



বাংলাদেশ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় মণ্ডলী কমিশন
আগারগাঁও, শের-ই-বাংলানগর, ঢাকা-১২০৭।
কোলাবোরেশন এন্ড এমওইউ শাখা

স্মারক নম্বর: ৩৭.০১.০০০০.০০০.২৩২.৯৯.০০০২.২১.১২

তারিখ: ৩ আশ্বিন ১৪৩২ বঙ্গাব্দ
১৮ সেপ্টেম্বর ২০২৫ খ্রিস্টাব্দ

বিষয়: "Recalling Applications for SAARC PhD Scholarship Programme 2025 on Genome Editing/Stress Tolerant Crop Variety Development among the citizens of Bangladesh" প্রসঙ্গে।
সূত্র: 19.00.0000.000.312.34.0004.25/645

উপর্যুক্ত বিষয়ে পররাষ্ট্র মন্ত্রণালয় এবং সার্ক এগ্রিকালচারাল সেন্টার (SAC) হতে প্রাপ্ত পত্রের প্রেক্ষিতে জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, বাংলাদেশের পাবলিক ও প্রাইভেট বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়সমূহ হতে SAARC PhD Scholarship 2025 on Genome Editing/Stress Tolerant Crop Variety Development among the citizens of Bangladesh -এর জন্য আবেদন আহবান করা হয়েছে।

এমতাবস্থায় উপর্যুক্ত বিষয়টি বহুল প্রচারে আপনার বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের ওয়েবসাইট এবং ইন্সটিউট ও বিভাগসমূহের নোটিশ বোর্ডে প্রদর্শনসহ পরবর্তী প্রয়োজনীয় বাবস্থা গ্রহণের জন্য নির্দেশক্রমে অনুরোধ হল।

সংযুক্তি: বর্ণনামতে।

সকল সংযুক্তিসমূহ:

- (১) Revised application PhD_Bangladesh
- (২) Letter to HE the Sec. Gen. _note verbale
- (৩) Brochure_Ph.D. Scholarship_25[1]
- (৪) সংযুক্তি-ক

১৮-০৯-২০২৫
মোহাম্মদ জেসমিন পারভীন
পরিচালক (চলতি দায়িত্ব)

বিতরণ (জ্যোষ্ঠতার ক্রমানুসারে নয়):

- ১। রেজিস্ট্রার, পাবলিক বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়।
- ২। রেজিস্ট্রার, প্রাইভেট বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়।।

স্মারক নম্বর: ৩৭.০১.০০০০.০০০.২৩২.৯৯.০০০২.২১.১২/১ (২)

তারিখ: ৩ আশ্বিন ১৪৩২ বঙ্গাব্দ
১৮ সেপ্টেম্বর ২০২৫ খ্রিস্টাব্দ

সদয় জ্ঞাতার্থে/জ্ঞাতার্থে (জ্যোষ্ঠতার ক্রমানুসারে নয়):

- ১। পরিচালক, ইনফরমেশন এন্ড কমিউনিকেশন টেকনোলজি বিভাগ, বাংলাদেশ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় মণ্ডলী কমিশন (কমিশনের ওয়েবসাইটে আপলোডের অনুরোধসহ)।

২। পিএস (অতিরিক্ত পরিচালক), চেয়ারম্যান এর দণ্ড, বাংলাদেশ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় মঞ্চরী কমিশন।



Sabahat Rizvee

২০-০৯-২০২৫

খন্দকার সাবাহাত রিজভী
সিনিয়র সহকারী পরিচালক

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
SAARC & BIMSTEC Wing

Dhaka

No:19.00.0000.000.312.34.0004.25/645

07 September 2025

Subject: Request for wider circulation of the Brochure of SAARC Ph.D. Scholarship Programme-2025 on "Genome Editing/Stress Tolerant Crop Variety Development" among the citizens of Bangladesh (Application Deadline Extended to 07 October 2025).

Ref: SAARC Secretariat's Note Verbale No. SAARC/ARD/77/SAC/B/2025 dated 03 September 2025

With reference to the above-mentioned communication, the undersigned has the honour to inform that the SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC) has **recalled** applications due to receiving limited number of applications for **SAARC Ph.D. Scholarship Programme-2025** on '**Genome Editing/Stress Tolerant Crop Variety Development**' from the citizens of Bangladesh. In this connection, the SAARC Secretariat has requested to circulate the Brochure and Application Form reflecting the terms and conditions for SAARC Agriculture Ph.D Scholarship-2025.

02. It may kindly be noted that applications must be submitted to the SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC) on or before **07 October 2025**. The eligibility criteria, prescribed Application Form and other relevant details may be downloaded from the SAARC Agriculture Centre's website (www.sac.org.bd). For further details kindly contact the officials from SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC) mentioned below:

Further Contact	
Dr. Md. Younus Ali Senior Programme Specialist SAARC Agriculture Centre BARC Complex, Farmgate Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh. Phone No.: 00880255027712 Mobile No.: 008801716500276 Email: dryounusali1972@gmail.com	Dr. Md. Harunur Rashid The Director SAARC Agriculture Centre BARC Complex, Farmgate Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh. Phone No.: 00880255027712 Mobile No.: 008801716950421 Email: director@sac.org.bd

03. In this regard, the esteemed offices are requested to kindly take necessary action, as deemed appropriate, for wider circulation of the Brochure of the SAARC Ph.D. Scholarship Programme-2025 on "Genome Editing/Stress Tolerant Crop Variety Development" offered by the SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC).

Enclosure: As Stated


7.9.2025

(Md. Asif Khan Pranto)

Assistant Secretary (SAARC)

Phone: +8801521102195

Tel: 02223350126

E-mail: assaarc@mofa.gov.bd

Copy to: (Not in order of seniority)

1) **Chairman**

University Grants Commission, UGC Bhaban, Plot # E-18/A, Agargaon Administrative Area, Sher-E-Bangla Nagar,
Dhaka-1207.

[Kind Attention: Ms. Jesmin Pervin, Director, International Collaboration Division]

2) **Secretary**

Ministry of Agriculture, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka-1000

[Kind Attention: Mr. Md. Rokunuzzaman, Senior Assistant Secretary (IC-2)]



**SOUTH ASIAN ASSOCIATION
FOR REGIONAL COOPERATION
SECRETARIAT**

**Message No. 848 02 152
No. SAARC/ARD/77/SAC/B/2025**

The Secretariat of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and with reference to its Note Verbale of even number dated 24 June 2025, has the honour to inform that the SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC) is recalling applications for SAARC Agriculture Ph.D. Scholarship Programme-2025 on 'Genome Editing/Stress Tolerant Crop Variety Development' from the citizens of Bangladesh. In this connection, a copy of letter No. SAC/778/PhD programme/application/2025/113 dated 01 September 2025 from Director, SAC, along with Brochure and Application Form reflecting the terms and conditions for SAARC Agriculture PhD Scholarship-2025, is enclosed.

The esteemed Ministry is requested to take necessary measures to disseminate this information among the prospective candidates, including uploading the announcement in the websites of the following offices:

- i. Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- ii. Relevant Ministry(ies) and offices;
- iii. National Agricultural Research System (NARS);
- iv. Relevant professional organizations/bodies/institutions; and
- v. Relevant publicly accessible sites.

It may be noted that the **applications should be submitted to SAC on or before 07 October 2025**. Eligibility criteria, prescribed Application Form and other details can be downloaded from the website of the SAARC Agriculture Centre (www.sac.org.bd).

The Secretariat of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh the assurances of its highest consideration.

Encls: a. a.

Kathmandu, 03 September 2025

Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
(SAARC & BIMSTEC Wing),
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.



Copy to:

- (i) Governing Board Members, SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC);
- (ii) Heads of SAARC Regional Centres/Specialized bodies, **for posting the same in their respective webpages**; and
- (iii) Director, SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC), Dhaka.



Ref. No. SAC/778/PhD programme/application/2025/113

Dated: 01.09.2025

H.E. Secretary General
SAARC Secretariat
Kathmandu, Nepal

Kind attention: Director (ARD and SDF), SAARC Secretariat, Kathmandu, Nepal

Subject: Request to issue the note verbale for "Recalling applications for SAARC Agriculture PhD Scholarship programme – 2025 from the candidates of Bangladesh

Excellency!

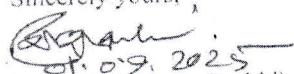
As a part of continuous efforts towards capacity building, the SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC) has initiated SAARC Agriculture PhD Scholarship Programme in order to support aspiring young agricultural professionals to undertake their doctoral study in reputed agricultural University of SAARC region. Five candidates (citizen of Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal) have been awarded their doctoral degree in the reputed University of Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and India under the SAARC Agriculture PhD Scholarship programme. Currently two candidates (citizen of Sri Lanka and Pakistan) are pursuing their doctoral degree in the reputed University of Sri Lanka. During the current year, the Governing Board (GB) of the SAC recommended to offer the SAARC Agriculture PhD Scholarship to the candidates of Bangladesh for two scholarships. As of now several discussions were done with GB member of Bangladesh, and based on that SAC is going to invite application preferably on Genome Editing/ Stress Tolerant Crop Variety development. SAC is proposing Bangladesh Agricultural University, Bangladesh/ ICAR-IARI, India/ University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka for Bangladeshi applicants. The SAC will communicate for the official confirmation from the Bangladesh Agricultural University/ ICAR-IARI/ University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka for hosting the PhD fellows.

Due to limited number of applications received, SAC is reinviting from the regular employees of National Agricultural Research System (NARS)/ Department/ Ministry/ University of Bangladesh (for pursuing PhD in Genome Editing/ Stress Tolerant Crop Variety Development). Information details (background, eligibility – educational qualification, age, experiences, process of applications, PhD synopsis, selection process, tenure and placement, host institute, coverage under scholarship, grant conditions, etc.) of SAARC Agriculture PhD Scholarship Programme - 2025 is provided in the announcement brochure. The aspiring candidates should apply as per the prescribed format. The announcement brochure and application format are attached herewith for circulation and is also available in the SAC website (www.sac.org.bd). The duly filed applications along with all supporting documents should be mailed to Dr. Md. Harunur Rashid, Director, SAC (director@sac.org.bd) through their current employer/ relevant ministry/ SAARC Division/ Section of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs/ External Affairs of the respective Member State on or before 07th October, 2025.

May I therefore, humbly request Your Excellency to kindly issue the *Note Verbale* to the Ministry of Foreign/ External Affairs of the Member Country with a copy to respective SAC-GB member to facilitate the process.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurance of my highest consideration.

Sincerely yours,


09.09.2025

(Dr. Md. Harunur Rashid)
Director

SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC)

(Agricultural Knowledge & Information Hub in South Asia)

Dhaka, Bangladesh

Application for SAARC Agriculture PhD Scholarship Programme – 2025 for Bangladesh

Important Notes

- ✓ Regular employees of National Agricultural Research System (NARS)/ Ministry/ Department/ University
- ✓ To apply PhD in the discipline of 'Genome Editing/Stress tolerant variety dev., the candidate should be citizen of Bangladesh
- ✓ Applicants must be below 40 years of age as on 07th October, 2025 and more than three years of experiences in the National Agricultural Research System/ Ministry/ Department/ University
- ✓ Duly filled application should be forwarded through the concerned head of institution/ ministry.
- ✓ Copies of degree certificates, mark sheet/ report card, title page and abstract of postgraduate thesis, passport (information page), birth certificate (English version), proof of employment (office ID), copies of publications, synopsis of the proposed PhD research should be annexed with the application.
- ✓ Incomplete applications in any respect will be rejected.
- ✓ Please paste passport photo on first page of application.

1. Full Name:
2. Present designation:
3. Official address with telephone, fax and mail ID:
4. Permanent residential address with telephone number:
5. Date of Birth:
6. Age as on 07th October, 2025 (Years/ Months/ Days):
7. Nationality:
8. Gender:
9. Marital status:
10. Passport No:
11. Academic Qualifications (starting from highest) - mention salient achievements, if any in the form of medals/Certificate/ fellowships/ scholarships received

Degree	Year		University/ Institute	Major subjects	Grade/ Class/ Division
	From	To			

12. Title of the postgraduate (MSc/ MS) research:

13. Employment records (from most recent position):

Designation	Name and address of organization / institution	Period of service (Month/Year)		Brief job description and responsibilities
		From	To	

14. Research projects handled as a Principal Investigator or Co-Investigator:

Name of the project with approximate cost	Approval date with duration	Role (PI or associate)	Approval authority

15. Academic activities performed:

Level (undergraduate or Master)	Name of the course with number	Credit hours

16. List of scientific publications including research paper, short notes, reviews, books, book chapters, policy paper, technical bulletin and popular articles etc. State the details of publications including authors name, year of publication, title, journal name with volume, issue and page no. or DOI. In case of book or book chapter, mention the details including author/ authors name, publisher name, year of publication, ISBN No.

17. International exposure:

18. PhD synopsis:

(Limit the write up within 5000 words comprising of title, introduction, justification, objectives, expected outcome)

Declaration by the Candidate

I do hereby declare that particulars provided by me through my application are true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that any false statements or any required information withheld from this form may provide grounds for the withdrawal of any offer of scholarship at any point of time. In the event of my selection in the SAARC Agriculture PhD Scholarship program, I do agree to abide by such rules & regulations of the institute as applicable to me.

Date:

Signature of the applicant

Recommendation of the Candidate's Employer or Head of Institution

I do hereby certify that Dr./ Mr / Ms..... (full name of applicant) of..... (official address) shall be released on deputation for 3 years to pursue the PhD program offered by the SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC), Dhaka, Bangladesh from the day of commencement of the program.

Name of the employer:

Designation:

Office Address:

Date:

Signature with Stamp

Recommendation of the Concerned Ministry

I do hereby certify that Dr./ Mr /Ms.(full name of the candidate) of (official address) under Ministry of(name of the concerned Ministry) shall be released on deputation for 3 years to pursue the PhD program offered by the SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC), Dhaka, Bangladesh from the day of the commencement of the PhD program

Name of the Ministry:

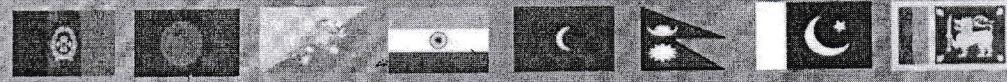
Officer forwarding the application:

Designation:

Office Address:

Date:

Signature with Stamp



**Recall for application:
SAARC PhD Scholarship Programme 2025
in 'Genome Editing /Stress Tolerant Crop Variety'
from Bangladesh**

By

SAARC Agriculture Centre

Background

SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC) under the framework of SAARC has been working relentlessly for strengthening agricultural research and development through regional networks with different institutions in South Asia. From 2017 onwards, the SAC has taken initiatives 'SAARC Agriculture PhD Scholarship Programme' to support aspiring agricultural professionals of the region for undertaking doctoral study in the premier Institute/ University of the SAARC region. The scholarship is highly competitive and merit based providing opportunities to the regular employees of the National Agricultural Research System (NARS)/ Department/ Ministry in SAARC Member States. Till date, the SAARC PhD scholarship has been awarded in 'Soil Science' to the candidate of Bangladesh studied at Bangladesh Agricultural University, Mymensingh, Bangladesh, in 'Agricultural Economics' to the aspirant of Afghanistan studied at University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka, in 'Molecular Biology & Biotechnology' to the candidate of Nepal studied at Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, India, in 'Animal Nutrition' to the applicant of India for pursuing study at Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar, India and in the discipline of 'Fish Nutrition & Feed Technology' to the candidate of India for undertaking study at Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Mumbai, India, in 'Fisheries Economics' to the applicant of Sri Lanka for pursuing study at PGIA under the university of Peradeniya Sri Lanka, in 'AMR in Poultry' to the applicant of Pakistan for pursuing study at PGIA of Peradeniya University.

Eligibility

For the academic year 2025, two scholarships will be offered in 'Genome Editing/ stress tolerant crop variety development' (**for the citizen of Bangladesh**) as recommended by the Governing Board of the SAARC Agriculture Centre. The other criteria for the applicants are: (i) regular employee of the National Agricultural Research System/ Ministry/ Department, (ii) below the age of 40 years as on the date of application deadline, (iii) more than three years of service experience, (iv) good command of spoken and written English, (v) available for full time PhD for a period of three years.

Educational qualification for PhD in Genome Editing/Stress Tolerant Crop Variety Development

Master Degree (MSc/MS) in Genetics/ Biotechnology/ plant breeding any other relevant subjects

How to apply

Applications are invited from potential candidates of Bangladesh for pursuing doctoral study in the discipline of 'Genome Editing/Stress tolerant'. Candidates should submit application along with supporting documents (attested copies of postgraduate and basic degree certificates, mark sheet/ report card, medals/ scholarship/ peer recognition received, research paper/ short note/ review/ bulletin/ book/ book chapter published, and a synopsis of research proposal) to the Director, SAC through the current employer /relevant Ministry/SAARC Division/ Section of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs / External Affairs of the home country on or before 07th October 2025. In case, the candidate perceives delay in forwarding the application through concerned ministry, he/she could submit the duly filled application signed by self and employer along with supporting documents directly to Dr. Md. Harunur Rashid, Director, SAC (director@sac.org.bd) as an advance copy. Notification regarding the scholarship and application format is available in the SAC website (www.sac.org.bd).

PhD synopsis

Applicants are requested to submit a synopsis (brief proposal) of maximum 5000 words for PhD research adhering to the format *i.e.*, title, introduction, justification, objectives, and expected outcome. The proposal should be prepared based on the South Asian challenges of agriculture and allied sectors. The synopsis will be evaluated for preparing the merit list along with other evaluation criteria. The expected outcomes of synopsis should lead to the advancement of knowledge and innovation in the particular subject for the benefit of the South Asian region.

Selection process

Applications received on or before the deadline (07th October, 2025) will be evaluated by the Committee headed by the Director, SAARC Agriculture Centre as per the following criteria: (i) academic records, (ii) awards/medals/peer recognitions, (iii) research projects handled as principal investigator or co-investigator, (iv) courses taught, (v) work experience in subject areas, (vi) relevance and quality of PhD synopsis, (vii) publications, (viii) international exposure. The submitted applications will be finally evaluated based on the criteria mentioned above and selection will be made by the committee comprising of regional experts available at the Centre.

Tenure and placement

The SAARC Agriculture PhD Scholarship Programme is tenable for a period of three years as fulltime basis. During their doctoral study, candidates are not allowed to perform any kind of part time or contract job at the place of their study. The selected candidates are expected to be placed at the Bangladesh Agriculture University, Mymensingh Bangladesh/Post Graduate of Agricultural Institute (PGIA), University of Peradeniya Kandy, Sri Lanka. The SAARC Agriculture Centre will facilitate their admission.

Host Institute for the participants of Bangladesh

Bangladesh Agricultural University, Mymensingh, Bangladesh
Indian Council of Agricultural Research- Indian Agricultural Research Institute (ICAR-IARI), New Delhi, India
PGIA- University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka



What covers under the SAARC Agriculture PhD Scholarship Programme?

1. Economy class airfare from home country to the host institute. Eligible during joining and after the completion of study.
2. Entire tuition fees as applicable to the University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya, Sri Lanka.
3. Living allowance at the rate US\$600 per month for three years.
4. One-time grant of US\$1000 to cover expenditure on books, study materials, computer and thesis preparation.
5. A grant of US\$1000 per year for three years to cover research cost with the recommendations of the PhD supervisor.

Grant conditions

The awardee is expected to strictly follow the guidelines of respective University at the host country. The award may be terminated at any time for reasons of unsatisfactory progress or attendance or if the registration is suspended or terminated by his/ her university for any reason. The awardee needs to execute a bond with the host Institute on behalf of SAARC Agriculture Centre, Dhaka for the successful completion of PhD programme. In case of candidates leaving the doctoral study before completion, they need to surrender the entire fellowship amount with interest to the SAARC Agriculture Centre, Dhaka. a hard and soft copy of the doctoral thesis needs to be submitted to the SAARC Agriculture Centre, Dhaka after completion of PhD.

Besides, the awardee should acknowledge the SAARC Agriculture Centre in all publications including PhD thesis.

Further contact

Dr. Md. Younus Ali
Senior Programme Specialist
SAARC Agriculture Centre
BARC Complex, Farmgate
Dhaka -1215, Bangladesh.
Phone No.: 00880255027712
Mobile no.: 008801716500276
Mail id: dryounusali1972@gmail.com

Dr. Md. Harunur Rashid
The Director
SAARC Agriculture Centre
BARC Complex, Farmgate,
Dhaka -1215, Bangladesh
Phone No.: 00880255027712
Mobile No.: 008801716950421
Email: director@sac.org.bd

