

# Bangladesh Jute Research Institute Act, 2017

(Act No. 16 of 2017)

[ July 19, 2017 ]

## An Act enacted to repeal and amend the Bangladesh Jute Research Institute Act, 1974

Bangladesh Jute Research Institute Act, 1974 (Act No.XIII) for development of improved and high yielding varieties of jute and jute-related crops through agricultural and technical research, development of various technologies to facilitate jute production, development of technology for multi-purpose utilization of jute and related matters. of 1974) is expedient and necessary to repeal and re-enact the same;

Therefore, it is hereby enacted as follows:-

- Short title and introduction**
- (1) This Act shall be known as the Bangladesh Jute Research Institute Act, 2017 .
  - (2) It shall take effect immediately.
- definition**
- Unless there is anything contrary to the subject or context, in this Act—
    - "Institute" means the Bangladesh Jute Research Institute established under section 3;
    - "Council" means the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council established under section 3 of the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council Act, 2012 (Act No. 13 of 2012);
    - "Chairman" means the Chairman of the Finance Board;
    - "regulations" means regulations made under this Act;
    - "rules" means rules made under this Act;
    - "Board" means the Board constituted under section 7;
    - "Director-General" means the Director-General of the Finance Institute.
- Establishment of Institute**
- (1) The Bangladesh Jute Research Institute established under the Bangladesh Jute Research Institute Act, 1974 (Act No.XIII of 1974) shall continue as if it had been established under this Act.
  - (2) The Institute shall be a statutory body and shall have perpetual succession and a common seal and shall, subject to the provisions of this Act, have power to acquire, hold and transfer property, both immovable and

immovable, and the Institute may institute suits in its own name. And a case will be filed against it in that name.

**Office and  
Center of  
the Institute**

4. (1) The head office of the institute will be at Dhaka.  
(2) The Institute may, with the prior approval of the Government, establish its regional center and sub-centres at any place in Bangladesh.

**Functions  
of the  
Institute**

5. In order to fulfill the objectives of this Act, the functions of the Institute shall be as follows, namely:-

- (a) control, development and management of agricultural, technical and economic research on jute and allied fiber crops and extension of fiber crop production and research results;
- (b) production, testing, supply, handling and limited production and collection of jute seeds of high quality while maintaining high quality of ecological purity and distribution to growers, recognized institutions and authorized agencies selected by the Board;
- (c) implementation of pilot projects in different regions of the country for the purpose of research on jute and similar fiber crops, jute products and accessories;
- (d) Demonstration of new varieties of jute developed by the institute for the purpose of expansion of jute and training of farmers for jute cultivation of said variety;
- (e) publication and dissemination of monographs, bulletins and other publications relating to jute research;
- (f) providing training to the employees of the Institute on improved methods of cultivation of jute and related fiber crops, including the results of technical research related to jute and its use to the beneficiaries related to jute and jute product production;
- (g) undertaking research programs in collaboration with national and international bodies and organizations;
- (h) perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the Government, subject to directions from time to time; And
- (j) performing any other functions as may be necessary.

**Follow the  
instructions  
given by the  
Council**

6. (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in any other provision of this Act, the Institute shall carry out any direction, recommendation or advice given by the Council:

Provided that if it appears to the Institute that it is not possible to implement any such recommendation or advice, the Institute shall, without delay, communicate its opinion to the Council, stating the reasons therefor.

(2) The Council may amend or cancel any recommendation or suggestion made by it or make any new recommendation or suggestion in the said matter after considering the opinion received from the Institute under the terms of sub-section (1).

**Board  
composition**

7. (1) The Board of the Institute shall consist of the following members, namely:-

- (a) the Director General, who shall also be the Chairman of the Board;
- (b) a representative of the rank of Deputy Secretary below, nominated by the Finance Department;
- (c) a representative of the rank of Deputy Secretary below, nominated by the Ministry of Agriculture;
- (d) a representative of the rank of Deputy Secretary below, nominated by the Ministry of Science and Technology;
- (e) a representative of the rank of Deputy Secretary below, nominated by the Ministry of Textiles and Jute;
- (f) a representative not below the rank of director nominated by the Council;
- (g) a Director of Bangladesh Atomic Agriculture Research Institute;
- (h) a representative of the rank of director below, nominated by the Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation (BJMC);
- (i) a representative below the rank of Director of the Department of Agricultural Extension nominated by the Ministry of Agriculture;
- (j) a representative of the rank of director below the Bangladesh Science and Industrial Research Council nominated by the Ministry of Science and Technology;
- (k) a representative below the rank of Director of the Directorate of Jute nominated by the Ministry of Textiles and Jute;
- (l) two senior scientists of the Institute;
- (d) a reputed jute product technician nominated by the Government;
- (d) a representative representing business and industry nominated by the Government;
- (n) two representatives engaged in agricultural work nominated by the Institute, one of whom shall be an experienced farmer and the other shall be a representative of a non-governmental organization;
- (v) The Directors of the Institute, including the Director (Administration and Finance) of the Institute shall be the Member-Secretary of the Board.

(2) Members nominated under clauses (l) to (n) of sub-section (1) shall hold membership for a period of 3 (three) years from the date of their nomination:

Provided that the Government or, as the case may be, the Institute may at any time before the expiry of the said period, without assigning any reason, discharge any member so nominated from membership and any member may resign by written notice addressed to the Government or, as the case may be, the Institute. .

**Functions  
of the Board**

8. The functions of the Board shall be as follows, namely:-

- (a) supervising and directing the work of the Institute;
- (b) passing decisions on policy matters of the Institute;
- (c) approve the proposed policies and action plans of the Institute;
- (d) requests for grants from the Government or from any other source;
- (e) approval of loan proposals;
- (f) approving the proposed budget for the approval of the Government;
- (g) determining the content of research;
- (h) approve proposals for award of fellowships;
- (j) approve proposals for financial assistance for higher education or research abroad;
- (j) Project approval.

**Board  
meeting**

9. (1) Subject to the other provisions of this section, the Board may prescribe the procedure of its meetings.

(2) The Board shall meet every four months and the date, time and place of the meeting shall be fixed by the Chairman.

(3) The Member-Secretary of the Board shall, with the concurrence of the Chairman, convene a meeting of the Board by notice in writing.

(4) The Chairman shall preside over all the meetings of the Board, but in the absence of the Chairman, any member from among them may preside over the meeting by the members present.

(5) The presence of at least half of the total number of members shall be required for the quorum of the meeting of the Board, but no quorum shall be required in the case of adjourned meeting.

(6) Each member present at the meeting of the Board shall have one vote and the decision shall be taken at the meeting on the basis of the majority of votes, but in case of equality of votes cast, the President may cast the deciding vote.

(7) The action or proceedings of the Board shall not be invalid and no question shall be raised in this regard merely because there is a vacancy in any member's post or a defect in the constitution of the Board.

**Director  
General**

10. (1) There shall be a Director General of the Institute.
- (2) The Director General shall be appointed by the Government and the term and conditions of his service shall be determined by the Government.
- (3) The Director General shall be the Chief Executive of the Institute and he shall—
- (a) exercise and perform the powers conferred by the Board;
  - (b) be responsible for the implementation of all decisions of the Board; And
  - (c) perform the duties assigned to him, from time to time, by the Government.
- (4) If the post of Director-General becomes vacant or if he is unable to perform his duties due to absence, sickness or any other reason, any person appointed by the Government shall perform the duties of Director-General until the newly appointed Director-General takes over the vacant post or until he is again fit to perform his duties. .

**director**

11. There shall be such number of Directors as may be necessary for the efficient performance of the functions of the Institute and they shall be appointed by the Government and their terms and conditions of service shall be fixed by the Government.

**Recruitment  
of  
employees**

12. (1) The Institute may, subject to the organizational structure approved by the Government, employ such number of employees as may be necessary for the proper discharge of its duties.
- (2) The terms and conditions of employment and employment of employees shall be prescribed by regulations.

**funds**

13. (1) The Institute shall have a fund to which money shall be deposited from the following sources, namely:-
- (a) Grants made by Government;
  - (b) loans taken;
  - (c) grants made by any local authority;
  - (d) grants received from any domestic or foreign development aid organization with the prior approval of the Government;
  - (e) income from the Institute's own sources; And
  - (f) Money received from any other lawful source.
- (2) All moneys of the fund shall be deposited in any scheduled bank in the name of the institute and the fund shall be managed in the manner prescribed by the rules.

explanation "Scheduled Bank" means a Scheduled Bank as defined in Article 2(j) of the Bangladesh Bank Order, 1972 (President's Order No. 127

of 1972).

(3) The necessary expenses of the institute shall be met from the fund in the manner prescribed by the rules.

14. Every year, the Institute shall submit to the Government the annual budget statement of the following financial year with possible income and expenditure within a specified period and it shall also mention the amount of money required by the Institute from the Government in that year.

#### **Budget**

14. Every year, the Institute shall submit to the Government the annual budget statement of the following financial year with possible income and expenditure within a specified period and it shall also mention the amount of money required by the Institute from the Government in that year.

#### **Accounting and auditing**

15. (1) The Institute shall maintain its accounts and prepare an annual statement of accounts in the manner prescribed by the Government.

(2) The Auditor-General and Comptroller of Bangladesh shall audit the accounts of the Institute every year and shall send a copy of the audit report to the Government and the Institute and the Institute shall forward its comments or objections, if any, to the Government.

(3) For the purpose of auditing the accounts under sub-section (2), the Auditor General and Comptroller of Bangladesh or any person authorized by him for the purpose may inspect all records, documents, cash or bank deposits, securities, deposits and other property of the Institute. Can see and question any member of the board or any employee of the institute.

(4) In addition to the audit under sub-section (2), the accounts of the Institute shall be audited by a chartered accountant as defined in Article 2(I)(b) of the Bangladesh Chartered Accountants Order, 1973 (President's Order No. 2 of 1973) and for this purpose The Institute may appoint one or more Chartered Accountants.

(5) The Institute shall, as soon as possible, take steps to remedy any errors or irregularities identified in the audit report.

#### **Report**

16. (1) Within 4 (four) months after the end of every financial year, the Institute shall submit to the Government an annual report on the activities carried out for that year.

(2) The Government may, if necessary, call for reports and statements from the Institute at any time on any subject of the Institute and the Institute shall be bound to supply the same to the Government.

#### **Committee**

17. The Institute may constitute one or more Committees to assist in the discharge of its duties.

<b>Borrowing capacity</b>	18. For carrying out the purposes of this Act, the Institute may, with the prior approval of the Government, borrow and be liable to repay the same.
<b>Execution of contract</b>	19. For carrying out the purposes of this Act, the Institute may, with the prior approval of the Government, enter into contracts.
<b>Foreign training and higher education</b>	20. (1) The institute may arrange necessary foreign training and higher education for its scientists in accordance with the prevailing regulations. (2) If a scientist is nominated for training or research by an international organization of global recognition and requires financial assistance in that regard, the institute may, with the prior approval of the Government, provide all or part thereof.
<b>Recruitment of researchers or technicians</b>	21. (1) The Institute may, with the prior approval of the Government, appoint researchers or technicians to solve any problem arising in relation to jute or to develop any technology or strategy for increasing its production. (2) The Institute, if not capable of its own manpower, may, for the purposes of sub-section (1), recruit researchers or technicians through open competition.
<b>Grant of fellowship</b>	22. The Institute may award fellowships to persons who have obtained degrees with success and merit in various subjects of Agricultural Science from any University recognized by the Government to train them as skilled scientists, researchers and technicians in subjects related to the objectives of the Institute.
<b>delegation of power</b>	23. The Board may, if necessary, delegate any of its powers, by order in writing and subject to such conditions as may be prescribed, to any of its members, employees or any committee.
<b>public servant</b>	24 All members of the Board, all employees of the Institute and any other person authorized to do any work on behalf of the Institute shall be deemed to be public servants within the meaning of section 21 of the Penal Code (Act No. XLV of 1860).
<b>Power to make rules</b>	25. To carry out the purposes of this Act, the Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, make rules.
<b>Power to make regulations</b>	26. For carrying out the purposes of this Act, the Institute may, with the prior approval of the Government, by notification in the Official Gazette, make such regulations as are not inconsistent with this Act or the Rules.

**Revocation  
and  
Custody**

27. (1) The Bangladesh Jute Research Institute Act, 1974 (Act No. XIII of 1974) hereinafter referred to as the said Act, is hereby repealed.

(2) Notwithstanding the repeal under sub-section (1), any act done or any measure adopted under the said Act, any rule or regulation made, any order issued, circular or notification, any notice given, budget estimate prepared, scheme or scheme shall be deemed to have been made, accepted, made, issued, given or prepared under this Act.

(3) With the repeal of the said Act, the Institute established under the said Act -

(a) All assets, rights, powers, authorities, privileges and all property, movable and immovable, cash and money in banks, all other claims and rights, all accounts, registers, records and other documents assets, rights, powers, authority of the Institute; , benefits and movable and immovable property, money, claims and rights, accounts, registers, records and documents shall be deemed to be;

(b) all debts, liabilities and obligations and all contracts entered into by, on behalf of or with it, shall be deemed respectively to be debts, liabilities and obligations of the Institute and contracts entered into by, on behalf of or with it;

(c) any suit or legal proceeding instituted by or against the Institute shall be deemed to be a suit or legal proceeding instituted against or by the Institute;

(d) All employees shall be deemed to be employees of the Institute and shall be employed on the same terms and conditions on which they were employed immediately before the commencement of this Act, until the conditions of their employment are varied by the Institute.

**Publication  
of  
translated  
texts in  
English**

28. (1) After the commencement of this Act, the Government shall, by notification in the Official Gazette, publish an authentic English text of the original Bengali text of this Act.

(2) In case of conflict between the Bengali and English texts, the Bengali text shall prevail.