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BRRRI opens rice museum in Gazipur

Bangladesh Rice Research Institute (BRRRI) has setup a rice museum, which is first of its kind in the country, at BRRRI premises in Gazipur aiming to equip people with modern rice farming technology and exhibits smooth transition of traditional rice farming to latest mechanized one.

The museum has been set-up under a three-year project titled rice museum construction programme initiated by the BRRRI at a cost of Taka 1 crore between July 2018 and June 2021, reports BSS.

The museum has already been kept open for the visitors, but the museum will be formally inaugurated in the upcoming anniversary of the BRRRI during this year.

A total of 108 different rice varieties innovated by the BRRRI have been showcased in the museum which include 99 in-breed and seven zinc fortified hybrid rice varieties.

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In the rice museum, a BRRRI official said all the high yielding varieties including two most popular Boro season rice varieties like BR-28 and BR-29 innovated by the BRRRI have been displayed.

Chandina, or BR-1, a first BRRRI innovated rice variety which was discovered by BRRRI's Cumilla regional office after the independence during 1971-72, displayed in the museum. The two high yielding varieties for aman and boro season -like BR-87, BR-88 and BR-89 were displayed in the museum as 'mega variety'.

Even the museum has collected the geographical indication (GI) certificate for two Bangladeshi rice -one is Katiaribogh rice of Dinajpur and another is Kalijira as the own patent product of Bangladesh.

The zinc fortified BR-100 or Bangabandhu rice has been released marking birth centenary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on March 17, 2020.

Talking about rice museum, BRRRI Director General Dr Shahjahan Kabir said that the museum has displayed the initial stage of rice farming along with, main 30 important rice pests and different weeds grow in rice field have also been displayed in the museum.

"We have showcased a total picture of food security along with long rice farming culture of the rural Bangladeshfuture planning on rice will also be conserved in the museum," said the DG.

The museum will also work as a knowledge hub as all the necessary ingredients for rice farming have been preserved in the rice museum.

Even the traditional rice farming equipments like kodal, sher, katchi, Kash nirani and thoa, a kind of equipment used on cattle mouth during traditional rice husking, were also displayed.