

রেজিস্টার্ড নং ডি এ-১



অতিরিক্ত সংখ্যা

কর্তৃপক্ষ কর্তৃক প্রকাশিত

বৃহস্পতিবার, অক্টোবর ২৩, ২০২৫

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

NOTIFICATION

Dated: 20 October, 2025

S.R.O. No-422-Law/2025.—In exercise of the power conferred by section 31 of the International Centre for Diarrheal Disease Research, Bangladesh, Act, 2022, the Government is pleased to publish the following English Text to be called the Authentic English Text of the Act:

(Authentic English Text of the Original Bangla Text)

International Centre for Diarrheal Disease Research, Bangladesh, Act, 2022

Act No. 21 of 2022

[20th November, 2022]

An Act to repeal and re-enact the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh, Ordinance, 1978 by updating the provisions with modifications thereof

WHEREAS all the Ordinances promulgated by Martial Law Proclamation during the period from 15 August, 1975 to 9 April 1979, have ceased to have effect due to omission of paragraph 3A and 18 of the Fourth Schedule to the Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh regarding ratification and confirmation of the said Ordinances by the Constitution (Fifteenth Amendment) Act, 2011 (Act No. XIV of 2011), and the Constitution (Fifth Amendment)

(১০৯৮৩)

মূল্য : টাকা ১৬.০০

Act, 1979 (Act No. I of 1979) validating the Martial Law being declared void in the judgement pronounced by the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh declaring the Martial Law unconstitutional in civil petition for Leave to Appeal No- 1044-1045/2009; and

WHEREAS some of those Ordinances are kept in force by the Act No. VI of 2013; and

WHEREAS the Government has decided to make new laws in Bangla by way of amendment and modification of such Ordinances as may be considered necessary after reviewing the necessity and relevancy of such Ordinances and soliciting opinions thereon from all stakeholders and relevant Ministries or Divisions; and

WHEREAS in the light of the above mentioned decision of the Government, it is necessary and expedient to repeal and re-enact International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh, Ordinance, 1978 (Ordinance No. LI of 1978) by updating the provisions with modifications thereof;

THEREFORE, it is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. **Short title and commencement.**—(1) This Act may be called the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh, Act, 2022.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. **Definitions.**—In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,—

- (a) **“developing countries”** means any country recognized by the United Nations as developing;
- (b) **“development partners”** means any agency, organization, country or individual which contributes financial grant and other cooperation to the Centre;
- (c) **“employee”** means permanent, temporary, probationers and contractual individuals, consultants, specialists, engineers, scientists and researchers employed by the Centre and including all persons appointed to international posts at the Centre;
- (d) **“Centre”** means the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh, described under section 3;
- (e) **“Executive Director”** means the Executive Director of the Centre;

- (f) “**regulation**” means regulations made under section 29;
- (g) “**Board**” means the Board constituted under section 7;
- (h) “**member**” means any member of the Board; and
- (i) “**Chairperson**” means the Chairperson of the Board.

3. **Establishment of the Centre.**—(1) For carrying out the purposes of this Act, the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh, established under the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh, Ordinance, 1978 (Ord. No. LI of 1978) shall be termed as International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh and continue to function in such a way as if it were established under this Act.

(2) The Centre shall be a statutory body having perpetual succession and common seal, and with power, subject to the provisions of this Act, to acquire, hold, and dispose of property, both movable and immovable, and shall by the said name sue and be sued.

(3) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (2), the Centre shall be an autonomous, international, philanthropic, and non-profitable institution for research, education training and health service.

4. **Office of the Centre.**—(1) The Head office of the Centre shall be in Dhaka.

(2) The Centre may establish its branch office at any place to manage its activities properly:

Provided that prior approval of the Government has to be obtained for the establishment of a permanent branch office of the Centre.

5. **Aims and objectives of the Centre:**—The aims and objectives of the Centre shall be, as follows:—

- (a) to function as an institution to undertake and promote study, research, and dissemination of knowledge in diarrhoeal diseases and directly related subjects of nutrition and fertility with a view to developing improved methods of health care and for the prevention and control of diarrhoeal diseases and improvement of public health programmes with special relevance to developing countries; and

- (b) to provide facilities for training to Bangladeshi and other nationals in areas of the Centre's competence in collaboration with national and international institutions.

6. Functions of the Centre.—The functions of the Centre shall be, as follows:—

- (a) in compliance with applicable laws and regulations and for meeting the needs of Bangladesh and other countries, to conduct clinical research, laboratory and animal based experiments, epidemiological and survey-based research, field investigations, project demonstrations, and arrange meetings, and to conduct research and arrange international and national lectures, seminars, discussions and conferences, on clinical medicine, epidemiology, basic medical sciences, bio-statistics, demography, fertility and other social sciences and public health related subjects;
- (b) to publish books, periodicals, reports and research and working papers on diarrhoeal disease research and studies;
- (c) to conduct surveys on its own or in collaboration with other national and foreign institutions by complying with prevailing rules and regulations;
- (d) to provide services, training, expert technical and scientific assistance relating to the health of the people of Bangladesh and other developing countries or as part of research;
- (e) to play a role in implementing any initiatives taken by the government in providing health care, and advising the government on health policy;
- (f) to establish and maintain contact with scholars and their research work through collaborative studies, seminars, and exchange of visits or any other medium;
- (g) to undertake surveys, studies and courses on behalf of or in collaboration with other institutions;
- (h) to ensure the rights and opportunities of scientists to participate in the programmes and activities of the Centre, where applicable, consider the engagement of doctors or researchers of at least the rank of Assistant Professor from government or non-government institutions;

- (i) to manage the hospitals, scientific laboratories, animal laboratories, libraries, reading rooms, scientific instruments, vehicles, river vessels and other transports for proper functioning of the Centre;
- (j) to award scholarships, fellowships for different categories of professional employees of the studies;
- (k) to accept endowments, gifts, donations, grants, other funds, and payments for services, and to other earn incomes; and
- (l) to take such other necessary steps for achieving the aims and objectives of the Centre.

7. **Constitution of the Board.**—(1) There shall be a Board for the purpose of the smooth functioning of the Centre, which shall consist of the following members, namely:—

- (a) 4 (four) representatives, to be nominated by the Government;
- (b) 1 (one) representative, to be nominated by the World Health Organization;
- (c) 1 (one) representative, to be nominated from a United Nations Agency specified by the Government of Bangladesh;
- (d) 8 (eight) members, to be nominated by the previous Board; and
- (e) the Executive Director of the Centre who shall also be the Member Secretary of the Board.

(2) The members of the Board shall elect a member other than the Executive Director as the Chairperson of the Board for the term fixed by the Board.

(3) The Persons who have experience in science, research, management, administration, and other necessary areas relevant to the functions of the Centre shall be nominated as members of the Board.

(4) There shall not be more than 2 (two) members at any time from the same country except for Bangladesh under clause (d) of sub-section (1).

(5) Each member shall be appointed for 3 (three) years and the term may be extended once:

Provided that no member shall hold office for more than two consecutive terms or for a term not exceeding 6 (six) years in total.

8. Powers and Functions of the Board.—(1) The management, administration and general direction of the Centre shall be entrusted to the Board.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of sub-section (1), the Board shall in particular have the following powers and functions, namely:—

- (a) to determine the fundamental principles of the Centre;
- (b) to exercise general supervision over the affairs of the Centre;
- (c) to approve the management strategy of the Centre;
- (d) to examine and approve the budget of the Centre;
- (e) to select and appoint the Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director and to terminate their services;
- (f) to receive grants-in-aid from aid-giving agencies, Governments and other institutions; and give intimation of such receipts to appropriate governmental agencies;
- (g) to authorize the Centre, when necessary, to borrow money or raise the amount of loans;
- (h) to establish research, education, training and healthcare sub-centres under the Centre for smooth implementation of its functions;
- (i) to formulate policies, guidelines, manuals, directives etc. for ensuring smooth implementation of the functions of the Centre;
- (j) to create posts in all positions of international level in the Centre and approve the appointments of those positions;
- (k) to determine staff recruitment policies and practices till service regulations of the Centre are framed;
- (l) to conduct or perform other activities required for the smooth implementation of the functioning of the Centre; and
- (m) to nominate members of the next Board as per clause 7(1)(d).

9. Meetings of the Board.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this section, the Board may determine the procedures of its meetings.

(2) The meetings of the Board shall be held at such date, time and place as may be prescribed by the Chairperson of the Board:

Provided that at least 2 (two) meetings of the Board shall be held in each calendar year.

(3) The Chairperson shall preside over the Board meetings and in the absence of the Chairperson, the members present may appoint one of them as the Chair for that meeting based on the opinion of the majority of members.

(4) The meeting shall have a quorum with the presence of a majority of members, but a quorum shall not be required for adjourned meetings.

(5) Each member present at the Board meeting shall have the right to cast one vote, and the decision shall be taken at the meeting by a majority vote of the members present, and in the event of equality of vote, the Chair of the meeting shall have a second or casting vote.

(6) The Board may, regarding any related or specific matter, invite representatives of an organization or any person who is capable to contribute, and such person may give his opinion by attending discussion of such meeting but he shall have no right to vote.

(7) No act or proceedings of the Board shall be invalid or be called in question merely on the ground of any vacancy in, or any defect in the constitution of, the Board:

Provided that notwithstanding anything contained in this sub-section, if the appointment of any Chairperson, member or Executive Director to be illegal or terminable then their subsequent acts shall be considered as invalid.

10. Executive Director, etc.—(1) The Centre shall have an Executive Director who shall be appointed by the Board for a term of 3 (three) years, and such term may be extendable for another term:

Provided that, the Board may, in exceptional cases, further extend the tenure of the Executive Director which shall not exceed a period equivalent to another term.

(2) The Executive Director shall be the chief executive of the Centre and subject to the provisions of this Act, and the regulations, made thereunder, he or she shall be in charge of management of the activities and funds of the Centre, and implementation of the decisions of the Board.

(3) A Deputy Executive Director may be selected and appointed by the Board to assist the Executive Director.

(4) The terms of service of the Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director shall be prescribed by regulations.

(5) In the absence of the Executive Director, the Deputy Executive Director shall act as the Executive Director and serve as a member of the Executive Committee.

11. Executive Committee and other Committees.—(1) The Board may form an Executive Committee, consisting of necessary number of members from among its members which shall have the power to act for the Board in the interim period between the Board meetings on all matters which the Board delegates to it:

Provided that the Executive Director and at least one Bangladeshi member of the Board shall serve as members of that Executive Committee.

(2) All interim actions of the Executive Committee shall be presented to the Board at its subsequent meeting.

(3) The Board may form an External Scientific Advisory Group and determine the number of members necessary thereof, for the purpose of reviewing the scientific activities of the Centre at least once every two years.

(4) The Board may form a Programme Coordination Committee for the purpose of facilitating collaborations between the Centre and other Bangladeshi organizations and foster mutual learning and exchange of research findings for use in national policies and programmes.

(5) The Board may form an Ethical Review Committee which would include one representative of Bangladesh Medical Research Council.

(6) The Board may, if necessary, form any committee or sub-committee other than the ones referred to in this section for carrying out its functions properly.

(7) The functions, composition, powers, scope of work and other related provisions of the committees shall be prescribed by regulations.

12. **Fund.**—(1) The Centre shall have its own fund to which money shall be credited from the following sources, namely :—

- (a) grants made by the Government;
- (b) grants made by foreign governments, international organizations, development partners and non-government organizations;
- (c) gifts, endowments and donations;
- (d) income from the sale of its publications and royalties;
- (e) income from research, training and contractual undertakings;
- (f) income from laboratory management;
- (g) interest or profit received from bank; and
- (h) money received from other sources.

(2) The money of the fund shall be deposited in any Scheduled Bank approved by the Board and shall be managed in the manner prescribed by regulations.

(3) Subject to existing laws and approval of the Board and intimating the Bangladesh Government, a specified fund may also be received and conserved in banks situated outside Bangladesh, for the purpose of the implementation of contract-based activities of the Centre or receiving or conserving foreign grants.

Explanation:— “Scheduled Bank” means the Scheduled Bank as defined in Article 2 (j) of Bangladesh Bank Order, 1972 (P.O. 127 of 1972).

13. **Accounts and audit.**—(1) The Executive Director shall maintain the accounts of all receipts and expenditures of the Centre in the manner prescribed by regulations, and the Board may, at its discretion, appoint a national or international Chartered Accountancy firms for the annual audit of such accounts.

(2) The Comptroller and Auditor General shall audit the annual accounts of the Government funds of the Centre every year and submit the audit report as per the provisions of the law.

(3) The report of annual audit shall have to be placed to the Board and the Board shall submit a copy of the report to the Government.

(4) Copies of annual audit report shall be provided to the concerned Development Partners.

14. **Annual report and statement of accounts.**—(1) The Executive Director shall, as soon as possible, after the end of every financial year, and as directed by the Board, prepare an annual report of the activities of the Centre and an annual statement of receipts and expenditure of the Centre.

(2) The annual report and annual statement of receipts referred to in sub-section (1) shall be sent to the Government and concerned development partners after approval by the Board.

15. **Exemption from labour laws.**—The Centre shall be exempted from the labour laws in force in the country and its own rules and regulations shall be applicable to the employees working in the Centre.

16. **Exemption from tax, vat, rate and duty.**—(1) Notwithstanding anything contained contrary in any other law for the time being in force relating to tax, vat, rate or duty, the Centre shall not be liable to pay any tax, vat, rate or duty other than those paid by any other person in respect of purchasing or otherwise transferring any movable or immovable property or service in the name of the Centre and payable for public utilities like water, gas, electricity, telephone and municipal tax.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in any other provisions of the Income Tax Ordinance, 1984 (Ord. No XXXVI of 1984) and The Value Added Tax and Supplementary Duty Act, 2012 (Act No. XLVII of 2012) or any other law for the time being in force, all non-Bangladeshi foreign experts, technicians and research scholars who are employed by the Centre and working in Bangladesh for the efficient performance of the activities of the Centre shall be exempted from payment of income tax in respect of any salary or other remuneration received or deemed to be received by them or accruing or arising, or deemed to accrue or arise in Bangladesh if such salary or other remuneration of the person is also exempted from the payment of tax or value added tax in the country of his domicile or permanent residence and documentary evidence in respect of the said exemption is produced to the concerned income tax authority in Bangladesh.

(3) The person referred to in sub-section (2) shall, in the case of importation of personal and household effects and articles for consumption, enjoy the same privileges as to customs duty and sales tax like the persons who are working in Bangladesh under international agreements as expatriate experts, technicians and consultants and enjoy the exemption benefit from customs duty and sale tax according to the existing laws.

17. Provision for import and transfer of research biological materials and pharmaceuticals.—Subject to national and international laws and regulations, the Centre shall have the right to bring biological materials and research related pharmaceuticals inside the country and transfer biological materials and research related pharmaceuticals outside the country:

Provided that, for sending any export prohibited goods abroad for research or testing purposes or for importing any import prohibited products from abroad for research and testing purposes, Centre has to obtain a permission from the Ministry of Commerce subject to a no objection certificate from the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

18. Waiver of Immunity, Exemption and Privileges.—The Board may waive any of the immunities, exemptions and privileges granted under this Act in any particular case or instance, in such a manner and upon such conditions as it may determine to be appropriate in the best interest of the Centre.

19. Recruitment of employees.—The Centre may appoint such number of employees as it considers necessary for the efficient performance of its functions and the terms and conditions of their service shall be prescribed by regulations.

20. Salaries.—(1) Persons appointed to the international level positions of the Centre by the Board including Bangladeshi nationals shall receive the salaries, benefits and privileges similar to that of equivalent international positions.

(2) The restrictions imposed by the Government of any other country on the salaries and allowances of its citizens shall not apply to the payment of salaries, allowances and other benefits described under sub-section (1).

(3) Subject to the availability of funds, the salaries, allowances and other emoluments for the positions other than those mentioned in sub-section (1) shall be as consistent as possible with comparable positions at UN organizations situated in Bangladesh.

21. Immunity and rights of employees.—The Chairperson, members, Executive Director and employees—

- (a) shall be immune from any legal process with respect to any acts performed by them in their official capacity in good faith except when the Board or the Executive Director waives their immunity, and waiver of such immunity is informed in writing to the Board and is recorded in the administrative order of the Board; and

- (b) shall, for nationals of countries other than Bangladesh, and their spouses and dependents, be free from expatriate related restrictions, other than normal visa requirements, and prevailing alien registration requirements.

22. **Safeguard for action done in good faith.**—The Chairperson, members, Executive Director, Deputy Executive Director and employees shall be exempted from all damages, expenses or liabilities incurred while performing their duties in good faith, unless when such damages, expenses or liabilities have resulted due to their negligence or intentional action.

23. **Freedom of research related publication and dissemination.**—(1) The Centre shall enjoy the privilege of full freedom of publication and dissemination of its research results and other scientific work and the results thereof shall be communicated to the Health Services Division.

(2) All research materials and scientific results shall be treated as property of the Centre and shall not be printed, duplicated or transferred for private advancements or used by any other institution without specific and clear approval of the Board.

24. **Patents, Copyrights, etc.**—(1) The Centre shall enjoy full rights of conventional Bangladeshi and foreign laws regarding patents, copyrights and other intellectual property rights as well as any international conventions and treaties on intellectual property.

(2) It shall be the responsibility of the Board to ensure that appropriate arrangements are made concerning the public availability of patents, licences, copyrights and the like arising from the Centre's scientific results and discoveries.

25. **Benevolent fund.**— (1) The Centre may establish a benevolent fund for its employees for the purpose of providing welfare amenities and facilities for their welfare.

(2) The benevolent fund shall be managed in the manner prescribed by regulations.

26. **Delegation of Powers.**—The Board may, by administrative order, prescribe such direction to the effect that any power or responsibility imposed upon the Centre or the Board under this Act may be exercised and discharged by the Executive Director, any other employee, Chairperson or any other member of the Board, or any Committee in accordance with the manner and conditions prescribed by the Board.

27. **Government support for facilities.**—The Government may provide various facilities and privileges to the Centre for its proper development and expansion including lease of land at nominal or without rent.

28. **Dissolution of Centre.**—(1) At any time if the Board takes decision, by vote of not less than three-fourths among the presence of not less than three-fourth members, that the Centre is no longer able to function effectively or is no longer required, the Board may recommend to the Government for the dissolution of the Centre. and

(2) In the event of such dissolution of the Centre—

- (a) Any land or other assets made available to the Centre by the Government, and permanent fixed capital improvements thereon, must be returned to the government of the country in which it is located;
- (b) If other assets of the Centre are transferred to the Government or Government of other countries or other institutions having aims and objectives similar to that of the Centre, then such assets can be retained by the Government, Governments of other countries, or the said institution, as applicable.

29. **Power to make regulations.**—For carrying out the purposes of this Act, the Centre may, with the prior approval of the Government, by notification of the official Gazette, make regulations not inconsistent with this Act or rules.

30. **Repeal and savings.**—(1) The International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh Ordinance, 1978 (Ord. No. LI of 1978), hereinafter referred to as the said Ordinance, is hereby repealed.

- (2) Notwithstanding the said repeal,—
- (a) any act done or any measure taken under the said Ordinance shall be deemed to have been done or taken under this Act;
 - (b) if any work undertaken under the said Ordinance remains pending or ongoing, it shall be completed under this Act;
 - (c)
 - (i) all assets, powers, authorities, privileges, property, movable and immovable, cash and money deposited in banks, projects and all other claims and rights of the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh, established under the said Ordinance shall be deemed to be the assets, powers, authorities, privileges, property, power, money, projects and claims and rights of the Centre under this Act;
 - (ii) all debts and liabilities of it shall be deemed to be the debts and liabilities of the Centre;
 - (iii) any suit, filed proceeding instituted or any measures taken against or by it shall, if remains pending, continue and be disposed of in such a manner as if it had been filed instituted or taken against or by the Centre under this Act;
 - (iv) all agreements and instruments to which it was a party shall be valid and effective, in favour of or against the Centre, as if the Centre had been a party thereto;
 - (v) the employees of it shall be considered as employees of the Centre on the same terms and conditions under which they were employed there, until any change is made or further order is issued; and
 - (d) the guidelines, manuals, directives, policies or similar legal instruments, as the case may be, formulated by the Board constituted under the said Ordinance shall remain in force and have effect as if they were formulated by the Board constituted under this Act, until they are re-formulated or amended;

(e) the existing Board constituted under the said Ordinance shall remain in force until the Board is formed under this Act.

31. Publication of Authentic English Text.—(1) After the commencement of this Act, the Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, publish an Authentic English Text of this Act.

(2) In the event of conflict between the Bangla text and the English text, the Bangla text shall prevail.

By Order of the President

মোঃ সাইফুল ইসলাম মজুমদার
সিনিয়র সহকারী সচিব
স্বাস্থ্য সেবা বিভাগ।