

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

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## Workshop on National Agricultural Policy-2018

A workshop on *National Agricultural Policy-2018* was held on 11 March 2018 at the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council with the financial support from Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. Matia Chowdhury MP, Honorable Minister for Agriculture, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh was present in the workshop as chief guest. Dr. Md. Abdur Razzak MP, Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee, Mr. M. A. Mannan MP, Ministry of Finance and Member of Parliamentary Standing Committee, Ministry of Agriculture were present as special guests. Mr. Mohammad Moinuddin Abdullah, Senior Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture presided over the workshop. Dr. Wais Kabir, Executive Director, Krishi Gobeshona Foundation and former Executive Chairman, BARC presented the key-note paper on *Draft Agricultural Policy-2018*. A total of 400 participants from different ministries, universities, NGOs, Private Organizations, Development Partners, Agriculture Entrepreneurs and farmers' representatives attended the workshop. A good number of suggestions/recommendations were provided by the participants e.g. consideration of Hill agriculture following Hill Tract's Council Act, Agriculture tourism, Renewable energy, Genetic Resource, Nanotechnology, Establishment of Gene Bank, linkage among Research, Extension and Education institutions, support price to farmers, strengthening PPP in agriculture, emphasis on the SDGs in the New Agricultural Policy, socio-economics etc. These suggestions and recommendations have been incorporated in the National Agricultural Policy 2018.



A view of workshop on National Agricultural Policy-2018 (Draft)

## Director General of IRRI visits BARC

A five-member delegates of the International Rice Research Institute with the leadership of Dr. Matthew Morell, Director General visited Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council on 7 March 2018. During interaction meeting with the scientists of the council, Dr. Morell briefed on the enhancement of nutritional and livelihood sensation by developing value added rice and promoting quality rice. He stressed more attention towards the development of rice cultivars for heat, drought and water logging tolerance. Dr. Md. Kabir Ikramul Haque, Executive Chairman, BARC briefed on the on going activities and achievement of Bangladesh Rice Research Institute. He also mentioned about the extension collaborative works with international organizations like AVRDC, CIMMYT, DFID, etc. Dr. Nafez Meah, Representative of IRRI and Dr. Humnath Bhandari, IRRI Representatives in Bangladesh was also present with the team.



Discussion between IRRI delegates and BARC Scientists during the visit of Dr. Matthew Morell, Director General, DG, IRRI at BARC office Dr. Md. Kabir Ikramul Haque, EC, BARC was present as Chairperson

## Workshop on Research Programme under Research and Innovation fund of MoA

A day-long progress review workshop on *Research Programme of 2016-17 and 2017-18 under Research and Innovation fund of Ministry of Agriculture* was organized by Technology Transfer and Monitoring Unit, BARC on 08 January 2018. Mr. Fazle Wahed Khandoker, Additional Secretary, Research, Ministry of Agriculture was present as chief guest. Dr. Md. Kabir Ikramul Haque, Executive Chairman, BARC chaired the inaugural and technical sessions. Mr. Md. Sirajul Haider, NDC, Additional Secretary, Admin. and Input, Ministry of Agriculture attended as special guest and

Dr. Paresh Chandra Golder, Member-Director, Planning and Evaluation, BARC delivered vote of thanks to the participants. The welcome address was delivered by Dr. S. M. Bokhtiar, Director, TTMU, BARC. In two technical sessions principal investigators from nine institutes BARI, BRRI, BINA, BJRI, BSRI, SRDI, CDB,



A view of Progress Review Workshop on Research Programme of 2016-17 and 2017-18 under Research and Innovation fund of MoA

BIRTAN and BADC participated in this workshop and presented 28 research programmes of 2016-17 and 44 research programmes 2017-18. After detail discussion, the following recommendations were made by the experts and participants which could be considered in developing research programme of special fund of MoA:

- The money should be utilized properly according to special fund Nitimala/2016.
- Research Programme monitoring team should be formed by inclusion of scientists and officers from MoA and NARS institutes.
- Research priority fields mentioned in special fund **Nitimala 2016** should be properly reflected in research programme.
- Research programme should be conducted for adaptive and basic research.
- Technologies generated by the scientists should be disseminated properly and constraints should be removed for transferring technologies to the farmers.
- This special fund of MoA provides budget for the continuation of those research programmes which are terminated due to lack of money.

## Progress review workshop of CRG under Crops Division

A three-day long workshop on *Progress Review of Competitive Research Grant (CRG) Sub projects of NATP*

*Phase-2* under Crops Division, BARC was held during 25-28 February 2018 at BARC, Dhaka. The objective of the workshop was to review the technical and financial progress of CRG Sub projects of NATP Phase-2 under Crops Division, BARC. Dr. Md. Kabir Ikramul Haque, Executive Chairman, 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. Dr. Md. Abdus Salam, PSO, Crops, BARC gave welcome address with a brief presentation of the program.

The chief guest of the inaugural session Dr. Md. Kabir Ikramul Haque has given special emphasis on successful completion of the CRG sub-projects for achieving high crop productivity, food security as well as nutrition security to meet the demand of growing population of the country and also fulfill the Sustainable Development Goal. Special guest Dr. Mian Sayeed Hassan, Director, PIU-BARC, NATP Phase-2 has emphasised on timely reporting and successful completion of the CRG sub-projects. The chairperson of the inaugural session Dr. Md. Aziz Zilani Chowdhury expressed that CRG sub-projects were selected addressing important issues relating to boost up the production. He stressed on projects completion on time.



Executive Chairman of BARC addressing as chief guest in the workshop on Progress Review of CRG Sub projects of NATP Phase-2 under Crops Division, BARC

Six technical sessions covering convention breeding and biotechnological approaches for crop improvement, Crop production (Agronomic and Horticultural crops), Insect and disease management related projects reviewed in three days' workshop. Principal investigators of 62 CRG sub-projects, scientists of BARC, expert members and invited scientists participated in the workshop. Principal Investigators presented their research progress. Dr. Md.

Aziz Zilani Chowdhury, Member Director, Crops, BARC; Dr. Syed Nurul Alam, CSO and Head, Entomology Division, BARI; Dr. Paresh Chandra Golder, Member Director, Planning and Evaluation Division, BARC; Professor Dr. Md. Shahidur Rashid Bhuiyan, Department of Genetics and Plant Breeding, SAU, Dhaka and Professor Dr. Ismail Hossain Mian, Department of Plant Pathology, BSMRAU, Gazipur chaired the Technical Session I, II, III, IV, V and VI, respectively. Dr. Md. Abdus Siddique, Former Professor, Department of Horticulture, BAU, Mymensingh; Professor Dr. Ismail Hossain Mian, Department of Plant Pathology, BSMRAU, Gazipur; Dr. Md. Shahidur Rashid Bhuiyan, Department of Genetics and Plant Breeding, SAU, Dhaka; Dr. Syed Nurul Alam, CSO and Head, Entomology Division, BARI and Dr. M.A. Quayyum, Former CSO, OFRD, BARI were present as Expert Members in progress review workshop. The expert members and the participants expressed views on project activities. The comments and suggestions were made by the experts and valued participants could be considered in proper implementation of the project.

## Progress Review Workshop on CRG Sub-Projects of Agricultural Engineering

The *Progress Review Workshop on Competitive Research Grant Sub-Projects of Agricultural Engineering Unit* under PIU-BARC, NATP Phase-2 was held at BARC on 29 March 2018. About seventy participants from the BARI, BRRI, BJRI BSRI and Sylhet Agricultural University, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Agricultural University and Bangladesh Agricultural University participated in the workshop. The inaugural session was held under the chairmanship of Dr. Sultan Ahmmed, Member Director, NRM, BARC and the chief guest was Dr. Paresh Chandra Golder, Member Director, Planning & Evaluation, BARC. First technical session was chaired by Dr. Sultan Ahmmed, MD, NRM, BARC where Dr. Md. Mosharraf Uddin Molla, PSO, AERS Division and Dr. Md. Harunur Rashid, PSO, Crops Division, BARC worked as Rapporteur. In the 1st technical session, research progress of nine CRG sub-project was presented by Principal Investigators from BARI, BJRI, BRRI, BSRI and BAU. The 2nd technical session was chaired by Dr. Ahmad Ali Hassan, former DG, BINA, Mymensingh. Principal Investigators from BARI, BSRTI, BSMRAU, BRRI, BAU and SAU presented research progress of seven CRG sub-projects. Concluding session was chaired by Dr. Md. Kabir Ikramul Haque, Executive Chairman,



Dr. Sultan Ahmed, Member Director (NRM), BARC addressing as chief guest in the Progress Review workshop of CRG Sub projects

BARC. In this session, rapporteurs of two technical sessions presented their reports. Finally concluding remarks was given by session chairman.

### Training of field level DoF/DLS/DAE Officers

TTMU has organized 4 training courses on 15 (fruits, livestock, fisheries) technologies developed and disseminated by the different institutes as stated below:

BFRI, Mymensingh: Technology Transfer Monitoring Unit, Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council organized training programme on Fisheries technologies for Upazilla Fisheries Officers on 03 January 2018 at Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute (BFRI), Mymensingh. The objective of the training programme was to update the Upazilla Fisheries Officers' knowledge regarding fisheries technology and transfer latest technologies generated by the scientists of BFRI to the farmers' field. Scientists of BFRI, acted as resource persons on the training course. Following latest generated technologies were included in the training schedule:

1. Mixed fish culture of Koi with Singh and Tilapia
2. Artificial breeding potentiality of Tengura fish culture at salinity area
3. Fingerlings production and artificial breeding of Tengura and Parse fish
4. Soil and water quality for fish cultivation
5. Disease and health management of fish

Forty Upazilla Fisheries Officers, DoF and scientists of BFRI from Mymensingh district attended the training programme. In the inaugural session the Chief Guest Dr. Yahia Mahmud, Director General, BFRI opined that there was no alternative but use of technology. He also stated that the training programme would be a very effective tool

for quick dissemination of the recent fisheries technologies generated by BFRI, Mymensingh. The Training Director, Dr. Nurulla, BFRI was the Chairperson, Director TTMU, Dr S.M. Bokhtiar was Course Director and Dr. Fauzia Yasmin PSO, TTMU was the Course Coordinator and Special Guest of training programme. In the closing session, it was mentioned that similar training programme should be arranged frequently so that extension officers could interact with scientists to have solutions of their problems and put opinion regarding field of research for the future as well.

**BLRI, Savar:** TTMU, Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council organized a TOT training program on 30 January 2018 for Upazilla Livestock Officers at Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute (BLRI), Savar, Dhaka. The objective of the training programme was to update the Upazilla Livestock Officers' knowledge regarding livestock technology generated by the scientists of BLRI and transferred those to the farmers' field. Scientists of BLRI acted as resource persons on the training course. Following five generated technologies were included in



A view of workshop on Training of field level DoF/DLS/DAE Officers (TOT) at BARI, Gazipur

the training schedule:

1. Preservation of fresh and wet straw during rainy season
2. Goat rearing under stall feeding
3. BLRI feed master mobile application
4. Cattle fattening package
5. BLRI model for PPR disease prevention

Forty Upazilla Livestock Officer from different Upazilla attended the training programme. The participants opined that this type of training would open new pathway of linkage between DLS & BLRI. Upazilla Livestock

Officers also mentioned that such kind of training would make strong bond between extension and research organizations which eventually built up an intensive communication system so that problem in field could be solved immediately.

In both the inaugural and closing sessions, Dr. Nathu Ram Sarkar, Director General, BLRI was the Chief Guest, the Additional Director, BLRI Mr. Md.Azhzrul Amin, was the Chairperson, Dr. S.M. Bokhtiar, Director TTMU and Dr. Fauzia Yasmin, PSO, TTMU, BARC were Special Guests. Dr. S.M. Bokhtiar was Course Director and Dr. Fauzia Yasmin was the Course Coordinator of training programme. The participants expressed highest gratitude to BARC for organizing the useful training. Participants also requested to conduct similar training programme to other regions.

**BARI Gazipur:** A training programme on Fruit production Management for Producers was organized by TTMU, BARC on 01 March 2018 at BARI, Gazipur. The objective of the training programme was to train producers regarding management of fruits production. Forty Upazilla Agriculture Officers from 33 districts attended the training course. Specialist scientists of fruit division of BARI, Gazipur delivered lectures on management of fruits production. These are as follows:

1. Introduction to BARI Developed Fruit Varieties
2. Advanced/ Improved Technologies on production of Mango and Litchi
3. Advanced/ Improved Technologies on production of Banana and Papaya
4. Advanced/ Improved Technologies on production of Jackfruit and Guava and
5. Advanced/ Improved Technologies on production of Malta and Ber.

In the inaugural session of the training, Dr. Md. A. Halim, Director (HRC), BARI was the Chief Guest. Dr. S.M. Bokhtiar, Director, Course Director and Dr. Fauzia Yasmin, PSO (Course Coordinator) TTMU, BARC were Special Guests. Dr. Paritosh Malakar, Director (Training) was the Guest of Honour. Dr. Madan Kumar Saha, CSO, BARI presided over the inaugural session. During certificate giving ceremony, participants expressed their highest gratitude to BARC for organizing this type of useful training for them. They also requested to conduct more than 1 day training programme.

### Training on Technologies for Safe, Healthier and Harmful Chemical Free Mango Production

A two-day long training programme in three batches on *Technologies for Safe, Healthier and Harmful Chemical Free Mango Production* was organized by Technology Transfer and Monitoring Unit (TTMU), BARC during 11-16 March, 2018 at Chapainawabganj Sadar, Shibganj and Volahat Upazila of Chapainawabganj district. The training programmes were funded by PIU, BARC, NATP-2. First batch was held on 11-12 March, 2018 at Volahat, Chapainawabganj. Dr. Shaikh Md. Bokhtiar, Director (TTMU), BARC attended as chief guest in the inaugural session of the training programme. Upazila Nirbahi Officer, Volahat, Chapainawabganj and Dr. Md. Hamim Reza, Chief Scientific Officer, Regional Horticulture Research Center, Chapainawabganj attended as special guest. Upazila Agriculture Officer, Volahat, Chapainawabganj presided over the inaugural session at Volahat, Chapainawabganj. Second batch was held on 13-14 March 2018 at Shibganj, Chapainawabganj. Mr. Md. Mahmudul Hasan, Deputy Commissioner, Chapainawabganj was present as chief guest. Dr. Mian Sayeed Hassan, Director, PIU, BARC, NATP-2, Pouroshova Chairman of Shibganj Pouroshova and Dr. Shaikh Md. Bokhtiar, Director (TTMU), BARC attended as special guest, Mr. Md. Monjurul Huda, Deputy Director, DAE, Chapainawabganj presided over the inaugural session of the training programme at Shibganj and Chapainawabganj Sadar, Chapainawabganj. Third batch was held on 15-16 March 2018 at RHRS, Chapainawabganj Sadar. Upazila Agriculture Officer, Chapainawabganj Sadar, was present as special guest.

### Agricultural Technology Extension Coordination Committee Meeting

Agricultural Technology Extension Coordination Committee (ATECC) Meeting was held on 11 Feb 2018 at BARC. Dr. Md. Kabir Ikramul Hauque, Executive Chairman, BARC presided over the meeting. Md. A. Hannan, Director (Field Service), DAE was the Member Secretary of ATECC and Dr. S. M. Bokhtiar, Director (TTMU), BARC was a member of the Committee.

Agricultural Engineering Unit, Natural Resources Management Division, BARC organized training course on Use of Farm Machinery and Efficient Irrigation System Management during 04-08 March 2018 at BARC, Dhaka. Forty participants from BARI, BARI and BINA,

Universities, DAE, RDA, BADC and BMDA participated in this program. The objective of this training was to build awareness and update knowledge of participants regarding agricultural machinery use and efficient irrigation system management.

### Land Suitability Assessment and Crop Zoning System of Bangladesh

An inception workshop on *Development of Upazila Land Suitability Assessment and Crop Zoning System of Bangladesh* project was held on 27 February 2018 at Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council. The project coordinated by Crops division, BARC is being implemented in association with Computer and GIS unit of BARC and Soil Resource Development Institute under financial support from Krishi Gobeshona Foundation. The objectives of the workshop were i) formally notify all team members, clients, and stakeholders that the project has initiated; ii) discuss the purpose of the project, the scope, the major deliverables, the risks, the assumptions, the estimated effort and budget, and the deadline; iii) elaborate important roles and responsibilities of the project team, clients and stakeholders to make sure everyone has a common understanding of the project; and iv) consultation and feedback from the stakeholders on anticipated methods, approaches and work plans for developing crop zoning system.

The project has been undertaken by BARC optimizing crop production through judicious use of land and water resources. The purpose is to make best and sustainable use of scarce land and water resources for crop production through proper planning and utilization of resources with the adoption of new technologies. Considering the importance of crop zoning and land use planning towards sustainable agricultural development, the government of Bangladesh has given utmost priority in its 7th Five Year plan. Likewise, efficient management of natural resources, conservation of ecosystem is one of the aims of SDG. Under the project, investigation will be carried out to assess bio-physical limitations and production potential of crops/cropping patterns. Alongside, the socio-economic considerations will also be taken into account for providing a spatial and integrated ecological-economic planning approach to sustainable agricultural development. In this project, modern tools such as Remote Sensing (RS) and Geographic Information System (GIS) will be employed to effectively delineate suitable areas capable of producing high agricultural output. The land suitability assessment and crop zoning approach is a

GIS-based modeling framework that combines land evaluation methods with socio-economic and multiple-criteria analysis to evaluate spatial and dynamic aspects of agriculture. Thus, an automated online GIS based application will be developed for carrying out assessment of crop suitability and land productivity of cropping system. The users will be provided with the options to select the right crop/cropping patterns considering yield and production potentials.

The Upazila-level land suitability assessment and crop zoning information enables knowledge based decisions for sustainable agricultural development hence ensures increase of food production and maximize the farmers' income.

The inception workshop was presided by Dr. Md. Kabir Ikramul Haque, Executive Chairman, BARC. Dr. Md. Aziz Zilani Chowdhury, Member Director, Crops & Coordinator of crop zoning project made a brief presentation where he



A view of inception workshop on Development of Upazila Land Suitability Assessment and Crop Zoning System of Bangladesh

mentioned the goals & objectives, activities, deliverables and stakeholder's involvement of the project while Mr. Hasan Md. Hamidur Rahman, Director (Computer and GIS Unit) of BARC & Principal Investigator (PI) of crop zoning project delivered welcome address. There were 54 participants from Ministry of Agriculture, Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council, National Agricultural Research System, Department of Agricultural Extension, Krishi Gobeshona Foundation, Bangladesh Meteorological Department (BMD) and project personnel participated in the workshop. Among the participants Dr. Wais Kabir, Executive Director, KGF and Dr. Zahurul Karim, former Executive Chairman, BARC & former Secretary, Govt. of the People's Republic of Bangladesh made valuable contribution in the workshop. The Inception Workshop

reconfirmed the high interest and commitment to the project by all participating organizations. It was decided in the workshop to finalize the list of 300 upazilas and use updated soil and land resources information for crop suitability assessment. Also, formulate constituting crop rules committee for identifying limitation factors of soil, land and climate related to crop growth in order to assess suitability of crop. Further, emphasis has been given for organizing consultation meeting with stakeholder's organizations regularly to review implementation progress.

### Bioinformatics for Sustainable Development in Agriculture

A training courses on *Bioinformatics for Sustainable Development in Agriculture* organized by Livestock Division of BARC in association with Bangladesh Bioinformatics and Computational Biology Association (BBCBA) on 26-28 December 2017. Participants were scientists from BLRI, BARI, BRRI, BFRI, BSRI, BJRI, BINA and teachers from BAU, BSMRAU, SAU. Dr. Paresh Chandra Golder, Member Director, Planning and Evaluation, BARC was present as Chief Guest in the



A view of Training courses on Bioinformatics for Sustainable Development in Agriculture

inaugural session. Professor Dr. Md. Nurul Haque Mollah, President of BBCBA & Head of Bioinformatics lab., Dept. of Statistics, Rajshahi University was present as special guest. The inaugural session was presided over by Dr. Shah Md. Ziqrul Haq Chowdhury, MD (Livestock), BARC. The different types of training course like genomic analysis, transcriptomic analyses, Phylogenetic analysis, metabolomics analysis, integration of genomic and proteomic analysis for drug discovery, toxicogenomics, analysis for drug discovery, role of agri-informatics and

use of common bioinformatics tools, next generation sequencing (NGS) tools and their use in agriculture were presented by different resource persons successfully.

### Significant activities of project management unit PMU of NATP

Efficient and competent human resource is the driving force for the successful implementation of any program. On this consideration, National Agricultural Technology Program-Phase II Project (NATP-2) has a comprehensive program of training, workshop, exposure/study visit and communication activities to contribute to the project objectives through scaling up production technologies, skills development, knowledge sharing and learning. Therefore, provisions for need-based trainings, workshops and study tour/exposure visits were made in all components (PIUs) of NATP-2 project for knowledge gathering and skills development of the scientists, officers, farmer groups (CIGs) and local agro-traders. Training and demonstration are also considered as the two core pillars of NATP-2 implementation strategy.

Project Management Unit (PMU) organized in-country short trainings on Demand-led crucial cross-cutting issues like, Communication Skills in Agriculture, Financial and Procurement Management, e-GP and STEP for the officers and staff of DAE, DOF, DLS and NARS Institutes for the improvement of knowledge and skill of individuals and institutional capacity building.

### Training on Communication Skills in Agriculture

In agriculture, information, message and/or package of technology are transferred from researchers to extension



Training course conducted by the Project Director, NATP-2

agents and then from extension agents to farmers/users and get feedback vice versa. Good communication

skills help get agricultural information and technologies transferred to users speedily and correctly. Workers in the digital age must know how to effectively convey and receive messages in person as well as via phone, email, and social media.



Training course conducted by the Project Director, NATP-2

With a view to enhance the communication skill of agricultural professionals, PMU organized a 3-day training course on Communication Skills in Agriculture in February 2018 and trained 116 officers and scientists of DAE (27), DOF (21), DLS (19), PMU (10) and NARS Institutes (39) in three batches.

The training course was held at BARC where very renowned and relevant communication experts worked as the resource persons/speakers.

Participants expressed their satisfaction about the course as it helped them to develop their communication skill. Pre and post evaluation results revealed that average pre evaluation score per participant was 7.90 (out of 30) which rose to 21.06 (out of 30) as post evaluation score.

After obtaining this training course, the trained officers would now be able to:

- a) Understand the importance of communication in NATP-2 project and in general in agriculture;
- b) able to explain communication types, target audience, sender, message, channel, feedback, etc.;
- c) Select and use channel appropriate to the target people for transmitting the technologies, information and/or messages;
- d) Analyse strength, weakness, opportunities and threats (SWOT) of NATP-2 as well as their organizations and also the agriculture sector; and
- e) Assess the desired changes happened and prepare the follow-up program for the success/ failure.

## Training Workshop on Project Development and Management

A five-day training workshop on *Project Development and Management* was organized by the Planning and Evaluation Division, BARC during 14-18 January 2018. Dr. Md. Kabir Ikramul Haque, Executive Chairman, BARC was present as chief guest in the inaugural session. Dr. Paresh Chandra Golder, Member-Director, Planning & Evaluation presided over the inaugural ceremony. Senior Officers comprising Member-Directors, Directors, CSOs and PSOs from different divisions of BARC were present in the inauguration ceremony. Dr. Md. Abdul Awal, CSO, Planning & Evaluation, BARC and the course coordinator of the workshop delivered the welcome address. Twenty nine participants from NARS institutes including BARC attended the training workshop.

Resource persons were from BARC, National Academy for Planning and Development (NAPD), Office of the Comptroller General of Accounts and Directorate of Fire service and Civil defense, Ministry of Home affairs. The topics of the training workshop were project cycle, project appraisal, logical framework, preparation of different types of project documents (DPP/RDPP/TPP/RTPP), developing winning research proposals, result-based monitoring, PPR-2008, financial delegations, SWOT, objectives and problem tree analysis etc. The training workshop was conducted based on class lectures, practical sessions and open discussions. The chief guest in his speech mentioned that this training workshop was



A view of training workshop on Project Development and Management

organized to make the participants conversant with project planning and management. The chairperson of the training workshop in his speech expected that this training would be helpful for the participants to prepare and manage different kinds of projects properly and efficiently. The

workshop ended on 18 January 2018 through a certificate giving ceremony where the Dr. Md. Kabir Ikramul Haque, Executive Chairman, BARC was present as chief guest.

## Seminar on Action Plan of Ministry of Agriculture for achieving SDG

A day-long seminar on *Action Plan of Ministry of Agriculture for Achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)* was organized by Planning and Evaluation



Dr. Kabir Uddin Ahmed, PSO, Planning and Evaluation Division presented the key-note paper

Division, BARC on 12 February 2018 at BARC. Dr. Md. Kabir Ikramul Haque, Executive Chairman, BARC presided over the seminar. Member Directors, Directors, senior scientists and officers attended the seminar. The main objective of the seminar was to build awareness among the scientists/officers of BARC on the SDG Action Plan of MoA. Dr. Kabir Uddin Ahamed, Principal Scientific Officer, Planning and Evaluation Division presented the seminar paper. He reported that the world community has adopted 17 Goals with 169 Targets and 232 indicators. It aims to end poverty and hunger, reduce inequalities, empower woman and generate inclusive growth "Leaving no one behind". Dr. Kabir Uddin Ahamed highlighted the detailed Action Plan of MoA in his presentation which will be implemented up to 2030. Dr. Paresh Chandra Golder, MD Planning and Evaluation of BARC mentioned that the Action Plan of MoA for achieving the SDGs was prepared holding by several meetings with different institutes/organizations under Ministry of Agriculture. Dr. Md. Kabir Ikramul Haque, Executive Chairman of BARC suggested in his concluding speech that all scientists of NARS should take research programs following the Action Plan for achieving the targets by 2030.

## Annual Performance Agreement Review Meeting

Planning and Evaluation Division of BARC organized a meeting during 23-24 April 2018 to review the Draft Annual Performance Agreement of Agriculture Ministry for the fiscal year 2018-19. APA team management related expert pool members Dr. M. A. Satter Mondal, former-Vice Chancellor, Bangladesh Agricultural University and former Member, Planning Commission; Dr. Md. Nazmul Islam, Ex-Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Mr. Md. Enamul Haque, former Director General, Department of Agricultural Extension were present in the meeting. Dr. M. A. Satter Mondal presided the meeting. A total of 110 participants comprising of the heads of institutes/organizations under MoA along with APA chief and focal points attended the meeting. After in-depth discussion on the prepared draft APA of agriculture ministry and APA of respective departments/organizations, all members came to a common consensus to finalize the draft APA for fiscal year 2018-19.

## Progress Review Workshop on Research Programme of 2017-18 under Research and Innovation fund of MoA

A two-day Progress Review Workshop on *Research Programme of 2017-18 under Research and Innovation fund of Ministry of Agriculture* was organized by Planning and Evaluation Division in association with the Technology Transfer Monitoring Unit of BARC during



A view of Progress Review Workshop on Research Programme of 2016-17 and 2017-18 under Research and Innovation fund of Ministry of Agriculture

27-28 June 2018. Mr. B.M. Enamul Hoque, Additional Secretary (Audit), Ministry of Agriculture was present in the workshop as chief guest. Dr. M. Kabir Ikramul Haque, Executive Chairman, BARC chaired the inaugural

session. Dr. Abul Kalam Azad, Director General, BARI was present as special guest and Dr. Paresh Chandra Golder, MD, Planning and Evaluation, BARC delivered welcome address with brief presentation of special fund.

Principal investigators from nine institutes (BARI, BRRI, BINA, BJRI, BSRI, SRDI, CDB, BIRTAN and BADC) participated in four technical sessions and presented 44 research programmes of 2017-18. After detailed discussion, the following recommendations were adopted in the workshop.

- The achievements of research programmes of 2017-18 were found satisfactory and should be highlighted in 3-4 bullet points for sending to Ministry of Agriculture.
- Money should be utilized properly following to Special Fund Guideline -2016.
- The research and innovation fund of MoA will be provided for the continuation of those research programmes which are expected to be stopped or terminated due to shortage of money.
- The unspent money should be deposited to government treasury within the first week of July 2018.
- Research area should be in line with the priority areas mentioned in the Special Fund Guideline-2016 for the next year proposal,
- Research programmes which need continuation for 2018-19 should be well justified.

### Global Plan of Action for Reporting and Collection and Documentation of Plant Genetic Resources in Bangladesh

The Training Workshop on *Global Plan of Action for Reporting and Collection & Documentation of Plant Genetic Resources in Bangladesh* was held on 24-26 April at BARC. The overall objective of the workshop was to enhance quality and coverage of data reporting on the Second Global Plan of Action and capacity development of stakeholder on PGR management system. About 35 participants from different NARS Institutes, Agricultural Universities and Private sectors attended the training workshop. Dr. Stefano, Secretary of the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on PGRFA, Plant Production and Protection Division, FAO, Rome, Italy and seven local experts attended the training workshop as resource persons. Dr. Wais Kabir, Executive Director of KGF was present as Chief Guest, Dr. Stefano was present as Special

Guest and Dr. Md. Aziz Zilani Chowdhury, Member Director (Crops), BARC chaired the inaugural session. Dr. Kabir mentioned that Bangladesh is fully committed to manage the country's rich biodiversity with the spirit of constitution and that of the convention on Biological Diversity to which Bangladesh is a party. He also told that plant genetic resources are the key components of not only the agricultural production system but also of the Eco-system. Plant genetic resources are the basic material for introduction, domestication and breeding programmes. Dr. Stefano addressed on general policy and implementation of the Treaty and its Multilateral System (MLS) of access and benefit-sharing. Dr. Md. Aziz Zilani Chowdhury, Member Director (Crops), BARC informed the reporting status of Second Global Plan of Action. He also mentioned the reporting importance of Sustainable Development Goal Indicator 2.5.1. The present PGR management activities are inadequate. More systematic conservation and characterization is urgently needed. Therefore, establishment of the National Plant Genetic Resources (NPGRI) along with enactment of Plant Varieties and Farmers Right Protection Act is essential. Dr. Zilani welcomed Dr. Stefano for coming Bangladesh and thanks for attending this training workshop as a resource person.

The training workshop was focused on following issues:

1. Overview of the Second Global Plan of Action for Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.
2. PGR reporting for the Sustainable Development Goals.
3. Role of Biodiversity in Food Security.
4. Plant Genetic Resources and its National & International Perspective.
5. Exploration and Collection of Plant Genetic Resources.
6. Characterization and Evaluation of Plant Genetic Resources.
7. Characterization and Evaluation of Geographical Indication Crops.
8. Conservation and Utilization of Plant Genetic Resources.
9. Plant Genetic Resources: Legal Issues.

### Phytosanitary Measures and Food Safety Issues in Bangladesh

A day long training programme on Phytosanitary Measures and Food Safety Issues in Bangladesh was organized by

the Crops Division, BARC and sponsored by Project Implementation Unit-BARC, National Agricultural Technology Program Phase II project on 09 May 2018 at BARC, Dhaka. The objectives of the training were to improve knowledge and skills of scientists and officials dealing with phytosanitary and food safety matters in the country.



Training Workshop on Global Plan of Action for Reporting and Collection & Documentation of Plant Genetic Resources in Bangladesh

A total of 40 scientists and officers from BARI, BRRI, BJRI, BSRI, CDB, BSRTI, BARC, and BADC, DAE, BSTI, Hortex Foundation and other private organizations BRAC, ACI Seed, Lal Teer Seed and PRAN 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. Dr. S. M. Khorshed Alam, Director, Manpower & Training, BARC, Farmgate, Dhaka gave welcome address with a brief presentation of the program. Relevant specialist resource speakers from FAO, BARI, BAU, BARI and DAE were invited to deliver lectures on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures in Fruits and Vegetables Supply Chain; Pesticide Residues and Food Safety Issues for Fruits and Vegetables, Food Safety on Biosecurity issues related to phytosanitary measures in Bangladesh, Adulteration in Food and Human Health Hazards and Regulatory Framework for Plant Protection respectively. In the training manual, five theoretical lectures and in addition, the Plant Quarantine Act, 2011 has been included.

### Visit Abroad



Bangladeshi participants in front of the University of Manitoba, Canada

Dr. Md. Kabir Ikramul Hauque, Executive Chairman, Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council, Dr. Md. Abdul Awal, Chief Scientific Officer, Planning and Evaluation Division, BARC and Dr. Md. Saifullah, Principal Scientific Officer, Forestry, NRM Division attended a training on *Natural Resources Management and Climate Smart Agriculture* held during 27 April to 06 May 2018 at the Institute of Natural Resources, University of Manitoba and Canada University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada. The training lectures were on Canola, Wheat, Potato, late blight of Potato, Potato Storage Technologies, Horticulture Research etc. Both the universities of Canada expressed their interest to exchange views and ideas on agricultural technologies between these countries through Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

## Acknowledgment

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## Readers and Contributors

The scientists, technologists and concerned officials involved in NARS institutes are requested to send articles, success stories, research highlights and reports on important events with quality photographs for BARC Newsletter. Cooperation in this regard as well as your valuable comments and suggestions for our future endeavour would be highly appreciated.

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