

BARI LIBRARY AT A GLANCE

Bangladesh, a country with dense population and acute poverty is based on agriculture. Agricultural is, as such the key to its alleviation of poverty and low standard living. Large investment s in agricultural research and development is the outcomes of this fact. Knowledge arisen out of research carries validity and application for furthering research and development programs. Access to the knowledge produced in this way and effective communication and utilization of this is a vital force in development efforts or commitments. So a country's capability for socio-economic development depends largely on its research as well as its capability to provide smooth access to and effective communication and use of knowledge and information generated in and out of the country in the respective field of research. The mission o f Library and Information Centre or Documentation Centre as it is called, is to provide access to the knowledge generated in the world by its traditional as well as its newly emerged technical ways.

Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (BARI) a multi crop research institute excluding rice, jute, tea and sugar is a large investment and commitment towards alleviating the problems of poverty and ensuring the country's socio-economic development. BARI Library is its research and information arm and as such BARI wants it to play a significant role in its research programs by providing right information at the right time to nearly 650 scientists doing research all over Bangladesh. Besides this, the library feeds information the scientists, teachers and students coming from the Universities, BSMRAU, BAU, SBAU, DU etc.

Background

Initially the Library was located with its parent institute at Tejgaon, Dhaka. In 1976 it was shifted along with its institute at Gazipur and it being a room Library was placed beside the office of the then Director. In 1983 when found outgrown, its shiftment was made to the up-stair of the institute's Museum Building just south to the On-Farm Research Division. As the Library is not static and it grows everyday. And it so happened that it once again outgrew the space it was provided. As a result the Museum Building as a whole was renovated and modernized as it is now. It is now a two stored building: the up-stair for information resource materials and for the users only and down stair for administration and management only. All services and service products are available at the up-stair of the building.

Mandate

BARI Library is mandated to fulfill the purposes of the institute and as an adjunct of the researchers' tool, it tends to provide right information at the right time. So the mandates are:

- Building up a balanced and comprehensive collection in the sphere of agriculture and its related fields upon the scientists' interests with a bit focus on the generalists.
- Preparing and processing the collected materials to ensure their effective use.
- Making the research community aware of new information and technology collected in organized technically.
- Maintaining contact with the national and international institutes and organizations and sharing the information residing on internet.
- Participating in inter-library loan and network systems to serve the researchers effectively.
- Providing instructions on the use of the library helping finding, locating & evaluating the information available in the library.
- Establishing Management Information Systems (MIS) to provide computerized information, CD-ROM facilities and internet connectivity perfectly.

- Adopting the technique of economic method to preserve, repair and maintain the collection to ensure its continued use.
- Developing the mini-libraries at the regional and sub-regional station to feed the scientists working there with needed information.

Existing facilities: Information resources materials collected so far have been properly catalogued, classified and organized. The Library now houses following information resource materials.

Existing Collection Statistics: 71,158

Items	Quantity
Monographs including Books, Reports and Proceedings, etc.	34104
Archival collection	2670
Thesis	614
Periodicals (bound in book form)	4247
Journal issues	22,763
Journal titles : a. Foreign - b. Local -	423 155 = 578
Journal Issues	23703
Newsletter titles: a. Foreign - b. Local -	318 168 = 486
Bulletin titles : a. Foreign - b. Local -	57 49 = 106
Pamphlets	567
Reprint	518
Leaflets	3565
	71,158

Area of Library Collection: The Library strives to build up a unique collection of literature in the field of agriculture and its allied fields generated in and outside the country. The library acquired published, unpublished and semi published sources materials selected to BARI's areas of concerns:-Field crops, Horticultural crops, Crop husbandry, Soil science, Disease management, Vertebrate and invertebrate pest management, Agril. Economics, Agril. Machinery & equipment, Agril. Extension & Education, Post harvest management, Biotechnology, Environmental Sciences and electronic database like CAB CD-ROM, TEAL and added online connectively like AGORA/ HINARI & PERI/INASP.

Services provided are:

- Circulation and Loan
- Internet and CD-Rom Services
- On-line Browsing
- Reproduction services
- Reference and information services
- Bibliographic services on request
- Indexing services
- Current Awareness Services
- Question-answer services
- Inter library loan services

Service Products offered are:

- Book Catalogue Cards.
- Bibliography
- Indexes to Books
- Bulletins
- Periodical Kardex Cards

Management Information Systems (MIS) Established:

Library Database consisting of the comprehensive collection of the library. The Collection contains monographs, thesis, reports, proceedings and serial publications & other electronic database.

Archival Collection formed : Providing very old and rare information.

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Staff Facilities: 7

Sl.No.	Position	Status	No. of Post
01	Senior Librarian	S.S.O.	01
02	Librarian	S.O.	01
03	Cataloguer	UDA	02
04	Typist	LDA	01
05	Library Attendant	MLSS	01
06	MLSS	MLSS	01

Objectives:

- Build up and develop a modern library equipped with modern IT equipments
- Build up a need based balanced collection with packages of databases
- Build up client oriented information services
- To find out the means for continuous flow of budget
- To strengthen and develop human resources
- To develop the regional and sub-station libraries
- To take steps for repairing and maintaining of the collection for continued use

Existing Problems:

- * Lack of needed title of journals
- * Limited manpower resources
- * Limited financial resources
- * Limited capacity to provide effective information services
- * Lack of knowledge on the rapid technological development in the Information Management Systems (MIS).

Corrective Measures:

Following basic needs should be satisfied

- * Mechanism for procurement of needed journals should be found out .
- Manpower: BARI Central Library is a technical type of library. It is the largest research library in Bangladesh. To man the library to the satisfaction of the scientists the existing manpower is quite insignificant. Considering the managerial role and technical responsibilities the status and salary of the head of the library should be at per the Head of the Division. The number of the manpower should be increased in proportion with the activities.
- Significant fund flow should be maintained.
- Overseas Training should be imparted to the library personnel.
- Outlying stations Libraries should be equipped with professionals and fund provision should be made for their development and management.

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2. PERI/INASP

. AGORA, HINARI