

# National Agricultural Research System (NARS)

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The National Agricultural Research System (NARS) is composed of Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) and 10 national agricultural research institutes. BARC being the apex body of the NARS has responsibility to strengthen the national agricultural research capability through research planning, coordination, integration and resource allocation. Among the ten research institutes, six are under the control of the Ministry of Agriculture and the remainders are under other ministries.

**NARS = BARC + 10 Research Institutes**  
**BARC is the Apex body of NARS**  
**Responsibilities of BARC:**  
**Strengthening research capabilities through –**  
**Planning, coordination, integration and**  
**resource allocation**  
**BARC is the umbrella of NARS**

BARC is the umbrella under which the entire Bangladesh agricultural research effort is coordinated. This involved cooperative activities in several ministries of government: Agriculture, Forest and Environment, Fisheries and Livestock, Rural Development, Education, Industries, Commerce, Science and Technology, etc.

**Table 1. NARS Institutes and their year of establishment**

Research Institutes	Year of Establishment
1. Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (BARI)	1976
2. Bangladesh Rice Research Institute (BRRI)	1970
3. Bangladesh Jute Research Institute (BJRI)	1951
4. Bangladesh Institute of Nuclear Agriculture (BINA)	1984
5. Bangladesh Sugarcane Research Institute (BSRI)	1994
6. Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute (BLRI)	1984
7. Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute (BFRI)	1984
8. Bangladesh Forest Research Institute (BFRI)	1955
9. Bangladesh Tea Research Institute (BTRI)	1958
10. Soil Resources Development Institute (SRDI)	1983

**Year of establishment of NARS Institutes:**  
**BARI (1976), BRRI (1970), BJRI (1951), BINA, BFRI, BLRI**  
**(1984), BSRI (1994) BFRI (1955), BTRI (1958), SRDI (1983)**

**Table 2. NARS Institutes, their governing ministries and areas of research**

<b>INSTITUTE</b>	<b>MINISTRY</b>	<b>AREAS OF RESEARCH</b>
Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (BARI)	Agriculture	Research on cereals (other than rice), pulses, oilseeds, vegetables, horticultural crops etc.
Bangladesh Rice Research Institute (BRRI)	Agriculture	Research on rice
Bangladesh Jute Research Institute (BJRI)	Agriculture	Research on jute production and utilization
Bangladesh Institute of Nuclear Agriculture (BINA)	Agriculture	Application on nuclear techniques in agriculture
Bangladesh Sugarcane Research Institute (BSRI)	Agriculture	Research on sugarcane
Soil Resources Development Institute (SRDI)	Agriculture	Soil survey, soil classification and soil characterization
Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute (BFRI)	Fisheries and Livestock	Freshwater, brackish water and marine fisheries research
Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute (BLRI)	Fisheries and Livestock	Research on livestock and poultry
Bangladesh Forest Research Institute (BFRI)	Environment and Forests	Forestry and agro forestry research
Bangladesh Tea Research Institute (BTRI)	Commerce	Research on tea

**Governing Ministries of NARS Institutes:**  
 BARI, BRRI, BJRI, BINA, BSRI, SRDI (Ministry of Agriculture), BFRI, BLRI (Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock), BFRI (Ministry of Forest and Environment), BTRI (Ministry of Commerce)

**BRIEF OBJECTIVE AND FUNCTIONS OF BARC**

- The objectives of BARC are to improve research effectiveness and efficiency by better planning, coordination, monitoring, and evaluation of research conducted by NARS institutes and associate organizations.

*Functions of BARC in brief are to:*

- Identify priorities on the areas of research under the guidelines of National Agriculture Policy;
- Provide guidance and direction of the research activities of Institutes;
- Scrutinize, evaluate and approve budget of contract research proposals;
- Review and monitor the progress of research activities of the NARS institutes;
- Establish or assist in establishing research institutes, research centres, experimental stations, libraries and information centres, museum, herbarium, plant introduction centres and germplasm banks;
- Monitor the technology transfer process and advise the institutes to implement research results and popularise the evolved technologies for field level application;
- Arrange higher education and training, and participation in the national and international seminars, workshops, meetings and conferences in the field of agricultural research and technology;
- Maintain liaison with national and international agricultural research organizations/institutes;

**Functions of BARC:**  
Identify priorities of research area  
\* Provide guidance and direction  
\* Scrutinize, evaluate & approve budget  
\* Review and monitor the progress  
\* Help in establishing infrastructure  
\* Monitor tech. transfer  
\* Education, training, seminar, workshop  
\* Maintain liaison

### **INTERNATIONAL LINKAGES OF BARC**

Over the last 31 years Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council played an important role in sharing its technologies and information with the rest of the world and also benefited from the inflow of technologies, scientific information and germplasm for promoting agricultural development. Moreover, international cooperation, encompassing exchanges of ideas, know-how, personnel and materials, has been systematized during the last 10 years BARC has been partner with the research centres of the **Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)** and research coordination bodies of the various countries.

At present BARC maintains working relations with a large number of international research organizations. Some of them are:

- International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Los Banos, Philippines
- International Maize and Wheat Improvement Centre (CIMMYT), El Batan, Mexico
- International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), Ibadan, Nigeria

- International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), Hyderabad, India
- International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Washington DC, USA
- International Centre for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA), Aleppo, Syria
- International Potato Centre (CIP), Lima, Peru
- Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi, India
- Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC), Islamabad, Pakistan
- Asian Vegetable Research and Development Centre (AVRDC), Bangkok, Thailand
- International Centre for Research in Agroforestry (ICRAF), Nairobi, Kenya
- Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences International (CABI), U.K.
- International Information System for the Agricultural Sciences and Technology (AGRIS), FAO, Rome, Italy
- SAARC Agricultural Information Centre (SAIC) of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), Dhaka, Bangladesh
- *International Service for National Agricultural Research (ISNAR), the Hague, Netherlands*
- *International Institute of Education (IIE), UK*
- *International Institute of Irrigation Management (IIMI), Colombo, Sri Lanka*
- *Asia-Pacific Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery, Beijing, China*
- *Philippines Council for Agricultural and Resources Research and Development (PCARRD), Philippines*
- *South-East Asian Regional Centre for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA), Philippines*
- *World Fish Centre, Malaysia*
- *Asia Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institute (APAARI), Bangkok, Thailand*
- *International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), Austria*
- *International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), Nepal*

**Main International Institutes:**  
CGIAR, IRRI, CIMMYT, ITTA,  
ICRISAT, IFPRI, ICARDA, CIP,  
ICAR, PARC, AVRDC, ICRAF,  
CABI, AGRIS, SAIC