



BARD Newsletter

Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development, Cumilla

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71st BOG Meeting of BARD Held



Engineer Khandker Mosharraf Hossain MP, Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development & Cooperatives is chairing the BOG meeting where Dr. M. Mizanur Rahman, DG, BARD is seen speaking in the event

The 71st BOG meeting of Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development (BARD) was held on 31st October 2018 at Lalmai Auditorium of BARD. Engineer Khandker Mosharraf Hossain MP, Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development & Cooperatives and Chairperson of the BOG of BARD chaired the meeting. He said that BARD is the pioneer and internationally renowned institution for rural development. He opines that BARD plays a significant role in poverty alleviation of the rural

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The Victory Day Observed at BARD

The Victory Day was celebrated with due solemnity and enthusiasm at BARD. The day was started by hoisting national flag in the morning. After the hoisting of the national flag, Dr. M. Mizanur Rahman, the Honourable Director General of BARD, placed wreaths at the mural of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at BARD campus on behalf of the officials and employees of BARD.

Various activities and programmes were organized to commemorate the Victory Day. A victory rally, students' parade, a sports competition at BARD playground, a friendly volleyball competition, a

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Dr. M. Mizanur Rahman, Director General BARD, placing wreaths in the premises of the Father of the Nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman

Training Course on Administration and Financial Management held at BARD



Dr. A.K. Sharifullah, Director (Agriculture and Environment), BARD is seen distributing certificates among the participants of the Administrative and Financial Management course

The concluding session of the training course on Administrative and Financial Management for the senior level agricultural scientists held at BARD on 18 November 2018. Dr. A. K. Sharifullah, Director (Agriculture and Environment) BARD chaired the session. In the concluding session the chairperson emphasized the importance of agriculture in the economy of Bangladesh. He said that there is no alternative but to expand modern agriculture to accelerate economic development of the country. On behalf of the training division, Mr. Milan Kanti Bhattacharjee, Director (Training) spoke in the closing ceremony. Dr. Masudul Hoq Chowdhury, Director (Rural Education), BARD and course director of the course expressed his gratitude to all for successful completion of the course. Mr. Junaed Rahim, Deputy

Director, BARD, acted as the associate course director of the course. A total of 29 trainees comprising Chief Scientific Officers (CSO) and Principal Scientific Officers (PSO) participated in the training course.

The Victory Day

From Page-01

milad mahfil and special prayers at BARD central mosque, a display of poster and banners on liberation war, a discussion meeting and a cultural programme were arranged on that day. Dr. M. Mizanur Rahman, the Director General of BARD attended all these events as the chief guest. In the discussion meeting he said that Father of the Nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman made outstanding contribution to achieve the victory

day of Bangladesh. He urged the new generation that they should uphold the spirit of independence, holding the ideology of Bangabandhu and independence of Bangladesh. Dr. A. K. Sharifullah, Director (Agriculture & Environment) presided over the discussion meeting.

71st BOG meeting From Page-01

population and plays an important role in implementation of the 'one house one farm' project which is the flagship project by the Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. In order to ensure modern facilities in rural areas, BARD was instructed to take new project. Mr. S. M. Golam Faruk, Senior Secretary of Rural Development and Cooperatives Division; Mr. Zafar Ahmed Khan, Senior Secretary of the Local Government Division; Professor Dr. Imran Kabir Chowdhury, Vice-Chancellor of Comilla University and other honourable members of the Board of Directors were also present in the meeting. Dr. M. Mizanur Rahman, the Director General of BARD and the member-secretary of BOG meeting presented the policy guidelines with a view to reviewing the overall program including training, research and workshop, and future plans of BARD. After the meeting, the Honourable Minister inaugurated the Bangabandhu Mural at BARD office premises and Bangabandhu Corner in the BARD Library. He also laid down the corner stone of a five storey international standard hostel building and swimming pool at BARD campus.

A workshop on Rural and Eco-Tourism Development held at BARD



Dr. M. Mizanur Rahman, Director General, BARD speaking in the workshop on "Rural and Eco-Tourism Development" organized by BARD

In order to promote rural economy a workshop on Rural and Eco-Tourism Development was held in the Lalmai Auditorium of BARD on 3 December 2018. Mr. Akhtaruzzaman Khan Kabir, Chairman of Bangladesh Tourism Corporation was present as the chief guest at the workshop. Speaking as the chief guest he said that rural tourism is a potential sector in development of rural economy. Rural and eco-tourism developments in Cumilla region would create huge employment opportunities and would play important role for improving the quality of life of the local population, he added. The workshop was presided over by the Director General of BARD, Dr. M. Mizanur Rahman. In the speech of the Director General of BARD, he said that rural tourism would be well established as a model for

rural economic development and poverty alleviation. Dr. Mizan expressed his optimistic view that if BARD could expand rural tourism huge foreign currencies would be saved. Mr. Junaed Rahim, Deputy Director, BARD presented a paper on the 'Role of Rural and Eco-Tourism in Development of Rural Economy' in the workshop. The representatives of Bangladesh Tourism Board, Cumilla District Administration, Daffodil International University, Department of Archeology, Forest Department, Shisuk, Blue Water Park, Dino Park, Tripura Community and senior faculty members of BARD were also present in the workshop. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between BARD and Dino Park with a view to developing rural and eco-tourism. In addition, to develop rural and

eco-tourism projects, a work plan was undertaken for the floodplains of Lalmai Hills, Tripura and Daudkundi area in the workshop. Mr. Abul Kalam Azad, Director (In-charge), BARD and Mr. Kazi Foyez Ahmed, Assistant Director, BARD acted as the Workshop Director and Assistant Workshop Director.

Mushroom Development and Plantation Center Inaugurated at BARD

Dr. M. Mizanur Rahman, the honourable Director General of Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development (BARD), inaugurated the Mushroom Development and Farming Center at BARD. Mr. Shah Mohammad Nasim, the project director of the NAPT-2 project and Additional Secretary of the People's Republic of Bangladesh was present there at that time. BARD mushroom development and cultivation center would produce and sell various environment friendly varieties of mushrooms and mushroom seeds. After the inauguration, Mr. M. Mizanur Rahman, the Director General of BARD observed various steps of cultivation and production of mushroom. Mushroom is a nutritious meal. It contains a large amount of vitamins and minerals, a significant amount of protein and digestive enzymes. In every 100 grams cooked mushrooms, there is 3.1 grams of protein, 8 grams of fat, 1.4 grams of minerals, 4 grams of fiber, 4.1 grams of sugar, 6 milligrams of calcium, 110 mg



Dr. M. Mizanur Rahman, the Director General of the Academy is seen inaugurating the BARD Mushroom Development and Farming Center

phosphorus, one and a half milligrams of iron, 0.14 milligrams of vitamin B1, 0.16 milligrams B2, 2.44 mg niacin and 12 mg vitamin C. There are also 43 calories of food value. Generally, mushroom contains more minerals than fish and meat.

The weather and climate of Bangladesh is suitable for cultivation of mushroom. The input materials of mushroom cultivation are wood powder, wheat gram, sugarcane husk, rice husk etc. These input materials are very cheap and easily available. Mushroom farming is very profitable. It became ready for eating within a period of 10-15 days. It does not require any cultivable land for cultivation. Unemployed young people and women can cultivate it at home. The price of the mushroom in the market is very high compared to other vegetables, and considering its production cost, its cultivation is very profitable.

A Small Improvement Plan (SIP) workshop held at BARD

A workshop on "Small Improvement Plan" held at BARD on 14 November 2018. In the workshop, 10 kaizen themes on

"Small Improvement Plan" was formulated for 3 months. The workshop was presided over by the Dr. M. Mizanur Rahman, Director General of BARD. In the workshop, a working paper was presented by Dr. Md. Shafiqul Islam, Director (Rural Economics). The welcome speech was given by Mr. Milan Kanti Bhattacharjee, Director (Training), BARD. Dr. Md. Kamrul Hasan, Joint Director (Rural Education), BARD and Mr. Tanvir Ahmed, Deputy Director (Project), BARD was the Workshop Director and Associate Workshop Director. Ms. Saifun Nahar, Assistant Director (Training), BARD was the workshop coordinator. It is notable that in the last 5 years BARD has implemented Small Improvement Plans in eight districts of Bangladesh. In the workshop, 10 work plans had been adopted for the service sections of BARD to achieve more efficient service.



Dr. M. Mizanur Rahman, Director General of BARD is speaking in the inaugural session of the workshop on "Small Improvement Plan" held at BARD on 14 November 2018.

Training at BARD : October - December 2018

Every year BARD organizes training courses for different stakeholders as training is one of the mandated functions of BARD. BARD is to organize various types of training courses such as Foundation Training Course for all cadres, and Special Foundation Training Course for BCS (Health) cadre officials and LGED Engineers, Attachment Programme on Rural Development, Specialized Sponsored Courses, BARD Initiated Courses, Orientation Programme and Project Level Courses etc. BARD conducted 81 training courses during the time frame of October to December 2018 where 3021 participants from different government and non-government organizations took part. Details of the training performance are given below:

Sl. No	Title of Course	Duration	Sponsor	No. of Participants
	1	2	3	4
1	Courses Sponsored by Outside Agencies			
1.1	Training Course on Innovation in Civil Service	06-10 Oct. 2018	Ministry of LGRD&C	24
1.2	Training Course on Administrative Financial Management-CSOs under NARS (1 st Batch)	24 Oct.-5 Nov. 2018	BARC, Dhaka	27
1.3	Training Courses on Fish Cultivation (3 Courses)	14 Oct.-14 Dec. 2018	EBEK Project	108
1.4	Training Courses on Cow Rearing (8 Courses)	14 Oct.- 27 Dec. 2018	EBEK Project	293
1.5	Training Courses on Duck & Hen Rearing (4 Courses)	14 Oct.- 3 Dec. 2018	EBEK Project	158
1.6	Training Course on Administrative Financial Management-CSOs under NARS (2 nd Batch)	06-18 Nov. 2018	BARC, Dhaka	26
1.7	Training Course on Nursery Development (2 Courses)	13- 29 Nov. 2018	EBEK Project	72
1.8	Training Courses on Cow Fattening (2 Courses)	04-24 Dec. 2018	EBEK Project	80
2.	Basic Training Courses			
2.1	Training Course on Computer Skills to increase efficiency of the employees (60 Hours Training)	14 Nov.-5 Dec. 2018	BARD	35
2.2	Training Course on Data Entry and Office Management	09-13 Dec. 2018	BARD	12
2.3	Training Course on BARD activities and office management for the newly recruited employees	17-24 Dec. 2018	BARD	29
3.	Attachment Programmes/Orientation Course/Guided Visit/ IUB, UNI, BPATC, NAEM, NAPD			
4.	Attachment Programmes			
4.1	Attachment Course on Rural Development	07-10 Dec. 2018	Dept. of Public Admn., CU	134
4.2	Live in Field Experience	10-17 Dec. 2018	Chittagong Independent University- (CIU)	88

Sl. No	Title of Course	Duration	Sponsor	No. of Participants
	1	2	3	4
5.	BARD Initiated Training Courses			
5.1	Research Methodology for Social Science Researchers	23 Dec. '18-6 Jan. '19	BARD	16
5.2	Training Course on DPP Preparation and Management	23 Dec. '18-2 Jan. '19	BARD	27
6.	Orientation Courses			
6.1	Orientation Programme on BARD Activities	11 Nov. 2018	Victoria University College	23
6.2	Orientation Programme on BARD Activities	16-18 Nov. 2018	Students of Sylhet Agril. University	48
6.3	Orientation Programme on BARD Activities	26-27 Nov. 2018	Students of Cox's Bazar Govt. College	84
6.4	Orientation Programme on BARD Activities	16 Nov. 2018	Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman University	45
6.5	Orientation Programme on BARD Activities	02 Dec. 2018	Southern University Bangladesh	28
7.	Workshop/Seminar/Conference /Guided Visit			
8.	Workshop			
8.1	Training Course on Rural Tourism to Develop Rural Economy	03 Dec. 2018	BARD	45
8.2	TQM SIP (Total Quality Management-Small Improvement Project)	14 Nov. 2018	BARD	59
9.	Project Level Courses			
9.1	Annual Evaluation and Planning Conference (APC)	25 Sept. 2018	WEINIP, BARD	250
9.2	Training Course on Fish Cultivation (3 Courses)	25 Sept.- 4 Oct. 2018	Lalmi-Maynamati Project	90
9.3	Training Course on Modern Irrigation & Water Management for Crop Production (3 Courses)	25 Sept.- 4 Oct. 2018	Do	90
9.4	Training Course on Apiculture (8 Courses)	6 Oct-1 Nov. 2018	Do	235
9.5	Training Course on Vegetable Seed Production & Harvesting (9 Courses)	6 Oct.-29 Nov. 2018	Do	269
9.6	Training Course on Duck & Hen Rearing (3 Courses)	23 Oct.-1 Nov. 2018	Do	89
9.7	Training Course on Organization Management, Accounting, Computer Operation and Using ICT	25-29 Nov. 2018	WEINIP, BARD	30

Sl. No	Title of Course	Duration	Sponsor	No. of Participants
	1	2	3	4
9.8	Training Course on Vermi Compost Production & Use (5 Courses)	3 Nov.-3 Dec. 2018	Do	148
9.9	Training Course on Rice Seed Production & Harvesting (5 Courses)	1- 20 Dec. 2018	Do	150
9.10	Training Courses on Cow Rearing (5 Courses)	4-24 Dec. 2018	Do	149
9.11	Training Course on Organization and Financial Management (1 st Batch)	22-24 Dec. 2018	Do	30
9.12	Training Course on Small Entrepreneur Development by Garment Manufacturing Activities to Increase Income of Women	9-23 Dec. 2018	WEINIP, BARD	30
Total =		81	-	3021

PROJECTS OF BARD

On-going Projects

A. Projects under Annual Development Program (ADP)

1. Improving Livelihood of Rural People of Lalmai-Mainamati Hill Areas of Cumilla through Integrated Agricultural Farming (BARD Part-Ektee Bari Ektee Khamar Project)

Project Area : 68 villages of 08 Unions under Sadar Dakshin, Adarsha Sadar and Burichang Upazila of Cumilla District
Duration : Jul. 2016 to Jun. 2020
Budget : BDT. 5055.00 lacs
Sponsored by : GoB

General Objective of the Project

The general objective of the project is to improve the standard of living of the people of Lalmai-Mainamati hill areas of Cumilla. The specific objectives of the project are to:

- Increase organic agricultural production and conserve agricultural land productivity;
- Enhance agricultural farming practices;
- Augment improved cattle/ dairy/ poultry rearing;

- Enrich scientific fish culture;
- Improve water distribution and utilization system of ground and surface water;
- Develop marketing linkage and facilities for agricultural products; and
- Assess impact of livelihood improvement of the people of project areas.

Project Components

- Formation of village based organizations, collection of members and development of a database as similar to Ekti Bari Ekti Khamar (EBEK) project;
- Creation of own capital by micro-savings and cooperation;
- Livelihood improvement by agricultural production through a) establishment of nursery and apiculture; b) expansion of income of poor rural men and women through livestock rearing, poultry rearing and fish culture activities; c) providing improved varieties of rice, seeds and saplings of vegetables to increase the income of poor farmers; d) development of socio-economic condition of extreme poor people

through special economic assistance and training programme and e) development of rural nutritional status through culture of improved varieties of fruits.

- Conservation and improvement of soil fertility by organic technologies like vermi-compost/ quick-compost.

Progress of the project (Up to December 2018)

- A total of 206 societies have been formed including 26 cooperatives in the reporting time.
- Up to Dec. 2018, a total of 901 members were included in the societies and total number become 6866.
- Tk. 35,39400/- was collected as monthly fee and thus total deposit become Tk. 1,15,75,712/-.
- A total of 4,175 beneficiaries on 141 batches were provided training on rice seed production, vegetable seed production, honey production, vermi-compost production, dairy and poultry production, fruits production, fish culture, organizational & financial management and nursery management. During reporting time in 36 training courses a total of 1075 participants took part in various courses.
- A total of 1264 kg fingerlings were distributed among 316 beneficiaries of the project.

- In the reporting time a total of 11,100 “Faumi” and “Sonali” chicken were distributed among 444 beneficiaries of the project.
- In the reporting time a total of 850 ducklings were distributed among 34 project beneficiaries.
- During reporting time, 121 sign boards were set up in the village organizations.
- In the reporting time a total of 197 fruit trees were distributed and gardens were established in 05 beneficiaries homestead and a total of 10,390 fruit trees were planted.
- A total 8950 copies training manuals were printed.
- In total 1,725 vermi-compost units were established in the project area and 450 beneficiaries started producing vermi-compost.
- In total 3085 kg vermi-compost have been used and sold and on the other hand 39 kg vermi worm have been sold to the clients.
- During the scheduled time frame 10,000 eggplant trees were distributed among the beneficiaries.
- In the same period, 1,200 kg mustard seed were distributed to 842 beneficiaries.
- In that time 250 Bee boxes were distributed among beneficiaries.
- Officer/ staffs of the project received Be-keeping and Vermi-compost preparation kit.

In the reporting time 3 following research works have been started:

- Potentiality of Bee Keeping in Lalmai-Hill areas of Cumilla;
- Performance and Economic Viability of Recently Released Rice Varieties in Lalmai-Hill Areas of Cumilla;
- Comparative Assessment of Vermi-compost and other Organic Manures in Improving and Productivity of Boro Rice and Cabbage with Sustainable Soil Fertility

2. Development of BARD Physical Facilities

Project Area : BARD Campus, Sadar Dakshin, Cumilla
Duration : Jan. 2017 to Dec. 2019
Budget : BDT. 3439.65 lacs
Sponsoring Agency : GoB

Main Objective of the Project

To enhance the capacity of training, research, action research of BARD by modernization and standardization of physical facilities.

Project Components

- Automation of research, training, project division and different sections of BARD;
- Construction of a 5 storied conference hall cum class room;
- Construction of three storied school building;
- Construction of five storied international hostel including modern facilities;
- Construction of swimming pool; and
- Purchasing a jeep, a coaster and other official instruments.

Progress of the project

- Centering and shuttering work of roof of first floor of conference cum class room is going on;
- Mechanical work and work in the water body is going on in swimming pool;
- Centering and shuttering work of first floor of hostel building is going on;
- For automation of different divisions and sections documents for purchasing hard-wares have been prepared.

B. Projects under the Revenue Budget of BARD

1. Women’s Education, Income & Nutrition Improvement Project (WEINIP)

Project Area : Adarsha Sadar, Sadar Dakshin, Burichang and Barura Upazilas of Cumilla District (24 Villages)

Duration : Jul. 2014- Jun. 2019
Budget : BDT. 5.00 lacs (2018-2019)
Funded by: BARD revenue budget

Main Objective of the Project

The main objective of the project is to organize rural women into groups and develop their leadership attributes for promoting women’s empowerment and to increase their knowledge, skill and adoption of appropriate technologies through proper education and training.

Progress of the project

- The project activities are going on in 24 villages.
- A total 1,082 members of 907 families were enrolled as the project beneficiaries as of June 2018.
- As of June 2018, a total 19,355 beneficiaries were trained in 745 training courses.
- The cumulative savings of all members were BD Tk. 57,09,202/- and of which BD Tk. 1,76,22,600/- were distributed among the 2,527 members as loan till October 2018.
- The cumulative loan collection from 49 beneficiaries of the project was Tk. 1,84,09,175/-.
- A total of Tk. 3,84,000/- loan was distributed to the project beneficiaries.

During the reporting period the following training courses have been organized for the beneficiaries:

- Village cooperatives management, accounting, computer operation and using technology.
- Modern garments manufacturing, khadi and cottage industry development.

2. Rural Livelihood Improvement through Village Based Organizations and Union Parishad

Project Area :13 Villages of 4 No. Khoshbash Union of Barura Upazila under Cumilla District
Duration : Jul. 2015-Jun. 2020
Budget : BDT. 5.0 lacs
Funded by: BARD

Progress of the Project:

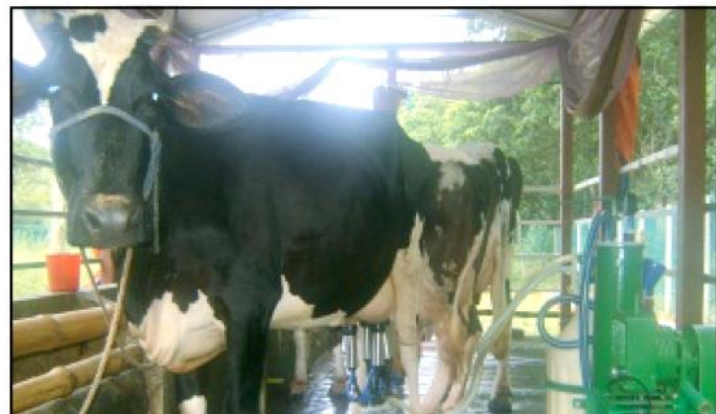
- i. The project activities are running in 13 different villages.
- ii. Total 17 members were included in the project and the total number become 720 as of December 2018.
- iii. The cumulative savings of all the members are BDT 75,38,445 and of which BDT 37,49,855 were distributed among the members as loan till December 2018. Total share become Tk. 3,45,900.

3. E-Parishad for Better Service Delivery in Rural Areas

Project Area : Jorkanon (East) Union of Sadar Dakshin Upazila of Cumilla District
Duration : Jul. 2012 – Jun. 2019
Budget : BDT. 3.50 lacs
Funded by : BARD

Objectives of the Project

The main objective of the project is to provide necessary services to the rural people at their door steps for rural development and improve their standard of living through promoting ICT based platform at local level.



Rationale of the project

After contacting with the National Institute of Local Government (NILG) and A2i project of Prime Minister's office it is found that no organizations are implementing this type of Projects. The feasibility study for the extension of the project in Bijoypur Union Parishad was done by Project Director.

4. BARD Dairy and Poultry Demonstration Farm

Project Area : BARD Campus
Duration : Jul. 2016-Jun. 2018
Budget : BDT. 14.50 lacs
Funded by : BARD

Objectives of the Project

- i) To demonstrate technology based dairy and poultry rearing;
- ii) To extend research, training and action research on livestock development at BARD; and
- iii) To adopt advanced technologies in dairy and poultry farming.

Progress of the project:

- Two milking cow and two calves were purchased for the farm.
- Some cocks, hens and eggs were sold from the poultry unit.
- A goat rearing unit was setup in the farm premises.
- Beneficiaries from Ekti Bari Ekti Khamar project and Lalmai Mainamai project are regularly visiting the farm and they are getting practical and theoretical knowledge.

5. Mushroom Development and Cultivation Centre

Project Area: BARD Campus
Project Period: Oct. 2018- Aug. 2019
Budget: BDT 1.5 lakh.

Objectives of the Project

Since inception BARD has been working to develop the socio-economic condition and livelihoods for rural people of the country by involving them into various types of income generating activities. In Bangladesh every year 1% of cultivable land is decreasing and that threaten our agricultural production. Hence, we need to think about alternative way to increase production. Mushroom is a kind of crop which can be cultivated without any agricultural land and it has very high nutrition and economic value. Recently BARD has started "Mushroom Development and Cultivation Centre" in its campus with the following objectives:

- i) Commercial cultivation and selling of mushroom;
- ii) Producing mushroom seed;
- iii) Distributing mushroom seed among the farmers; and
- iv) Orienting the trainers of various training courses with the mushroom production techniques.

As of December 2018, the "Mushroom Development and Cultivation Centre" of BARD has made about 1000 commercial spawns and 100 mother spawns. During the reporting period about 10 kg. of mushroom have been harvested from the centre.



Practical session on machine milking, preparing urea molasses straw (UMS) and silage during visit to BARD demonstration dairy farm



Some pictures of Mashroom unit

Research Activities of BARD

In line with the priority of the government, BARD conducts research studies on diverse socio-economic areas as a mandatory function. The Academy conducts at least 10 research studies on an average every year and provides policy recommendations to solve the current socio-economic problems in the rural areas. Putting due emphasis on the government priorities, BARD in the recent years has conducted research studies covering issues like micro-credit operation in public sector, prospects of jute cultivation, education safety nets, effects on river bank erosions, women leadership, innovations in rural development, youth entrepreneurship and potentialities of village court etc.

Researches Taken in the year 2018-19

1. Strengthening Financial Capacity of Union Parishad for Better Service Delivery
2. কুড়িগ্রাম ও বান্দরবান জেলার দারিদ্র্যতার স্বরূপ: প্রতিকার ও উন্নয়নে করণীয়
3. Climate Change Effects on the Livelihoods of Coastal Vulnerable People: A Case of South-Western Bangladesh
4. Changing Trend of Rural Economy and Livelihoods of a

Typical Village of Cumilla

5. State of Primary Education in Rural Areas of Bangladesh
6. Union Parishad Complex in Bangladesh: Challenges and Potentialities
7. Inclusive Education and Training of Rural Disable Communities: A Sociological Study of Selected Villages
8. Potentiality of Beekeeping in Bangladesh: Case of Dhaka, Chittagong and Barishal Division
9. Present Status of Small-Scale Freshwater Aquaculture in Rural Areas of Cumilla, Bangladesh
10. Challenges and Potentialities of Floodplain Aquaculture of the Meghna River Basin in Daudkandi Upazila of Cumilla District

Title of Ongoing Research of BARD

1. Education Safety Nets in Bangladesh: A Snapshot on Elite Capture
2. Reaping Demographic Dividends through ICT: A Case of LICT Project
3. Changing Land Use Pattern of Some Selected Villages in Bangladesh
4. Changing Trend of Rural Economy and Livelihood in Bangladesh: A Longitudinal Village

Study in Cumilla

5. Potentialities and Strategies of Public Private Partnership in Rural Development of Bangladesh
6. Family and Human Development Aspirations: Socialization at Bangladesh Transforming Villages
7. Village Court and its Potentialities in Grievances Reduction of Bangladesh
8. Cost Benefit Analysis of Mechanized and Labour Intensive Crop Production
9. Livelihood and Social Inclusion Pattern of the Migratory Labourers: Cases of Five Districts of Bangladesh
10. Interrelation between Socio-Economic Condition and Dietary Diversity in Rural Areas of Bangladesh: Analyzing the Determinants of Food Security
11. Strengthening Comprehensive Village Development Programme (CVDP): Experiences, Rural Changes and Outline of Institutional Sustainability
12. Development Process, Rural Transformation: Potentials and Challenges of Social Entrepreneurship Development
13. Present Conditions of Homestead Plantation in Cumilla: A Case Study of Four Villages
14. Adoption of ICT in Local Government Institutes in a Developing Country: An Empirical

Study on Bangladesh Rural Local Government

Recently Completed Researches

1. Challenges and Prospects of Jute Cultivation: A Study on Farmer's Response in Selected Areas of Bangladesh
2. Empowerment and Food Security among Vulnerable Women Group in Selected Districts of Bangladesh
3. River Bank Erosion and its Effects on Rural Society in Bangladesh
4. Lives and Hopes of the People of Former Enclaves inside Bangladesh: A Search for National Development and Integrity
5. Paradox and Dynamics of Women Leadership at the Grassroots Based Local Government: The Case of Union Parishad in Bangladesh

Research Conducted following the directives of BoG

1. Micro Credit Operation by the Public Sector in BD: Origin, Performance and Replication.
2. Ektee Bari Ektee Khamar (EBEK) Project: Challenges and Potentialities

Research Conducted under Higher Studies and Professional Fellowship

Under 'Higher Studies and Professional Fellowship' 2016-17, two researches have been completed and draft reports have been submitted.

1. Role of Community Clinics in Providing Health Services to Rural People in Selected Rural Areas of Bangladesh: Problem and Prospects
2. Impact of Entrepreneurship Development on Improving Livelihoods of Tribal Women in Sylhet Region of Bangladesh

Executive Summary of the research study on Good Governance Practice at the Union Parishad Level in Bangladesh: A Case of Second Local Governance Support Project

The research was conducted by Mr. Benzir Ahmed, Deputy Director of BARD and findings of the research is portrayed below:

Union Parishad (UP) as the lowest unit of local government in Bangladesh provides necessary services to the rural people by undertaking some development projects and therefore UP should be accountable for its performance to the general villagers. To make UP more effective and capable institutions in dispensing their jurisdictional responsibilities to the local people, Local Governance Support Project (LGSP) was implemented in several UPs in Bangladesh. The general objective of the study was to examine good governance practices under LGSP-2 project of the Union Parishads in Bangladesh. The specific objectives were to: i) examine the nature of good governance practices in Union Parishads(UP); ii) analyze the factors affecting in achieving good governance in the UP.

To conduct this study, questionnaire survey and case study approaches were followed. Semi-structured questionnaire and check list were developed to collect data. Three Union Parishads namely Adra, Laksam East and Sholonol from Cumilla District were randomly selected as sample study area. A total of 102 respondents were selected to collect relevant data for the study where 42 respondents were UP functionaries and rest 60 respondents were villagers who were randomly selected from study areas.

The study findings reveals that 83% of the local respondents are aware about LGSP-2 and 70% know about good governance whereas it is found that all UP functionaries are quite aware about LGSP-2 and good governance. The study unearths that about 53% local respondents participated in the ward meeting, scheme selection and implementation process but 47% respondents remain absent in

participatory process. The study reveals that only 23% local participants participated in the open space budget meeting and regarding this UP functionaries discloses that lack of awareness about the importance of participation of local people is the main reason for improper implementation of LGSP-2. With regards to information dissemination and overall satisfaction it was found that only 32% local people opined that they have seen signboard at the scheme site, but overall satisfaction on UP activities was very low. The findings represents that 75% local respondents mentioned that UP functionaries were reluctant to share information. UP functionaries and local people identified that there were insufficient resources to undertake development projects. This study found number of problems behind low performance of LGSP-2 i.e. lack of publicity, awareness, political influence, ignorance of UP functionaries and limited resource as per demand.

Based on the findings, this study suggests following recommendations to make LGSP-2 more effective. In order to strengthen LGSP-2, UP should enhance participation through sharing of relevant information and arranging awareness, campaign and mass mobilization strategy program. Moreover, UP should create conducive environment to raise voice of the local people and thus to ensure accountability of the UP representatives. UP representatives should visit scheme site frequently and ensure active participation of the local people in monitoring and evaluation process. Social audit system could be introduced to ensure quality of the scheme. To ensure transparency in the UP, all information should be shared through setting up notice boards in hat/bazar, growth center or other public places. For wide publicity of the information, UP can use poster paper, banner, signboard, street drama, leaflet etc.

International Conference on 'Governance and Modernization in Changing Environment' held at BARD



The honorable guests and delegates are seated in the opening ceremony of the international conference on 'Governance and Modernization in Changing Environment' organized at BARD

The 5th International Integrative Research Conference on "Governance and Modernization in Changing Environment" was inaugurated at the Lalmai auditorium of BARD on 18th December 2018.

Dr. Emran Kabir Chowdhury, the Vice-Chancellor of Cumilla University and Begum Fatinaj Firoz, Chairman of Board of Trustees of the Stamford University, Bangladesh attended the

inauguration ceremony of the two-day long international conference as its chief guest and special guest respectively. Dr. Sharif-As-Saber was the chairperson of the conference. BARD was the co-organizer of the conference. Professors from different universities and researchers of more than forty countries presented their research papers in the conference. In the inauguration ceremony, Dr. Sharif

As-Saber discussed the nature of globalization and briefly explained the coordination process of the conference on development and globalization. Mr. Milan Kanti Bhattacharjee, Director (Training) of BARD presented a brief introduction of BARD. Dr. M. Mizanur Rahman, Director General of BARD highlighted various roles of BARD in the context of Bangladesh. Professor Dr. Emran Kabir Chowdhury, VC of Cumilla University stressed the need for good governance in education sector. The key note paper of the conference was presented by Engineer Mr. Wasif Hasan El-Sreheen, the Secretary-General of the African-Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO). The other co-organizers of the conference are Net-in-search International, Stamford University, Department of Public Administration, University of Dhaka and Bali-based research institute GAIN International. In that conference 96 research papers were presented. Dr. M. Mizanur Rahman, Director General of BARD thanked all guests and co-organizers for choosing BARD to organize this conference.

BARD NEWSLETTER

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