



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Agriculture
Bangladesh Rice Research Institute
Research Wing
www.brri.gov.bd



Record Number: 12.22.0000.000.002.52.0001.22.174

Date: 07 Jul 2026

Subject: Proceedings of the Research Program Committee Meeting 2026-27

The Research Program Committee Meeting 2026-27 was held on Sunday, June 28, 2026, in the conference room of the Bir Muktijoddha Dr. Jahirul Islam Training Building at BRRI, to finalize the research program for the 2026-27 period. **Dr. Md. Rafiqul Islam**, Director (Research) (Routine Charge), BRRI, chaired the meeting. **Dr. Aminul Islam**, Director (Administration and Common Services) (Routine Charge), BRRI, was present as a special guest. All Heads of the Research Divisions and Regional Stations attended the meeting. At first, Dr. Md. Nazrul Islam (SSO, TOC) presented the implementation status of the previous year's recommendations. Subsequently, the Heads of the divisions/RS presented their respective research programs for 2026-27. The attendees reviewed the research programs and offered constructive comments. Following a detailed discussion, the research program for 2026-27 was finalized/ approved unanimously, and the following amendments and decisions were adopted.

Issue/agenda	Discussion	Decision
VARIETAL DEVELOPMENT		
Biotechnology Division		
C4 rice development	Rice and Wheat cross or Rice and Sorghum cross	- There is no need to cross rice with wheat because of existing cross incompatibility in many aspects. Rather, gene cloning and genome editing for a trait of interest, such as cold tolerance, may be conducted in the future. - A specific low amount of GAMMA-ray should be used in BARI Kaoun 4.
Genetic Resource and Seed Division		
Dormancy development	Pre-harvest sprouting is a problem for promising rice varieties.	Screening of dormancy, pre-harvest sprouting and lodging of ALART materials and all BRRI released rice varieties should be done by the Plant Physiology Division and well circulated to all divisions and regional stations.
Germplasm collection, utilization and documentation	- Collections of germplasm are being made by the GRS Division. - Development of software named "Germplasm Management" by MoA is in progress.	Software development work for the "Germplasm management system" should be continued by Statistics and GRS Scientists.

MAGIC Population Development	MAGIC Population (Multi-parent Advanced Generation Inter-Cross Population) may be developed to maximize genetic recombination using highly diverse genetic resources.	To develop a MAGIC population (pre-breeding materials), scientists of the GRS division should work with scientists of the Plant Breeding division for their hybridization facilities.
CROP SOIL WATER MANAGEMENT		
Plant Physiology Division		
Pre-harvest sprouting of grains	Pre-harvest sprouting is a problem for promising rice varieties such as BRRI dhan100.	- Screening of all ALART materials should be done by the Plant Physiology Division for Pre-harvest sprouting before being proposed for variety release. - Screening of Post-Harvest sprouting of ALART materials may be done for Haor areas.
Experiment on Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emission of rice germplasm	Research should be conducted to determine GHG emissions from rice germplasm and identify germplasm with low methane/low carbon emissions.	The Plant Physiology division should work on screening the GHG emissions of rice germplasm collaboratively with scientists from the Soil Science division.
Soil Science Division		
Bio-coated Urea Fertilizer	Research on Bio-coated urea fertilizer in saline areas should be done.	Technology Validation experiment of Bio-coated Urea Fertilizer in saline areas of Khulna, Satkhira, Cox's Bazar, Kalapra, Patuakhali and Sonagazi should be done rather than a demo.
Irrigation and Water Management Division		
Sensor- and IoT-based irrigation	Three scientists are working on three different methods.	Experiments on Automated irrigation will be conducted, and the results will be reviewed.
PEST MANAGEMENT		
Entomology Division		
Insect and disease survey	Research on Integrated Rat Management	The Research Program on Integrated Rat Management should be taken by the Entomology Division.
Plant Pathology Division		
Sheath blight resistant breeding line development	Genomic editing/ reverse genetics for sheath blight resistance was discussed	Research on sheath blight resistant breeding line development should be done by the Plant Pathology division and the Biotechnology division collaboratively.
FARM MECHANIZATION AND POSTHARVEST TECHNOLOGY		
Farm Machinery and Postharvest Technology Division		
Robotic Farm Mechanization	Farm machinery can be modernized by using robotics	FMPHT division may conduct the experiment using IoT, drone-based technology, AI and robotics technology.
TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER		
Adaptive Research Division		
ALART	Management of ALART	The number of ALARTs should be reduced, and the management practice of ALARTs should be optimal and rigorous by ARD, including the concerned divisions and the regional station.
SOCIOECONOMICS AND POLICY		
Agricultural Economics Division		

Over-polishing of rice	Losses due to over-polishing of rice during milling were discussed.	■ The program should be developed on the loss due to over-polishing of rice during rice milling through collaborative teamwork of scientists from GQN, Economics and FMPHT division. ■ The use and economic value of the after-polish residue may be studied by the Economics division.
Training Division		
Training targets for APA	Skill development through training.	■ Instead of APA, the Training Division should practice the Governance Performance Monitoring System (GPMS) for training targets. ■ Training programs should be organized for the Store Officer and other administrative officers for their skill development. ■ Evaluation reports of trainees for the respective trainers should be submitted to the Director Research, BRRI, confidentially.
BRRI R/S Barishal		
Siltation or sedimentation	Siltation/sedimentation on rice plants during tides in Barishal is a problem.	■ Which variety is more susceptible to siltation/sedimentation should be studied. ■ Soil Siltation scoring should be done by using the Soil Erosion Status (SES) method. ■ Research Paper on Siltation written by Dr. M.A. Salek Sir should be reviewed by scientists.
Cultivation of BRRI dhan106 in Barishal region	The suitability of BRRI dhan106 in the Barishal region was discussed	■ An adoptive trial or Demo should be performed in all the regional stations of BRRI to find out a suitable area for BRRI dhan106.
BRRI R/S Cumilla		
Major rice diseases in Cumilla	Survey and monitoring of major rice diseases in Cumilla district were discussed.	■ The existence of the Rice Ragged Stunt Virus (RRSV) should be confirmed by monitoring (visual symptom scouting, vector monitoring and molecular confirmation) of the rice field in Cumilla.
BRRI R/S Gopalganj		
Photosensitive rice varietal development	The photosensitive rice varietal development experiment was discussed.	■ Time of planting expt. in photosensitive rice varietal development should be rearranged. ■ Experiments on Photosensitive rice varietal development should be done by RS Gopalganj in collaboration with the Plant Breeding Division. ■ Experiments should be conducted on the peat soil problem for rice production.
BRRI R/S Rangpur		
	Premium quality Basmati type aromatic rice lines should be developed.	■ Premium quality Basmati type rice lines better than Privet Company (ACI) produced aromatic rice should be developed by BRRI.
BRRI R/S Satkhira		
	Time of planting experiment	■ BRRI dhan112, Rod Miniket and BRRI dhan108 should be included in the time of planting experiment of the T. Aman season.

	Soil Salinity Level Study	Salinity level of Deep tube well water and the soil used for land development should be scored.
All Division and R/S		
	Adaptive trials after variety release.	Adaptive trials should be done after a variety is released.
	Organoleptic test of cooked rice of advanced lines.	Organoleptic test of cooked rice (to evaluate appearance, aroma, cohesiveness, tenderness and overall acceptability) of advanced lines should be done before a variety is released.
	Reports of the ALART monitoring team.	Reports should be given in time by the ALART monitoring team to the concerned regional station.
	Program on Precision agriculture using data-driven technologies like GPS, drones, and smart sensors to maximize crop production, manage risks, minimize waste, and tailor farming practices to the exact needs of specific soil and crop zones.	Program should be developed on Precision agriculture by the IWM Division, the FMPHT Division and the Agromet group of BRRI.
	Cleaning of Harvester machines.	During Breeder Seed Harvest, Harvester machines of the Farm Management division and all Regional Stations should be cleaned properly.
	Use of Color Grader Machine for Breeder Seed.	GRS Division should use color grader machine for Breeder Seed production.
	Benefit Cost Ratio (BCR) of Paclobutrazol in Rice	The Benefit Cost Ratio (BCR) of Paclobutrazol in Rice should be identified.

The honorable chair of this meeting, Dr. Md. Rafiqul Islam, Director (Research) (Routine Charge), BRRI, acknowledged the valuable contributions of the committee members in improving the research program and urged that their suggestions be implemented to further strengthen it. He also expressed his thanks to Dr. Aminul Islam, Director (Administration and General Services) (Routine Charge), BRRI and all the committee members for their constructive feedback and support in improving the program.



07-07-2026

Dr. Md. Rafiqul Islam

Director (Research) (Routine Charge)

Phone : 01725395749

Fax : 49272000

E-

mail : directorresearchbri@yahoo.com

Distribution (Not in the order of seniority):

1. Head, All Research Division, BRRI.
2. Head, All Regional Station, BRRI.

Record Number: 12.22.0000.000.002.52.0001.22.174/1 (5)

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5. PA to Director (Research), Research Wing, BRRI.



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07-07-2026

Dr. Md. Rafiqul Islam
Director (Research) (Routine Charge)