

Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council

The Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) was established in 1973 to plan and coordinate agricultural research in Bangladesh. In order to address the challenge of agricultural productivity, restructuring the country's agricultural research system was a felt necessity. In view of this, the BARC Act reformulated BARC in 1996 giving it wider responsibility to coordinate, plan, set priorities, monitor, develop human resources, and review and evaluate research programmes of the National Agricultural Research System (NARS).



As an apex body of NARS, the mission of BARC is to strengthen and mobilise the research capabilities of the NARS institutes, universities, the private sector, and other stakeholders in partnership to generate appropriate technologies and information for the development of the agricultural sector.

The reconstituted BARC works for the following national goals:

- Strengthen and consolidate the capacities of NARS for frontier research
- Plan, fund, coordinate and monitor competitive research grants
- Generate client-oriented or demand-driven appropriate technology
- Document and disseminate research outputs for stakeholders

- Improve administrative and financial set-up for supporting research
- Create a research enabling environment through improved management

BARC plans, directs, coordinates, and monitors agricultural research in the NARS and associated institutes. The Council also helps the government in policy formulation. BARC is organised with a governing body (GB), and Executive Council (EC), and a Secretariat. The GB, chaired by the Minister for Agriculture and co-chaired by the Minister for Fisheries and Livestock, and the Minister for Environment and Forest, directs, controls, and oversees the Council's research, planning, coordination, and administrative policy formulation functions. The EC consists of the Executive Chairman of the BARC, BARC member directors and heads of agricultural research institutes (ARIs).

Over the last 25 years, BARC has been playing an important role in sharing technologies and information and has benefited from the inflow of technologies, scientific information, and germplasm from other countries for promoting agricultural development. BARC has been a partner with the research centres of CGIAR and research coordinating bodies of various countries. In this connection, the Memoranda of Understanding (MoU)/Agreements have been signed with many international organisations to facilitate linkage between the BARC and such organisations. In February 2007, it signed a MoU with ICIMOD for greater and more effective collaboration on research and development in agriculture in the hilly areas of Bangladesh.

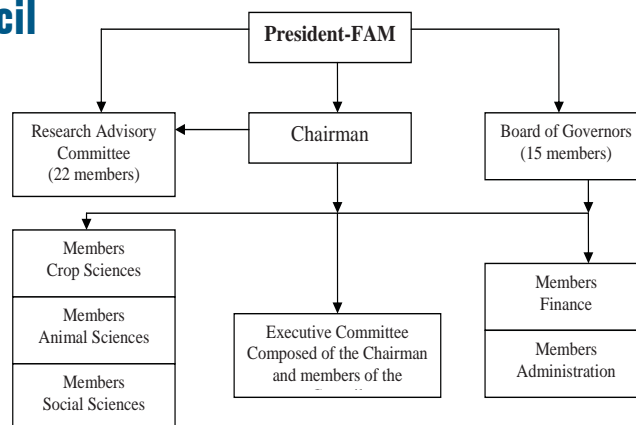
Pakistan Agricultural Research Council

The Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC), established in 1981, is an autonomous apex body with mandate to aid, promote, and coordinate research at the federal and provisional levels in Pakistan to provide science-based solutions for agriculture.

Statutory Functions

- Undertake, aid, promote, and coordinate agricultural research
- Expedite utilisation of research results
- Establish research establishments
- Train high-level scientific manpower
- Generate, acquire, and disseminate agricultural information
- Establish a research library
- Perform other related functions

The Federal Minister for Food and Agriculture and Livestock is the President of the Council and chairs the Board of Governors (BOG) of PARC. The BOG is the highest body responsible for the direction and superintendence of the affairs of the Council. The Council Chairman is assisted by three technical members and one member each from



Administration and Finance. The Executive Committee composed of the Chairman and members of the Council is responsible for executing all policies and discharging functions of the Council. Matters related to research planning, coordination, budget and policy formulation, are referred to the Board for guidance and general direction. The Research Advisory Committee (RAC) carries out detailed review of PARC research programmes, identifies researchable issues of national importance, and advises on research programmes.