad Rafiqul Islam, CSO, Livestock Division, BARC stated the background and objective of the workshop in the context of global food security and food safety. Dr. Rafique made a brief presentation on Overview of Safe Animal Food Production in Bangladesh. Dr. S M Bokhtiar, Executive Chairman, BARC

extended his warm wishes to all guests and participants of the workshop. He stressed the unprecedented success of agricultural production in the country. The technical session was chaired by Dr. Ainul Haque, Former Director General, DLS and National Project Coordinator, UNIDO. There were three theme papers: Status of Safe Livestock Food Production in Bangladesh: Challenges and way Forward, Microbial and Chemical Contaminants in Livestock and

Poultry Value Chain: A Food Safety Concern and Safe Livestock Food Production in Bangladesh: Status and Way Forward were presented by three eminent experts in the technical session. Three eminent panel of experts were present as the discussant in the technical session: Dr. Nathu Ram Sarker, Director (Livestock and Fisheries), KGF; Dr. Md. Monirul Islam, Former Member Director (Fisheries), BARC; Dr. M. A. Saleque, Chief Technical Advisor, ACI Animal Health, Bangladesh.



Workshop on Safe Livestock Food Production in Bangladesh: Status and Way Forward

Training on Use of Modern Farm Machinery for Ensuring Food Security

Agricultural Engineering Unit of Natural Resource Management Division of Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council organized a training course titled Use of Modern Farm Machinery for Ensuring Food Security in BARCon 25-27 January 2022. A total of 30 trainees participated from BARC, BARI, BRRI, BINA, BADC and DAE in this training course. The training program was directed by Dr. Mian Sayeed Hassan, Member Director (NRM), BARC. Dr. Nazmun Nahar Karim, Member Director (Livestock), BARC and CSO, Agricultural Engineering Unit, BARC coordinated the training program. The training program was comprised of an inaugural, three day-long technical and a concluding session. The inaugural session was

chaired by Dr. Mian Sayeed Hassan, Member Director (NRM), BARC on 25 January 2022. Dr. S M Bokhtiar, Executive Chairman, BARC was present as chief guest in the inaugural session and advised the concerned trainees to work with due importance on agricultural mechanization to make it profitable for commercialized agriculture. Dr. Md. Ashraf Alam, Principal Scientific Officer, AEU, NRM division, BARC discussed on the importance of the training course and agricultural mechanization scenario in his welcome address.

Fifteen lectures were delivered in the training program. The lectures were focused on the present status, prospects and challenges of mechanization in Bangladesh. The training schedule includes a brief

description of research and development activities conducted in BARI, BRRI, BSRI, BADC and DAE. Moreover, it includes mechanization plan and policy, public and private sector initiatives, business model of farm machinery, renewable energy uses and farm machinery uses in crops field. Lectures on operation, repair and maintenance techniques of rice transplanter and combine harvester were also delivered to the trainees. The expert trainers were invited from BARI, BRRI, BSRI, BADC, DAE, local agricultural machinery manufacturers and agricultural machinery importers. In the closing session, Dr. S M Bokhtiar, Executive Chairman, BARC certificates distributed among the participants.



Training on Use of Modern Farm Machinery for Ensuring Food Security

Training on Technical Report Writing and Editing

According to the annual work plan Agricultural Information Centre (AIC), BARC, organized a 5-day training program on Technical Report Writing and Editing on March 06-10, 2022 at Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council. The main objective of the training program was to make the NARS scientists and officers skilled in scientific and modern techniques of technical report writing and journal paper editing.

Thirty scientists from NARS institutes attended the training. The inaugural ceremony of the training program was graced by the chief guest Dr. Md. Aziz Zilani

Chowdhury, Member Director, Crops Division, BARC. Dr. M. Baktear Hossain, Director SAARC and Training & Manpower Unit, was present as special guest. The program was chaired by course director Dr. Kabir Uddin Ahmed, Director, AIC. Dr. Susmita Das, Principal Documentation Officer, AIC and Course Coordinator gave the welcome address and highlighted the objectives of the training program as the course coordinator.

As the chief guest, Md. Aziz Zilani Chowdhury emphasized on the importance of technical report writing and journal paper editing for scientists. He also shared some

techniques of effective technical writing. Dr. M. Baktear Hossain, as a special guest uttered the necessities of technical report writing for every agricultural scientist.

After successful completion, the training program ended with a closing ceremony. Dr. Md. Abdus Salam, Member Director, Planning and Evaluation Division, BARC as a chief guest of the closing program distributed the certificates among the participants. Dr. Kabir Uddin Ahmed, Director, AIC chaired the concluding and certificate giving session and thanked the guests.



Training on Technical Report Writing and Editing

Training on IT Skill Enhancement

A hands-on training on IT skill enhancement was held on 02 and 03 February, 2022 at Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council. Computer and GIS Unit of BARC organized the training program. A total of 40 BARC scientists/officers attended the training program in two batches. The program was presided over by Dr. Md. Mosharraf Uddin Molla, Member Director, AERS. Dr. S M Bokhtiar, Executive Chairman, BARC was present as the chief guest. The training was conducted on three different topics. The topics were newly introduced Zimbra email system, Personal Data Sheet (PDS) and e-Nothi. This training will help the participants to cope with the newly launched email system in BARC. It will also enable the

participants to regularly update their official and personal records in the PDS system. Moreover, it will ensure greater efficiency,

transparency, accountability and better service delivery in performing the official tasks using e-Nothi platform.



Dr. S M Bokhtiar, Executive Chairman, BARC delivering speech as chief guest

Training on Service Process Simplification (SPS)

A daylong interactive training program titled Service Process Simplification (SPS) was held on 16 March, 2022 at BARC. The Computer and GIS Unit of BARC organized the training with technical collaboration of Aspire to Innovate (a2i) program of the ICT division. Dr. S M Bokhtiar, Executive Chairman, BARC was present as the chief guest and Dr. Md. Mosharraf Uddin Molla, Member Director, AERS presided over the inaugural session of the program. Mr. Hasan Md. Hamidur Rahman, Director, Computer & GIS delivered the welcome speech and briefed on the program. The inaugural session was followed by a technical session which was addressed by Mr. Golam Mohammed Bhuiyan, National Consultant, a2i. A total of 25 BARC scientists/officers attended the

training program. SPS is an e-governance initiative to simplify access to public services by reducing time, cost and number of visits (TCV). This training helps the BARC professionals to simplify the

services provided by BARC for the citizens, NARS organizations and its internal services to access the services easily as well as improve the quality of the services.



Training on Service Process Simplification (SPS) 3rd batch

Training on Antimicrobial Resistance in Bangladesh

Livestock Division, Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council organized a four days training

program on Antimicrobial Resistance in Bangladesh on 06-09 March, 2022 at the Central Disease

Investigation Laboratory (CDIL), Dhaka. In this training course, 30 teachers/officers from Universities,

Medical Colleges, Department of Fisheries and Department of Livestock Services (DLS) were present as participants. The inaugural session was chaired by Dr. Nazmun Nahar Karim, Member Director (Livestock), BARC. Dr. Nilufa Begum, Director (Research, Training and Evaluation), DLS was present as chief guest. Dr. Md. Golam Azam Chowdhury, Principal Scientific Officer, CDIL was present as a special guest. Welcome address

was delivered by Dr. Shukes Chandra Badhy, ULO (attached to CDIL), DLS. Resource persons successfully conducted lectures and practical sessions on Antibiotics: present status, implication and opportunities, Discriminate and indiscriminate use of antimicrobial drugs and environmental hazards. Hands-on training have given on collection, transportation and preservation of samples, bacterial culture, rational basis of antibiotic

therapy, biosafety and biosecurity for AMR laboratory, AMR control: one health approach, culture sensitivity test, AMR/AMU situation in Bangladesh and AMU guidelines etc. After successful completion of the course, certificates were given to the participants. situation in Bangladesh and AMU guidelines etc. After successful completion of the course, certificates were given to the participants.



The inaugural and closing session of the Training Program on Antimicrobial Resistance in Bangladesh

Training on Citizen Charter

According to Annual Performance Agreement (APA) Manpower and Training Unit, BARC, 2021-2022, organized a day-long training program (3rd batch) on Citizen Charter on 16 February 2022 at BARC. The main objective of the training program was to make administration more accountable, responsive, transparent and citizen-friendly. In addition, to assist the employees to function more effectively in providing existing services to clients as per citizen charter. A total of 30 employees (16-18 grades) of BARC took part in the training program.

Dr. S M Bokhtiar, Executive Chairman, BARC inaugurated the training program as chief guest while the APA team members of BARC conducted training sessions as resource persons.



Dr. S M Bokhtiar, Executive Chairman, BARC inaugurating the training program

Training on Annual Confidential Report

Manpower and Training Unit, BARC, organized a day-long training on Annual Confidential Report (ACR) on 29 January 2022 at BARC. A total of 60 officers of the Council including senior officials like Member Directors & Directors took part in the training program. The objective of the training was to make a clear understanding of the performances, integrity, and quality etc. of an officer during a particular calendar year.

Dr. Aziz Zilani Chowdhury, Member Director (Crops), BARC inaugurated the training program as chief guest while Mr. Subrata Bhowmik, Joint Secretary, Ministry Of Fisheries & Livestock (MoFL) conducted training sessions as resource person.



Dr. Aziz Zilani Chowdhury, Member Director (Crops), BARC addressing the training program

Workshop on Bangladesh Good Agricultural Practices Policy-2020 for Safe Food Production

Nowadays safe food is becoming important in terms of human health and commercial aspects. Safe food production is most important due to competition in the global export market and protecting people from food-borne illnesses. In this context a day-long workshop on Bangladesh Good Agricultural Practices Policy-2020 for safe food production was held on 1 March 2022 at BARC. Dr. Md. Aziz Zilani Chowdhury, MD Crops BARC and Member Secretary, Steering committee GAP Policy-2020 chaired the session. A total of 100 scientists/representatives from 30 organizations including focal point of NARS institutes, along with DAE, AIS, DAM, BADC, SCA, BSTI, BFS, BAB, consumer association, private organization, directorate of national consumers right protection, Export Promotion Bureau participated the workshop. Mr. Md. Ruhul Amin Talukder, Additional Secretary (PPC), Ministry of Agricultural, Mr. Md.

Jahidul Amin, Director Crop Wing, DAE representing Director General DAE and Dr. Jiban Krisna Biswas, Executive Director, KGF were present as chief guest and special guests respectively in the inaugural session. Welcome address and keynote paper were presented by Dr. Mian Sayeed Hassan, Member Director, Resources (NRM), Division, BARC. Two papers, one from BARC and one from DAE were

presented in the technical session.

A good number of suggestions/recommendations were compiled and accommodated as a proceeding and distributed among relevant stakeholders. The chairperson conveyed gratefulness and thanks to the presenters, rapporteurs and all the participants for their active participation to make the workshop successful.



Workshop on "Bangladesh Good Agricultural Practices policy-2020 for safe food production"

Agricultural Technology Extension Coordination Committee (ATECC) Meeting on Kharif-1 Season/2022

A meeting of ATECC (Agricultural Technology Extension Coordination Committee) was held at BARC on 30 March, 2022 for Kharif-1 Season/2022. The meeting was presided over by Dr. S M Bokhtiar, Executive Chairman, BARC. Mr. Md. Sirazul Islam, Director, Field Service Wing, DAE and Habibur Rahaman Chowdhury, Additional Director (Extension and Coordination), Field Service wing attended the meeting. Dr. Fauzia Yasmin, Director (TTMU) from BARC also attended the meeting. All the participants of ATECC from NARS institutes (BARI, BRRI, BINA, BSRI, BJRI, CDB, SRDI), DAE, DAM, BADC, AIS, BIRTAN, SCA, Hortex Foundation and BARC attended the meeting. Habibur Rahaman Chowdhury Presented the work plan of crop demo, technology demo, field day, training, follow-up activities of seed distribution of Aus, Aman, Boro rice, Wheat, Mustard, Groundnut and Jute for 2021-22 FY.

Executive Chairman, BARC opined that any foreign crop seed/seedlings (vegetables, fruits etc.) brought by anyone should be handed over to the concerned research institutes. The research institutes should follow the proper breeding protocol before dissemination. DAE could take proper initiatives to monitor the unauthorized multiplication. Dr.

Fauzia Yasmin, Director (TTMU) recommended about demonstration /field day of BJRI Tosha pat-8 and Kenaf variety HC-95 for dissemination which transferred from the NATP-2 sub project titled Transfer of Agricultural Technologies to Farmers' Level for Increasing Farm Productivity.



Agricultural Technology Extension Coordination Committee (ATECC) meeting

Training of Trainers (ToT) Program on Sugarcrop Technologies

To transfer technologies for dissemination, a three days long Training of Trainers (ToT) program was conducted on Sugarcrop technologies generated from Bangladesh Sugarcrop Research Institute (BSRI) on 07-09 March, 2022. The program was jointly organized by Technology Transfer and Monitoring Unit (TTMU), BARC and BSRI, Iswardi, Pabna. The training program was funded by PIU-BARC, NATP-2. A total of 30 participants (2 Additional Deputy Directors, 1 Upazila Agriculture Officer and 27 Agricultural Extension Officers) from Rajshahi and Bogura regions participated in the program. Dr. Fauzia Yasmin, Director, TTMU was the course coordinator of the training program. Dr. Md. Amzad Hossain, Director

General, BSRI was present as chief guest and Dr. Suraya Parvin PSO (TTMU), BARC was special guest. Dr. Md Abul Kashem, CSO and Head, Training and Technology Transfer Division, BSRI presided over the inaugural session. The resource speakers of this training

program were the scientists of BSRI. A total of 51 sugarcrop technologies on varieties, pest, diseases, agronomical practices of sugarcane, sugar beet, stevia, palm, date, golpata etc were transferred to 30 Agricultural Officers. In three days 16 sessions were held on 16



Group photograph of Training of Trainers (ToT) program on BSRI generated technologies at BSRI

The BARC Newsletter is published quarterly by Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) to provide news and information on agricultural research and development of 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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