



BARC

Newsletter

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Dr. Md. Abdus Salam Appointed as Executive Chairman of BARC



Dr. Md. Abdus Salam, Executive Chairman, BARC

Dr. Md. Abdus Salam officially assumed the role of Executive Chairman of the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC), effective 30th October 2025. Dr. Salam has three decades of distinguished professional experience to this leadership position, having previously served as the Member Director (Crops, Grade-2) of the same institution.

Born in Cumilla, Dr. Salam's career is deeply committed to agricultural innovation and administrative excellence. He earned his B.Sc.Ag. (Hons.) and M.S. in Horticulture from Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU). Later on, he completed his Ph.D. in 2009. His academic credentials further include a Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Monitoring and Evaluation from Kansas State University, USA, which has added a rigorous approach to his research

management.

Dr. Salam began his professional journey in 1995 as a Scientific Officer at the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (BARI). Since joining BARC in 2009, he has held key positions in the Planning and Evaluation Division, the Support Service Unit, and the Crops Division. His prolific contributions to the scientific community include authoring 66 research papers in national and international reputed journals and 20 books. Beyond his publications, he has developed 11 innovative agricultural technologies and successfully transferred six ones to the farming community.

A recognized authority in policy formulation, Dr. Salam played a central role in drafting the National Agricultural Policy 2018 and the agricultural sector's 8th Five-Year Plan. He currently serves as the National Focal Point for the

International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA, FAO) and acts as the Convener of the Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) unit, BARC. Throughout his tenure of the Member Director in Crops Division, he has successfully led national projects focused on land suitability, crop zoning, and climate-resilient farming systems.

In addition to his administrative duties, Dr. Salam remains an active member of the Research Advisory Committees for several leading agricultural universities and continues to serve as a reviewer for various reputed journals. As Executive Chairman, his visionary leadership and extensive expertise in technology innovation and research coordination will be instrumental in advancing the agricultural landscape of Bangladesh and abroad as well.

BARC Inspires Next-Generation Agricultural Leaders

As part of the government's visionary Youth Festival 2025, the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) implemented a nationwide seminar series titled *Youth Innovation: Driving Force of Agricultural Transformation*. Conducted across four prominent academic institutions, the initiative empowered students and young professionals to lead the future of Bangladesh's food systems through innovation, entrepreneurship, and sustainable nutrition security.

The seminar series commenced on 4 September 2025 at Gazipur Agricultural University, where Dr. Mohammad Emdad Ullah Mian, Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, attended as the Chief Guest. The program subsequently expanded to Sylhet Agricultural University on 11 September, Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University on 25 September, and concluded at the International University of Business Agriculture and Technology on 13 December 2025. The earlier seminars were presided over by Dr. Nazmun Nahar Karim, Executive Chairman of BARC, while the final event was led by the newly appointed Executive Chairman, Dr. Md. Abdus Salam, reflecting continuity and progressive leadership within the institution. At each venue, Dr. Md.



Hon'ble EC, BARC along with other Guests

Mosharraf Uddin Molla, Member Director (AERS) and Convener of the Organizing Committee, delivered the welcome address, highlighting the strategic importance of youth engagement. A central feature was the keynote presentation by Dr. Md. Abdus Salam, PSO (AERS) and Deputy Program Director (HRD) of the APCU-BARC PARTNER Project, who underscored youth-driven innovation as a transformative force for technological and inclusive growth, supported by the active participation of Vice-Chancellors and senior officials.

Attracting approximately 500 participants per venue, the seminars bridged the gap between academia and real-world application. Inspiring success stories from young entrepreneurs in diverse

sectors-including coffee processing, seed production, and tech-based agri-services-demonstrated how innovation translates research into sustainable livelihoods. Participants included undergraduate and master's students, scientists, and representatives from government, NGOs, and the private sector.

Through interactive dialogue, the Youth Festival 2025 engaged over 2,000 young participants, aligning their aspirations with national development priorities. The initiative reaffirmed agriculture as a vibrant sector for employment and technological transformation. Ultimately, the series solidified BARC's commitment to nurturing the next generation of leaders to drive a modern, resilient, and future-ready agricultural system in Bangladesh.

Final Workshop on Climate Resilient Sustainable Agrifood Systems

Agricultural Engineering Unit of BARC and CSIRO (Australia) jointly organized an international workshop titled *Climate Resilient Sustainable Agrifood Systems in the Salt-affected Coastal Zones of the Ganges Delta: Evidence and Future Roadmaps* on 14 September 2025 at BARC, Dhaka. The event was part of an ACIAR and KGF-funded project (2020-25), implemented by BARI, BRRI, Shushilon Bangladesh, and other partner institutions.

The workshop began with welcome



Guests on Dais During Inaugural Session of the Workshop

remarks from Dr. Md. Baktear Hossain, Member Director (NRM),

BARC, who emphasized strengthening climate-resilient coastal agrifood systems. Mr. Clinton Pobke, Deputy Australian High Commissioner, and Dr. Pratibha Singh, Regional Manager, ACIAR, reaffirmed Australia's support for agricultural innovation in Bangladesh. Dr. Mohammed Mainuddin, Principal Research Scientist, CSIRO, highlighted

project achievements addressing salinity, waterlogging, and irrigation challenges through innovations such as salt-tolerant rice, profitable dry-season crops, and optimized sowing windows.

Special Guests, including Dr. Nathu Ram Sarker, ED, KGF and Dr. Md. Khalekuzzaman, DG, BRRI, praised the project's national relevance. Chief Guest Mr. Md. Abu Zubair

Hossain Bablu, Additional Secretary, MoA highlighted scaling proven technologies, while Chair, Dr. Nazmun Nahar Karim, EC, BARC emphasized the need for data-driven translation of innovations into benefits at the farmer level. The workshop concluded with calls to integrate project outcomes into future programs to enhance resilience and coastal livelihoods.

Advanced Technical Report Writing and Editing

The Agricultural Information Centre (AIC), BARC, organized a five-day training titled *Advanced Technical Report Writing and Editing* (28th Batch) on 9 November 2025, at BARC. The inaugural session was graced by Dr. Md. Abdus Salam, Hon'ble EC, BARC, as the Chief Guest. In his remarks, he highlighted the importance of publishing quality research articles for strengthening the country's agricultural research system and officially inaugurated the training program. The session was presided over by Dr. Susmita Das, Director, AIC, BARC.

A total of 30 scientists and officers from various NARS institutes participated in the training. The program aims to strengthen the capacity of agricultural scientists and officers in scientific writing, editing,



Glimpse from the Certificate Awarding Ceremony

and publication by enhancing skills in research communication, data presentation, referencing, and manuscript preparation for high-impact journals. Throughout the five days, participants were engaged in technical sessions, hands-on exercises, and interactive discussions facilitated by experts

from BARC and relevant institutions. The training concluded with a closing ceremony, where Dr. Salam, EC, BARC distributed certificates and acknowledged the contributions of the participants and resource persons.

Research Review 2024-25 and Research Program 2025-26 on Farm Machinery and Postharvest Technology of NARS Institutes

The Annual Workshop on *Research Review 2024-25 and Research Program 2025-26 on Farm Machinery and Postharvest Technology of NARS Institutes* was held on 8 October 2025 at BARC. The workshop was organized by the Agricultural Engineering Unit (AEU), BARC, with active participation from NARS institutes, relevant government agencies, agricultural universities, private sector representatives, and



Hon'ble Guests and the Expert Members

development partners. The workshop comprised an inaugural session followed by two technical sessions on Farm Machinery and Postharvest Technology. The inaugural session was chaired by Dr. Md. Baktear Hossain, Member Director (NRM), BARC, while Dr.

Nazmun Nahar Karim, EC, BARC, attended as the Chief Guest. In two technical sessions on Farm Machinery and Postharvest Technology, representatives from relevant NARS institutes reviewed research progress (2024-25) and proposed programs (2025-26),

focusing on advances in mechanization, renewable-energy-based equipment, packaging, storage, processing, and value addition with an emphasis on commercialization and farmer-level adoption.

Climate Smart Agriculture for Adaptation and Mitigation

A three-day training course titled *Climate Smart Agriculture for Adaptation and Mitigation* (9th Batch) was successfully organized on 0-04 December 2025 at BARC, with funding support from the PARTNER Program, APCU, BARC. A total of 25 participants representing NARS institutes, DAE, and NGOs (BRAC, GJUS, CCDB, ASA, and Balaka Consultant) attended the program. The training featured 14 technical sessions, delivered by 11 distinguished resource persons. The training was inaugurated by Dr. Md. Saifullah, Member Director (A&F), BARC, as Special Guest. The course was directed by Dr. Md. Golam Mahboob, Chief Scientific Officer (CSO) NRM Division,



Picture of the Training Program

BARC, while Dr. Kazi Noor-E-Alam Jewel, Principal Scientific Officer, Forestry Unit, served as the Course Coordinator. During the closing ceremony, the Course Coordinator Dr. Saifullah distributed course completion

certificates along with valuable remarks to the participants. All lectures were evaluated through speaker evaluation sheets provided by the PARTNER APCU to ensure quality and continuous improvement.

Research Review 2024-25 and Research Program 2025–26 on Irrigation and Water Management of NARS Institutes

The Annual Workshop on *Research Review 2024-25 and Research Program 2025–26 on Irrigation and Water Management of NARS Institutes* was held on 9 October 2025 at BARC. The workshop was organized by AEU, BARC, with participation from NARS institutes, relevant government agencies, research organizations, and agricultural universities. The workshop consisted of an inaugural



Hon'ble Guests and the Expert Members

session followed by a technical session on irrigation and water management. The inaugural session was chaired by Dr. Md. Baktar Hossain, MD (NRM), BARC, while Dr. Nazmun Nahar Karim, EC, BARC, attended as the Chief Guest. During the technical session,

representatives from BARI, BRRI, and BINA reviewed research progress (2024-25) and proposed programs (2025-26), focusing on efficient irrigation technologies, solar-powered systems, groundwater sustainability, water-use efficiency, and

climate-resilient cropping systems. The session concluded with a shared commitment to advancing sustainable, climate-smart irrigation and water management technologies to support resilient agricultural growth in Bangladesh.

Annual Review Workshop on Soil Management Program of NARS Institutes: Research Progress 2024-25 and Research Program 2025-26

The Soils Unit of the Natural Resources Management Division, BARC, organized the *Annual Review Workshop on Soil Management Program of NARS Institutes: Research Progress 2024-25 and Research Program 2025-26* at BARC from October 12-14, 2025. The workshop aimed to review and enhance the research programs conducted by NARS institutes during 2024-25 and research plan for the 2025-26 fiscal year. Participants included representatives from NARS institutes, DAE, BADC, and various agricultural universities. The workshop was structured into an inaugural session, six technical sessions, and a recommendation and concluding session. Dr. Nazmun



Pictorial View of the Inaugural Session

Nahar Karim, EC of BARC, was the Chief Guest of the inaugural session, while Dr. Begom Samia Sultana, DG of SRDI, attended as Special Guests.

The CSO and heads of Soil Science Divisions of BARI, BRRI, BINA, BSRI, BJRI, and the senior scientists of BTRI, SRDI, CDB,

BSRTI, and BWMRI presented their research progress for 2024-2025 and research plans for 2025-26 during the six technical sessions. After each session, recommendations were finalized based on the discussion, reviews, comments, and suggestions of the participants and experts.

Training Program on Use of Fertilizer Inspection Manual

A three-day training program on the Use of *Fertilizer Inspection Manual* was organized by the Soils Unit and held at BARC from 23-25 November 2025. The training program was attended by 30 participants, primarily officials from DAE and NARS institutes. Renowned scientists, DAE officials, and experts from government organizations delivered 18 lectures on diverse topics. Dr. Md. Abdus Salam, EC, BARC attended as



Training on Use of Fertilizer Inspection Manual

Chief Guests in the inaugural session. Dr. Md. Baktear Hossain, Member Director (NRM), BARC, presided over the session. During

the closing session, Dr. Md. Baktear Hossain, Member Director (NRM), BARC distributed certificates to the

trainees and delivered concluding remarks to mark the successful completion of the training course.

Training on Engineering Design and Manufacturing of Agricultural Equipment with SolidWorks

The Agricultural Engineering Unit, NRM Division, BARC, organized a five-day training course titled *Engineering Design and Manufacturing of Agricultural Equipment with SolidWorks* from 23-27 November 2025 at FMPHT Division, BRRI, Gazipur. The training aimed to enhance participants' skills in the engineering design and manufacturing of agricultural equipment using SolidWorks, with a focus on supporting innovation, precision, and efficiency in machinery development tailored to modern farming systems. A total of 25 participants from NARS institutes, DAE, BSFIC and local agricultural machinery manufacturer attended the program. Renowned experts from the public



Dignitaries and Participants of the Training Program

and private sectors, as well as academia, delivered lectures and conducted hands-on sessions on CAD and CAM applications through SolidWorks and CNC lab work, emphasizing 3D modeling, simulation, and technical drawing. The trainees worked two-days in FMPHT Divisional workshop of BRRI for these CAM and CNC

Lab-based hands-on sessions. The closing session was graced by special guest Dr. Md Golam Kibria Bhuiyan, PSO, FMPHT Division, who delivered insightful remarks and awarded certificates to the participants. Course coordinator Dr. Md. Ashraf Alam, DPD, PRTNER (APCU-BARC) and PSO (AEU), BARC presided over the session.

Training on E-Library & Repository Management

The Agriculture Information Centre (AIC), BARC organized a two-day training program titled *E-Library & Repository Management (1st Batch)*, held on 22 December 2025, at BARC. The inaugural session was graced by Dr. Md. Abdus Salam, Hon'ble EC of BARC, as the Chief Guest. In his address, he emphasized the necessity of digitizing agricultural research and maintaining robust institutional repositories to ensure global access to Bangladesh's agricultural knowledge. Dr. Mohammad Rafiqul Islam, Member Director (Planning



Group Photo of Dignitaries and Participants of the Training Program

and Evaluation), BARC, attended the program as the Special Guest. The session was presided over by Dr. Susmita Das, Director, AIC,

while Dr. Sufara Akter, Senior Scientific Editor, AIC, moderated the event. The training aimed to equip participants with modern

digital archiving techniques and repository software management skills. A total of 30 scientists and officials from various NARS institutes, along with representatives from BADC, DAE,

AIS, and SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC), participated in this batch. In the closing session, Dr. Salam, EC, BARC was present as chief guest and distributed training certificates among the trainees.

This initiative marks a significant step toward the digital transformation of agricultural libraries, fostering a more connected and resourceful research environment for the nation.

GAP Technical Committee Meeting

The 6th meeting of the *Technical Committee*, the highest technical decision-making body for GAP implementation in Bangladesh, was held on 17 September 2025 at BARC. Dr. Nazmun Nahar Karim, EC, BARC and convener of the committee preside the meeting as well as Dr. Md. Abdus Salam, Member Director (Crops) was attended as a member of the committee. To strengthen GAP implementation, the GAP Unit formed several committees, including a six-member team to develop the Operational Manual for the Bangladesh GAP Scheme Owner and three five-member



GAP Technical Committee Meeting

teams to translate the Bangladesh GAP Standard and the Mango and Potato GAP Protocols into English. These committees held their first meetings to finalize ToRs and work

plans. Additionally, the GAP Unit organized meetings to prepare the 2025-26 work programme and budget for GAP field evaluations across 15 selected crops.

Forestry and Agroforestry Technologies for Professionals

A three-day long training course on *Forestry and Agroforestry Technologies for Professionals* was organized at BARC on 18-20 November, 2025 with funding from PARTNER Program, APCU, BARC. A total of twenty-five participants from eight NARS organizations attended. Dr. Md. Abdus Salam, EC, BARC, inaugurated the training as Chief Guest. Dr. Md. Ashraful Alam, APD, PARTNER Program and Dr. Md. Saifullah, Member Director (A&F) were present as Special Guests in the Inaugural and Closing Ceremony respectively. Dr. Md. Golam Mahboob, CSO (Forestry) and Course Coordinator, Dr. Md.



Dignitaries and Participants of the Training Program

Baktar Hossain, Member Director (NRM), BARC, and course director of the training distributed course completion certificates with

valuable remarks among the participants during the closing ceremony.

Annual Review Workshop on Research Progress (2024-25) and Research Program (2025-26) of BLRI

The Livestock Division of BARC organized a two-day long Annual Review Workshop on Research Progress (2024-25) and Research Program (2025-26) of Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute (BLRI), was held on 21-22 December 2025 at BARC. The inaugural ceremony of the workshop was graced by Dr. Shakila Faruque, DG, BLRI, as Chief Guest and Dr. Mohammad Bozlor Rahman, Director (Planning), Department of Livestock Services (DLS), as Special Guests. The event was presided over by Dr. Mohammad Rafiqul Islam, Member Director (Planning & Evaluation) and CSO (Livestock), BARC. Dr. Ali Akbar Bhuiyan, PSO (Livestock) gave the welcome presentation and Dr. Md. Masud Rana, PSO (Livestock) moderated



Hon'ble Guests and the Expert Members

the event. A total of 70 participants including officers, faculty members and scientists from BARC, Universities, BLRI, DLS and relevant other government and non-government organizations were attended the workshop. During the three technical sessions, the heads of nine divisions and four centers of BLRI presented their research progress for 2024-25, highlighting

the implementation of previous year's recommendations along with the research program for 2025-26. Dr. Md. Abdus Salam, EC, BARC was present in the closing ceremony and delivered valuable remarks; he highlighted recent achievement of BLRI like LSD vaccine development, indigenous chicken breed improvement and artificial insemination technique in goat.

Training on Quantitative Approaches to Socio-Economic Research: Econometric Tools and Insights

A five days training program on *Quantitative Approaches to Socio-Economic Research: Econometric Tools and Insights* was held on 09-13 November 2025 at Computer Lab., BARC organized by AERS Division. The resource speakers were the Professors from Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University, Dhaka. Twenty agricultural economists from NARS institutes and agricultural universities (SAU and GAU) attended in the training program. Dr. Md. Abdus Salam, EC of BARC, was the Chief Guest at the concluding session and handed over certificates. The overarching goal of



Hon'ble EC, BARC, Handing Over a Token of Appreciation to the Participant

the course was to strengthen decision-making in agriculture by

improving resource allocation and increasing productivity.

GHG Accounting, Energy & EMS Management Based on ISO 14064 (Part 1&2), 50001 and 14001:2015

A five-day training course titled *GHG Accounting, Energy and EMS Management Based on ISO 14064 (Parts 1 & 2), ISO 50001 and ISO 14001:2015* (1st Batch) was successfully held at BARC from 20-24 December 2025, with financial support from the PARTNER Program, APCU, BARC. The program was attended by 25 participants from six NARS institutions, CCDB, CEGIS, ENVSOL, and SAF. The training was inaugurated by Dr. Md. Abdus Salam, EC of BARC, as the Chief Guest. Overall academic and administrative guidance was provided by Dr. Md. Ashraf Alam, Agency Program Director (APD), APCU-BARC, PARTNER Program, while Dr. Zakiah Rahman Moni, PSO, Nutrition Unit, BARC, served as the Course Coordinator. The course comprised



EC, BARC Delivering Speech

14 interactive technical sessions delivered by four experienced resource persons, covering advanced concepts and practical applications related to GHG accounting, energy management, and environmental management systems. A comprehensive training manual was provided in both

printed and digital formats, with the digital version accessible via QR code or at: https://apps.barc.gov.bd/BARC-Forestry/GHG_ISO-25-26.pdf. The program concluded with a certificate distribution ceremony, during which constructive feedback was shared with the participants.

Training on Modern Forecasting Approaches for Agricultural Planning and Decision-Making

A five-day training program on *Modern Forecasting Approaches for Agricultural Planning and Decision-Making* was held from 07-11 December 2025 at the Computer Lab, BARC. The program was organized by the AERS Division and funded by the PARTNER project. The resource speakers were the Professors from BAU, Mymensingh. Twenty-five agricultural economists attended in the training program. Dr. Md. Abdus Salam, EC, BARC, attended the concluding session as the Chief Guest and presented certificates. The main objective of the course was to improve the quality of agricultural planning and



Awarding of Certificate by the Hon'ble EC, BARC

decision-making through enhanced forecasting accuracy, efficient resource utilization, and sustainable productivity growth. Participants practiced these approaches on a

provided dataset and gained hands-on experience in using analytical software such as STATA, SPSS, EViews, and R.

19th ATECC Meeting on Rabi Season/2025

The 19th ATECC (Agricultural Technology Extension Coordination Committee) meeting was held on 7th October 2025 at BARC. The meeting aimed to integrate and disseminate of agricultural technologies developed by the NARS for the forthcoming Rabi season. Dr. Nazmun Nahar Karim, EC, BARC chaired the meeting. Mr. Md. Obaidur Rahman Mondol, Director, Field Service Wing, DAE conducted the meeting. Dr. AHM Moniruzzaman, Deputy Director (Extension), Field Service Wing, DAE, presented work plan for the Rabi season/2025. Additionally, Dr. Suraya Parvin, Director (TTMU), BARC introduced NARS's suitable technologies for the '14 Agricultural Zone' for the forthcoming Rabi season/2025. The Directors General



19th ATECC Meeting on Rabi Season

of BRRI, BSRI, BINA, BJRI, SRDI and BWMRI were present and actively participated in the discussion. Participants also included representatives from various institutions, including BARC, CDB, SCA, BADC, DAM, KGF, BIRTAN, BSST, Hortex Foundation, as well stakeholder

such as the Agricultural Machinery Manufacturer's Association and Janata Engineering. The ATECC meeting serves as a strategic platform to bridge the research outcomes of NARS and the field-level activities of the DAE.

Annual Review Workshop on the Progress of the Work Plan 2024-25 and Proposal for the Work Plan 2025-26

A Two-day long Annual Review Workshop on the Progress of the Work Plan 2024-25 and Proposal for the Work Plan 2025-26 was organized by Planning and Evaluation Division, BARC on 10 and 11 August 2025 at BARC. The objectives of the workshop were to review the progress of approved work plan of FY 2024-25 and proposed annual workplan in FY 2025-26. The inaugural session was presided over by Dr. Md. Abdus Salam, Member-Director (Crops), BARC. Dr. Nazmun Nahar Karim, EC, BARC was present as a Chief Guest of the inaugural session. Dr. A B M Khaldun, PSO (P&E), BARC gave the welcome speech. There were four technical sessions followed by inaugural session



Inaugural Session of the Workshop

where respective scientist/Officer of the Division/Centre/Unit has presented the progress of work plan 2024-25 and proposed annual work plan of FY 2025-26. Following the conclusion of all presentations, participants engaged in a concise discussion, leading to

the formulation of the subsequent recommendations. In the closing and fourth session EC, BARC suggested all the Head of Divisions/Centre/Units to take necessary action in this regard.

National Workshop on Launching ACASA Portal

The National Workshop on *Launching the Atlas of Climate Adaptation in South Asian Agriculture (ACASA) Portal* was held from 9-11 December 2025 at BARC, Dhaka, marking the official launch of the Bangladesh country version of the ACASA Portal.

The inaugural session was chaired by Dr. Md. Mosharraf Uddin Molla, Member Director, AERS Division, BARC. The program was graced by Dr. Md. Abdus Salam, EC, BARC, as the Chief Guest, who formally launched the ACASA Portal and emphasized its importance in transforming climate data into decision-ready intelligence for climate-resilient agricultural planning. Special Guests included Md. Obaidur Rahman Mondol, Director, Field Service Wing, DAE; Dr. Md. Bayzer Rahman, Director (Administration), DLS; and Mirza Shawkat Ali, Director (Climate Change & International Convention), Department of Environment. They highlighted the



Dignitaries and Participants of the Workshop

relevance of ACASA for extension services, livestock health management, and national climate policy alignment. A keynote presentation titled *ACASA for Climate-Ready Agriculture: From Insight to Action Pathways* was delivered by Dr. Prasun Kumar Gangopadhyay, Specialist, Applied Data Science, Borlaug Institute for South Asia (BISA-CIMMYT), India, outlining the regional vision and scientific foundation of the ACASA initiative. Over the three days, multiple technical sessions were conducted under the guidance

of distinguished Session Chair.

The workshop concluded with group-wise expert assessments on crops and livestock, generating actionable recommendations to improve data quality, methodological clarity, and usability of the ACASA Portal. The event highlighted ACASA's role as a national climate knowledge system, supporting evidence-based adaptation planning, policy formulation, and climate-smart investment decisions in Bangladesh.

Training on Geographic Information System (GIS) & Remote Sensing (RS) for Smart Agriculture

Computer & GIS Unit of BARC organized a five-day training program on *Geographic Information System (GIS) & Remote Sensing (RS) for Smart Agriculture* from 30 November to 04 December 2025 at the Computer Lab, BARC. Dr. Md. Mosharraf Uddin Molla, Member Director (AERS), BARC, attended the inaugural session as the Chief Guest. The program was conducted by Mr. Hasan Md. Hamidur Rahman, Director (Computer & GIS), BARC, as Course Director, with Mr. Hasan Mahmud, Senior System Analyst, serving as Course Coordinator and



Glimpse from the Certificate Awarding Ceremony

Mr. Al-Helal, Programmer, as Assistant Course Coordinator. The training aimed to strengthen participants' understanding of GIS and Remote Sensing concepts and

to enhance practical skills in geospatial data management, map design, spatial analysis, crop zoning, land suitability assessment, and agricultural decision-making.

The program combined theoretical sessions with extensive hands-on exercises on geo-referencing, digitization, spatial interpolation (IDW, Kriging, Spline), satellite image processing, land use/land cover classification, NDVI analysis,

change detection, and machine learning-based approaches using real datasets, facilitated by experts from BARC, CEGIS, Care Bangladesh, and the Crop Zoning Project. On the final day, participants developed and

submitted project works based on real datasets, which were evaluated by the trainers; outstanding projects were recognized with awards, and certificates were distributed among all successful participants during the closing ceremony.

Leveraging the ACASA portal for BRAC adaptation clinic and long term Agro-advisory services

A three-day Training Workshop on *Adaptation Clinic and the Uses of Khamari App and ACASA Portal* was held from 17-19 June 2025 at BCDM, Rajendrapur, Gazipur, jointly organized by BARC and BRAC, with technical support from the Atlas of Climate Adaptation in South Asian Agriculture (ACASA) initiative. The inaugural session was chaired by Mr. Hasan Md. Hamidur Rahman, Director (Computer & GIS), BARC, and Principal Investigator of the ACASA Project. The workshop was graced by Dr. Md. Mosharraf Uddin Molla, Member Director, AERS Division, BARC, as the Chief Guest. Special



Hon'ble Guests and the Expert Members

Guests included Md. Liakath Ali, PhD, Director, Climate Change Program, Urban Development and Disaster Risk Management Program, BRAC. The training

concluded with reflections from the chair and guests, reinforcing the value of cross-sector collaboration among government agencies, NGOs, and research institutions.

Workshop on Research Review 2024-25 and Research Program 2025-26 on Fisheries of NARS Institutes

The Fisheries Division of BARC organized a review workshop entitled *Research Review 2024-25 and Research Program 2025-26 on Fisheries of NARS Institutes* on November 18, 2025, at BARC. The inaugural session of the workshop was graced by the esteemed presence of Dr. Md. Abdus Salam, EC, BARC, as the Chief Guest, Dr. Md. Abdur Rouf, Director General, Department of Fisheries (DoF), and Dr. Md. Harun or Rashid, Chief Scientific Officer (CSO) & Station Chief as the special guest. Mr. Ajit Kumar Chakraborty, Member Director, Fisheries Division, BARC,



Guests on Dais During Inaugural Session of the Workshop

chaired the event. The workshop was attended by participants from BFRI, DoF, Bangladesh fisheries development corporation, university

professionals, researchers, research students, entrepreneurs, and non-government institutions. The day long workshop was divided into two technical sessions; freshwater

and riverine fisheries in the morning, where presentations highlighted breeding, genetics, conservation, and climate change impacts across stations in Mymensingh, Chandpur, Saidpur, Santahar, Jessore, and Rangamati,

followed by discussions and expert opinions, and Brackish and Marine Water Fisheries in the afternoon, with key presentations on marine innovations, shrimp research, brackishwater advancements, and sustainable coastal fisheries from

Cox's Bazar, Bagerhat, Khulna, and Patuakhali stations. Concluding with expert reflections, tea, and networking, Mr. Ajit Kumar Chakraborty, the chairperson, expressed gratitude to all participants and attendees.

Annual Review Workshop on Disease Management Program of NARS Institutes

The annual review workshop on *Disease Management Program of NARS Institutes* was held at BARC on 09 October 2025. The workshop aimed to assess the research progress for the year 2024-25 and the research program for 2025-26 of NARS institutes. Its objectives were to prevent research duplication, address research needs on climate change issues and initiate future research programs in alignment with various vision documents and research priorities. The inaugural session was graced by Dr. Md. Abdus Salam, Member Director (Crops), BARC. Dr. Md. Jamal Uddin, PSO (Crops), BARC, welcomed the participants and provided an overview of the



Hon'ble Guests and the Expert Members

recommendations from the last year. During the workshop, two technical sessions were chaired by Prof. Dr. Ismail Hossain, College of Agricultural Sciences, IUBAT, and Dr. Md. Rafiqul Islam, Professor & Chairman, Department of Plant

Pathology, SAU, respectively, and followed by a recommendation session that was prepared based on the views, comments, and suggestions provided by the participants and experts.

Closing Workshop for the Piloting LiDAR Technology for Fast-tracking Agricultural Transformation and Sustainable Development Project

FAO Bangladesh, in close collaboration with BARC, concluded the Technical Cooperation Program (TCP) titled *Piloting Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) Technology for Fast-tracking Agricultural Transformation and Sustainable Development* through a closing workshop held on 24 December 2025 at the Cotton Development Board Training Room. The workshop highlighted key achievements of the project, including the successful pilot implementation led by BARC to



Dignitaries on Dais During Inaugural Session of the Workshop

improve spatial planning in Delduar Upazila and the integration of project outputs into BARC's Khamari mobile application.

Participants from government agencies, academia, and international financial institutions, including the World Bank,

discussed opportunities for scaling up the BARC-FAO initiative nationwide to accelerate agricultural digitization in Bangladesh. The project benefited from technical support by Global

Survey Consultants, which conducted airborne LiDAR data acquisition and produced DSM, DTM, and digital orthophoto maps, and by the Institute of Water Modelling (IWM), which

collaborated with BARC to develop prototypes demonstrating the application of LiDAR and photogrammetric data in agriculture and related sectors.

Training on Aquatic Bioinformatics: Genomic Data Analysis

A training program entitled *Aquatic Bioinformatics: Genomic Data Analysis* was organized by the Fisheries Division, BARC on December 28-30, 2025; 01-02 January, 2026 at Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute (BFRI), Mymensingh. The inaugural ceremony was graced by the esteemed presence of Dr. Anuradha Bhadra, Director General, BFRI. Mr. Ajit Kumar Chakraborty, Member Director, Fisheries Division, BARC, chaired the event. In training program, participants were from BFRI, Department of Fisheries, Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU); Sher-e-Bangla



Guests on Dais During Inaugural Session

Agricultural University (SAU); Gazipur Agricultural University (GAU); Hajee Mohhamad Danesh Science and Technology University

(HSTU). The program focused on genomic data analysis. At the end of the training, participants were awarded certificates.

An Advanced Training on Use of Biotechnological Tools for Varietal Development

The Crops Division of the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) organized a five-day advanced training program on *Use of Biotechnological Tools for Varietal Development* from 23-27 November 2025 at BARC and the Department of Botany, University of Dhaka. Twenty-two participants from NARS institutes, BAU, GAU, and SAU attended. The inaugural session was graced by Dr. Abdus Salam, Member Director (Crops), BARC, as Chief Guest, with Dr. Shah Md. Monir Hossain, CSO (Crops), BARC, as Special Guest. Dr. Md. Mahfuz Alam, Director (M&T), BARC, presided



Hon'ble EC, BARC, Presenting Certificates to the Participants

and delivered the welcome address. The program was directed by Dr. Md. Abdus Salam and coordinated by Dr. Md. Mahfuz Alam. During the training, 25 lectures and

hands-on sessions were conducted, covering topics such as agricultural transformation in Bangladesh and bioinformatics for sustainable development.

Training on Integrated Disease and Insect-Pests Management

A five days training program on *Integrated Disease and Insect-Pests Management* was held from 09-13 November 2025. The event was organized by Crops Division, BARC with the financial assistance from PARTNER Program, APCU-BARC. Inaugural session featured a welcome address by Dr. Md. Jamal Uddin, PSO (Crops), BARC. The session was inaugurated by Dr. Md. Abdus Salam, EC, BARC.



Awarding of Certificates by the Hon'ble EC, BARC

The training program was attended by 25 participants from various NARS Institutions. Over the course of the program, participants engaged in 25 technical sessions, featuring lectures delivered by

renowned scientists, university teachers and officers from public and private sectors. During the closing session, Dr. Md. Abdus Salam, EC, BARC, presented

certificates to the participants and delivered his concluding remarks, marking the successful completion of the program.

Training on Seed Quality Management

A five days training program on *Seed Quality Management* (2nd Batch) was organized by Crops Division; BARC from 19-23 October 2025. The inaugural session featured a welcome address by Dr. Md. Jamal Uddin, PSO (Crops), BARC. The session was chaired by Dr. Md. Abdus Salam, Member Director (Crops), BARC.



Picture of the Inaugural Session

The training program was attended by 30 participants from various institutions. Over the course of the program, participants engaged in 25 technical sessions, featuring lectures delivered by renowned resource persons. The trainers and experts responded to participants' queries, fostering an interactive

and engaging learning environment. Participants expressed their gratitude to the organizers, emphasizing the importance of such training programs for advancing the agricultural sector in Bangladesh. During the closing session, Dr.

Md. Abdus Salam, Member Director (Crops), BARC, presented certificates to the participants and delivered concluding remarks, marking the successful completion of the program.

Annual Review Workshop on Insect Pest Management Program of NARS Institutes

The annual review workshop on the *Insect Pest Management Program of NARS Institutes* was held at BARC on 08 October 2025. The workshop aimed to assess the research progress for the year 2024-25 and the proposed research program for 2025-26.

The inaugural session was chaired by Dr. Md. Abdus Salam, Member Director (Crops), BARC. In his address, Dr. Salam acknowledged the remarkable achievements of NARS scientists and emphasized the urgent need to develop sustainable technologies to achieve a 30% reduction in chemical pesticide use by 2030. Four expert members attended the workshop, namely Professor Dr. Khandakar



Hon'ble Guests and the Expert Members

Shariful Islam, College of Agricultural Science, IUBAT; Professor Dr. Mohammad Tofazzal Hossain Howlader, Department of Entomology, BAU; Dr. Mainul Haq, Ex-CSO and Head, Entomology Division, BRRI and Md. Roushon

Alam, Additional Director, Field Service, DAE. During the workshop, two technical sessions were chaired by Prof. Dr. Khandakar Shariful Islam and Dr. Md. Abdus Salam, respectively.

Closing & Award-Giving Ceremony of the N-31st Foundation Training Course

The closing and award-giving ceremony of the N-31st *Foundation Training Course* was held at the National Agricultural Training Academy (NATA), Gazipur, on 01 December 2025. The four-month-long training program, conducted from 04 August to 01 December 2025 at NATA for scientists of the National

Agricultural Research System (NARS) under the supervision of the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC). A total of 120 scientists successfully completed the training. Dr. Md. Mahmudur Rahman, Additional Secretary (PPC Wing), Ministry of Agriculture, graced the occasion as the chief guest, while Dr. Md.

Abdus Salam, Executive Chairman of BARC, attended as the special guest. The ceremony was chaired by Mr. Md. Saiful Azam Khan, Director General of NATA. At the conclusion of the program, certificates and awards were distributed among the successful participants, marking the formal completion of the training.

Training on Phytosanitary Measures in Bangladesh

A five days training program on *Phytosanitary Measures in Bangladesh* (3rd Batch) was held from 26-30 October 2025. The event was organized by Crops Division, BARC. Inaugural session featured a welcome address by Dr. Md. Jamal Uddin,

PSO (Crops), BARC. The session was chaired by Dr. Md. Abdus Salam, Member Director (Crops), BARC.

The training program was attended by 30 participants from various NARS Institutions, Agricultural Universities (BAU,

SAU-Dhaka and SAU-Sylhet), and DAE. Over the course of the program, participants engaged in 25 technical sessions, featuring lectures delivered by renowned resource persons, including scientists, university teachers and officers from DAE. These

sessions provided in-depth knowledge on key topics related to phytosanitary measures. The trainers and experts also responded to participants' queries, fostering an interactive and engaging learning environment. During the closing session, Dr. Md. Mahfuz Alam, Director (Manpower & Training), BARC, presented certificates to the participants and delivered concluding remarks, marking the successful completion of the program.



Closing and Certificate Awarding Ceremony

Training on Khamari Mobile App Conducted Across 98 Upazilas

The Computer and GIS Unit of BARC, in collaboration with the Crop Zoning Project, conducted training programs on the *Khamari Mobile App across 98 Upazilas* to build the capacity of Sub-Assistant Agriculture Officers (SAAOs) and farmers, raise stakeholder awareness, and promote effective use of the app in strengthening agricultural extension services.



Dignitaries and Participants of the Training

A total of 4,330 participants attended the training programs, including 3,741 males and 589 females. Participants comprised 248 BCS officers, 2,106 AAEOs, SAPPOs, and SAAOs, and 1,976 farmers and agricultural input dealers. Each session was chaired by the respective Upazila Agriculture Officers (UAOs), with additional UAOs or Agriculture Extension Officers (AEOs) as special guests. Senior officials, including ADs, DDs, DTOs,

ADDs of DAE, and KGF Directors and Senior Specialists, attended as Chief Guests in several Upazilas. Each training program included an inaugural session, a technical session, and group work. During group work, participants identified strengths, weaknesses, anomalies, and additional requirements of the 'Khamari' Mobile App. Findings were presented by group leaders, documented, and compiled by the Crop Zoning Project team on an

Upazila-wise basis to guide further app improvements. The sessions were facilitated by scientists, IT professionals, and Crop Zoning Project staff from BARC, who provided technical guidance, demonstrated app functionalities, facilitated discussions, and systematically collected feedback to support ongoing development of the 'Khamari' Mobile App.

N-32nd Foundation Training Course Inaugurated at NATA

The N-32nd batch of the four-month-long *Foundation Training Course* for one hundred (120) scientists of National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS) commenced on November 10, 2025, amidst an inaugural ceremony at the National Agricultural Training Academy (NATA), Gazipur, under the supervision and management of BARC. Mr. Md. Salim Khan, Additional Secretary (Extension Wing), Ministry of Agriculture, graced the inaugural ceremony as chief guest, while Dr. Md. Abdus

Salam, Executive Chairman of BARC was present as special guests. Mr. Md. Saiful Azam Khan, Director General of NATA chaired the meeting. The officials from government organizations and NARS institutes were also present on the occasion.

In his address, Mr. Md. Salim Khan underscored the importance of foundation training for entry-level officers and encouraged the trainees to actively participate in both academic and extracurricular activities. Dr. Md.

Abdus Salam highlighted the objectives and significance of the program, noting that the primary goal of the training is to enhance scientists' knowledge and understanding of administrative and financial management. Mr. Md. Saiful Azam Khan highlighted the existing facilities and institutional capacity of NATA and expressed his optimism that the training program would successfully develop the participants into competent and capable professionals.

Visit Abroad

Twentieth Regular Session of Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (CGRFA)

Dr. Md. Abdus Salam, Member Director (Crops), BARC, attended the *APSA 2025 Regional Plant Variety Protection & Biodiversity Consultation* meeting held in Tokyo, Japan during 26-28 August 2025. A total of 47 participants from 14 countries attended the meeting. Dr. Salam presented the Country Report on Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability (DUS) Testing.

The consultation covered a comprehensive overview of Plant Variety Protection (PVP) and biodiversity, including the PVP system in Japan and strategies for promoting innovation under

climate change. Discussions addressed DUS testing, highlighting the guide manual, challenges, opportunities for harmonization, and the role of new technologies. Key technical aspects, such as minimum distances in quantitative characteristics and the assessment of distinctness, uniformity, and stability, were also explored. The benefits of the UPOV system were emphasized, particularly regarding digitalization and DUS cooperation. The Essentially Derived Variety (EDV) principle was presented as a vital mechanism to support innovation, alongside challenges of EDV

enforcement in Asia. Practical issues in enforcing plant variety rights were illustrated through the AIB's experience. The consultation further examined Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS) of genetic resources, the ABS framework, and the CBD decision on Digital Sequence Information (DSI). Updates on the ITPGRFA Multilateral System negotiations focused on the impact of the CBD's DSI decision on the seed sector, alongside seed sector perspectives on ABS negotiations and desired outcomes.

Inception Workshop of MIXTAPE Project

Dr. Md. Mosharraf Uddin Molla, Member Director (AERS), BARC participated in the MIXTAPE (Monitoring Impacts for Technology Adoption and Program Engagement in Bangladesh) Project Inception workshop, which was held on 16-17 July, 2025 in Istanbul, Turkey. The objective of the workshop was to present the update of CGIAR technologies stock take in Bangladesh and develop strategies for primary data collection. The workshop was organized by College of Agriculture and Life Science,



Dr. Md. Mosharraf Uddin Molla, MD(AERS), along with his Fellow Participants

Cornell University, Other and India were also attended at the Participants from Canada, USA inception workshop.

Workshop on the Asia Regional FAW and BPH Diagnostics and Monitoring and Surveillance Program (PMP+)

Dr. Md. Mahfuz Alam, Director (M&T) at BARC, attended and presented Bangladesh's country report at the Asia Regional FAW and BPH Diagnostics and Monitoring and Surveillance Program (PMP+) workshop. The event, organized by the AFACI Secretariat, Korea, and the Indonesian Agency for Agricultural Engineering and Modernization (BRMP), took place in Bali, Indonesia, from July 21–25, 2025. Representatives from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Nepal, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam, and CSIRO participated. CSIRO served as a resource speaker, technical advisor, and workshop moderator. Bangladesh was recognized as the



A Group Photo of the Participants, including Dr. Md. Mahfuz Alam, Director (M&T), BARC.

Most Outstanding Country among the 15 AFACI member countries, receiving official acknowledgment from the Asian Food and Agriculture Cooperation

Initiative (AFACI), Korea, for its significant contributions to PMP+-supported agricultural development projects.

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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