

ANNUAL REPORT

2000



SAARC AGRICULTURAL INFORMATION CENTRE

SAIC Annual Report

2000

Edited by Mohammad Abdullah



SAARC Agricultural Information Centre (SAIC)
BARC Complex, Farmgate, Dhaka 1215
Bangladesh

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BARC Complex, Farmgate, Dhaka 1215
Bangladesh

SAIC Annual Report 2000

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SAARC Agricultural Information Centre (SAIC)
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Preface

It gives me a great pleasure to present the annual report of SAARC Agricultural Information Centre for the year 2000. During the period, the Centre has made significant progress and achievement of its programmes. The Centre implemented all of its programmes through establishing the spirit of partnership and cooperation with the participating institutes of the SAARC member countries.

To fulfill the objectives and to cater the information needs, more number of projects have been undertaken during 2000 and its achievements have been highlighted in the current report.

Every institution is required to redefine its goal, strategies and activities from time to time with emerging and regional needs and obligation. It is in this context, SAIC has prepared the *10-years Activity Programmes* during the year 2000.

Apart from publishing important news related to recent developments in agriculture through the quarterly SAIC Newsletter, the dimension and quality of the newsletter has been improved through wide coverage of technologies from SAARC member countries. A publication entitled 'Development of Horticulture in SAARC Countries' has been published to meet the common interest of the people working in the horticultural sector in the region. A number of books, journals, magazines, and reports on agriculture has been produced and collected during the year. SAIC also procures internationally reputed databases in CD-ROM and is disseminating the information to the relevant corners in the region. A number of video films on latest agricultural technologies from the institutions of the region has been collected and efforts are being made to disseminate them through television programme. Some of this films have been reproduced and exchanged among the interested organizations of member countries. A special bulletin on the current food situation of the SAARC member countries is regularly prepared. In addition to this, a current awareness bulletin is also prepared, comprising the information appearing in different daily news papers and magazines of the SAARC member countries.

Through its different approaches, SAIC is making untiring efforts to keep all those people involved and well informed in the advancement of agriculture in SAARC region.

The professionals and general services staff of the Centre provided the basic material, record and information and I express my appreciation to their contribution made by them in bringing out this annual report.

I express my gratitude and sincere thanks to Dr. M.A. Hamid Miah, Executive Chairman, and Dr. Md. Nurul Alam, Member-Director (P&E), BARC for their constant encouragement and support in various activities of the Centre.

Dr. Md. Abdur Razzaque
Director, SAIC.

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The Commencement of SAIC

Cooperation in the field of agriculture, one of the five areas which was primarily identified in the first meeting of SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation) Foreign Secretaries in April 1981. The Study Group discussed in details about the possible fields of major cooperation in September 1981. This was followed by the two meetings of Working Group on agriculture held in March and December 1982 which had the mandate of (i) identifying action programme which could be implemented immediately from available funds, (ii) delineating modalities for implementation, coordination and monitoring activities in the short and long term, (iii) providing indicative cost estimates of the identified programmes and their financial implications and finally, (iv) suggesting the modalities of funding.

The SAARC Technical Committee on Agricultural (TCA) underscored the need for a regional information system for promotion of cooperation in the field of agriculture and allied sectors among the member countries and proposed to the SAARC Standing Committee for establishment of an information centre in the field of agriculture in Bangladesh. The Standing Committee approved the proposal in its Sixth Session and sent it to the SAARC Council of Ministers for consideration. The Council of Ministers in its First Session held in Dhaka during 12 to 13 August, 1986 accepted the recommendations of the Standing Committee and declared in the Joint Communiqué that the SAARC Agricultural Information Centre (SAIC) would be established in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

The SAARC Agricultural Information Centre (SAIC) is the first regional institution of SAARC. The Centre started functioning in Dhaka in the premises of Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) in January 1989. The objectives and functions determined for SAIC are as follows.

SAIC Objectives

- (a) Establish regional information network on agricultural and allied discipline
- (b) Identify and document agricultural and pertinent literature including forestry, fisheries, livestock and allied disciplines
- (c) Serve the Agricultural information needs of the member countries
- (d) Promote new and better techniques for handling and dissemination of

agricultural information

- (e) Collection of information and dissemination of the same in the area of proven agricultural technologies and dissemination of the information on effective farm practices and development as well as introduction of emerging new and frontier technologies

Functions of SAIC

- (1) Collect information on current agricultural literature, on-going research and development projects, research and development institutions, education and training opportunities and resource persons in agriculture and allied disciplines from the member countries
- (2) Select, analyze and process regional agricultural information useful to regional users
- (3) Provide access to these information for users of the region
- (4) Produce publications of regional importance on agriculture and allied disciplines
- (5) Provide selective dissemination of information, copies of documents, microfiche and video films generated in the region
- (6) Organize and provide training on information and communication sciences to the personnel of member countries
- (7) Function as the regional information centre for South Asia and have access to the international information networks
- (8) Work towards collection of information and dissemination of the same in the area of proven agricultural technologies and dissemination of information on effective farm practices and development as well as introduction of emerging new and frontier technologies.

The Administrative Set-up of SAIC

The Governing Board (GB) is the apex body to supervise the functions of SAIC which is composed of eminent personalities in the field of information from each member countries sets down the policy matters, approves the projects, recommends the annual budget estimates, monitors and evaluates the administrative and overall operations of SAIC. The GB is headed by a Chairman designated for a three-years term from the

member countries by alphabetical rotation. The GB meets usually once in a year and may meet more frequently if required. A representative of the SAARC Secretariat also attends the GB meeting. The Proceedings of the meeting need to be approved by the Standing Committee and the Council of Ministers.

The Director is the Chief Executive of SAIC in respect of administration, finance, planning, and implementation. He also bears the charges of the Member-Secretary of the SAIC Governing Board.

The Deputy Directors and Professionals perform the professional duties of SAIC and are responsible for functional assignments and activities. Their status and immunities are equivalent to the first Secretaries of the High Commissions/ Embassies of the SAARC member countries situated in Dhaka.

Deputy Directors and Professionals are appointed from the member countries with a fair degree of regional representation. The tenure of services of the Deputy Directors and Professionals is for a period of three years. The GSS are appointed from among the nationals of Bangladesh.

SAIC has four programme divisions, i.e., Information Division, Publication Division, Computer Division, and Library & Reprography Division. Each division is headed by a Deputy Director who is assisted by a Specialist and a number of GSS. The programme of SAIC are undertaken to serve the common requirements of the member countries for mutual benefits. In addition to these divisions, SAIC has also two sections, i.e., (a) Finance, and (b) Support Service Sections. Under direct supervision of the Director, financial and support services activities are taken care of by these two sections.

Responsibilities of the Programme Divisions

The Information Division designs and develops information systems and services to meet the information needs of the member countries in the areas of research, technologies, studies etc., covering the field of agriculture and allied discipline. The Division processes repackages and disseminates information collected from all possible sources for expeditious retrieval in the computer as well as in hard copy.

The Computer Division renders its services to all of the divisions in creating databases on agriculture, fisheries, forestry and allied disciplines on regional basis. It preserves all SAIC projects for future updating and revision. Establishment, extension and maintenance of facilities to other divisions for effective and quick exchange of valuable information through modern communication facilities like e-mail and internet are also looked after by this Division.

The Publication Division is entrusted with the responsibility of editing and publishing all outputs of SAIC. The Division has been regularly publishing a quarterly SAIC Newsletter covering latest activities of SAIC and useful technical information relating to agriculture and allied fields.

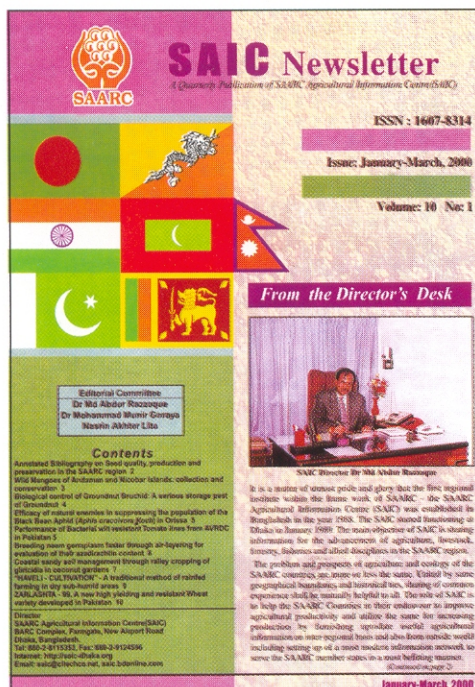
The major task of the Library Division is procurement and processing of available agricultural information materials. After collection, important published materials are stored in reprographic forms. The Division also envisage to establish exchange programme with other institutions/ libraries for meeting the needs of the agricultural information of the region.

Funding of SAIC

As host country, Bangladesh provides the capital costs and other infrastructural facilities, such as accommodation, furniture, equipment etc. The institutional and programme costs are shared by all the member countries according to an approved apportion formula. SAIC budgetary estimates and projects are recommended by the SAIC Governing Board for approval of the Standing Committee consisting of the Secretaries of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the member countries. The Standing Committee sanctions the budget and approves project proposals and the Council of Ministers authorizes SAIC for realization of funds from member countries, incurring expenditures and implementing the programmes of activities.

Programmes During the year 2000

During the year 2000 SAIC undertook and executed the following programmes:



SAIC Newsletter

SAIC has been publishing a quarterly newsletter entitled, SAIC Newsletter. SAIC Newsletter has been reorganized, made more informative and has been assigned with International Standard Serial Number (ISSN) during the period. SAIC Newsletter contains information on technologies generated in the region on various fields of agriculture, such as crops, fisheries, forestry, livestock etc., besides special news items from the member countries.

The following issues of the Newsletter were published and distributed among the readers in the region during the period: SAIC Newsletter, Vol. 9, No. 2, 3, 4, and SAIC Newsletter, Vol.10, No. 1.

Food grain Situation in SAARC countries

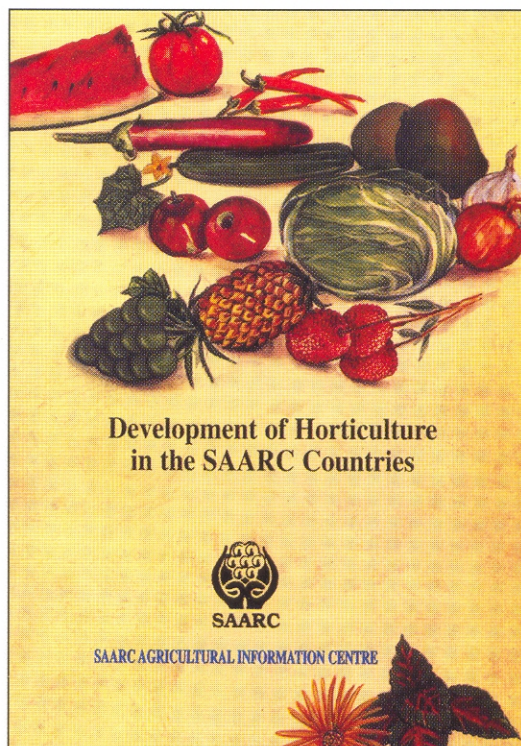
SAIC has initiated collection, collation and compilation of relevant data like production, anticipated demands, likely shortfalls, surplus etc. of major food grains of SAARC countries which are being distributed among the concerned organizations in the region as per decision by the SAARC Food Security Reserve Board.

During the period under report, SAIC compiled, processed and distributed the following bulletins to the concerned organizations of the SAARC region:

- Food grain Situation in SAARC Countries, Bulletin No. 1, 1999
- Food grain Situation in SAARC Countries, Bulletin No. 2, 1999
- Food grain Situation in SAARC Countries, Bulletin N. 1, 2000

Compilation of National Papers on Development of Horticulture

SAIC compiled and published the National Papers on Development of Horticulture in the SAARC Countries during the period under report. The publication contains seven country papers on development of horticulture in the SAARC countries which were presented and discussed at the seventeenth meeting of the SAARC Technical Committee on Agriculture, held in New Delhi, India from 15-17 February 1999. The papers reflected the achievements, adoption and development of technologies, opportunities for improvement, scope for collaboration and among the SAARC countries and other vital issues to upgrade and development of horticultural sector in the region.



Updating the Directory of Agricultural Periodicals of SAARC Countries

For collection of data on journals, serials, periodicals etc. in the field of agriculture a large number of relevant organizations in the region have been identified. Request letters along with data collection format have been sent to those organizations for providing the data. A good number of response are being received from these organizations.

Annotated Bibliography on Seed Quality, Production and Preservation

Research organizations, academic institutions, NGOs, seed companies etc. concerned with seed quality, production, handling, storage and preservation within the region have been identified for collection of data. Letters were sent to the relevant organizations to make the data available. Identification of other sources for collection of data are also in progress.

Updating the SAIC Mailing List

The Mailing List of SAIC has been updated for smooth distribution of Newsletter and other SAIC Publications. It was observed that some of the distributed SAIC publications were returned to SAIC along with 'Unclaimed' comment from the postal department. As such, regular correspondence is being made with the relevant organizations in all member countries requesting to inform SAIC regarding their change of addresses to keep SAIC mailing list up to date.

Distribution of SAIC Publications

SAIC is distributing its different publications to different agricultural institutions of the SAARC member countries as per the mandate of SAIC. During the year 2000, SAIC Published the book entitled 'Development of Horticulture in the SAARC countries' Annual Report for the year 1999 and four issues of the quarterly SAIC Newsletter. The publications were distributed among the SAARC member countries and also to the international organizations namely, FAO, ISNAR, WARDA, CAB, AVRDC, CIMMYT, IRRI, ICARDA etc. Country-wise distribution of SAIC publications is given below:

Countrywise Distribution of SAIC Publications:

Sl. No.	Country	Development of Horticulture in SAARC Countries	Annual Report	SAIC Newsletter
1.	Bangladesh	60	44	2111
2.	Bhutan	13	7	75
3.	India	200	127	1155
4.	Maldives	5	5	35
5.	Nepal	108	43	586
6.	Pakistan	91	70	568
7.	Sri Lanka	38	28	287
8.	Others	—	—	19
	Total	515	324	4836

Procurement of Databases in CD-ROM

SAIC has been procuring some world agricultural databases on CD-ROM as a part of building its collection in various forms having access to regional and international information systems and services. It has been utilizing these information in compiling, collating and disseminating subject specific information for the scientists, technologists, planners and policy makers working in the field of agriculture for the benefit of the region. Concerned organizations in the region were informed about the availability of these internationally reputed databases with a request for sending their queries through key words for literature search on specific field of interests for sharing of information for research and development. During the period SAIC has procured the following CD-ROM databases to update and strengthen the information resource bases of the Centre.



AGRICOLA (1998-2000/09)	Soil CD (1989-1999/10)	Vet CD (1989-1999/11)
CAB Abstracts(1998/08-2000/10)	Parasite CD(1989-1999/10)	Plant Gene CD(1989-1999/11)
FSTA (1990-2001/04)	Crop CD (1989-1999/10)	Beast CD (1989-1999/11)
Hort CD (1989-1999/09)	Tree CD (1973-1999/10)	

Exchange of Information through E-mail and SAIC Homepage

SAIC has established telecommunication linkages for exchange of information through E-mail and Internet. It has been providing and utilizing the information resources generated within and outside the region. For the purpose SAIC is effectively communicating through two dial-up connectivity taken from ISPs like Proshika (saic@bdonline.com) and Grameen Cybernet (saic@citechco.net). SAIC has developed and hosted its homepage on web site (<http://www.saic-dhaka.org>). Server space for SAIC web site has been increased from 20 MB to 150 MB keeping in view the future need of uploading more information.

Celebration of SAARC Charter Day

On 8th December 2000, the SAARC Charter Day was celebrated in full spirit to mark the day and for exposition of different activities of SAIC. On the occasion SAIC organized a book exhibition and a video show on (i) BRRI and its success,



Director, SAIC addressing on the occasion of SAARC Charter Day

which was graced by a large number of guests including scientists from agriculture and information sciences. Representative from the media and the press were also present.

During the opening of the seminar, message from His Excellency the Secretary General of SAARC was read out by Dr. Md. Abdur Razzaque, Director, SAIC. Dr. Md. Shahidul Islam, Member, SAIC Governing Board, Bangladesh highlighted the activities of SAIC in dissemination of agricultural information in SAARC member countries. Mr. Munshi Fayez Ahmed, Director General (SAARC) narrated the objectives, principles and cooperation between the SAARC member countries and stressed that SAARC can play a vital role to bring peace and prosperity of the region. Dr. Zahurul Karim, Executive Chairman, BARC remarked the activities of SAIC for providing crucial support to the agricultural scientists and technologists with necessary information for their research and developmental activities. Dr. Md. Abdur Razzaque, Director, SAIC informed the audience that the Centre has prepared an Action Plan for the next 10 years (2001-2010). At the end of the Seminar, the distinguished guests took keen interest in the SAIC Publications, and enjoyed and admired the video show.

Acquisition of Conventional and Non-conventional Publications

- (i) SAIC, as a regional institution has a responsibility to establish a strong regional information data base and to strengthen its resource base on agriculture and allied disciplines, through documentation of pertinent literature. Keeping all these in view SAIC has a regular program of procuring several important current publications in the form of. books, magazines, journals, annual reports, news papers and news letters etc., from open market and Agricultural

Institutions of the SAARC member countries. During the fiscal year 2000, SAIC has made a good collection stated as follows:

Country	Books	Journals	Annual Report	Research Highlights /Report	News Letter	News Paper (Daily)	Magazine	Total
Bangladesh	89	29	19	48	30	5	3	113
Bhutan	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	4
India	63	19	29	13	69	1	1	195
Maldives	0	0	0	0	23	0	0	23
Nepal	22	10	15	28	7	0	1	83
Pakistan	8	23	4	6	4	2	0	47
Sri Lanka	4	1	0	0	7	1	0	13
Others	52	3	5	5	4	0	2	71
Total	238	87	73	97	145	9	7	549

(ii) Subscription of New Journals:

To keep the scientists of the region updated about recent developments in research and technology in the SAARC member countries, during the financial year 2000 SAIC has subscribed some new journals. These are in addition to the already subscribed journals. The new collection is listed below:

- (a) Indian Journal of Agricultural Research
- (b) Indian Journal of Agronomy
- (c) Plant Hortitech (India)
- (d) Pakistan Journal of Biological Sciences
- (e) Tropical Agricultural Research (Sri Lanka)
- (f) Experimental Agriculture(UK)

(iii) Purchase of reference books:

SAIC has taken an initiative during the financial year 2000 for purchasing of some important reference books for rendering services to students, researchers and others interested groups. The following books have been purchased for the above said purposes:

- (i) Encyclopedia of South Asia, 1997-1998
- (ii) The Statesman year book 2000-2001, U.K
- (iii) The world of learning 2000, South Europa publication, U.K.
- (iv) Ulrichs International Periodicals Directory, 1999 - 2000.
- (iv) Collection of World Bank Publications:

In addition to these, SAIC has also collected 41 World Bank Publications to strengthen its information resource base in agriculture during the period.

Distribution of Current Awareness Bulletin:

SAIC has been compiling current awareness bulletin of literature on agriculture published in the news papers and periodicals of SAARC member countries.

- (i) During the period under report, two bulletins were compiled based on agriculture related articles from available daily news papers of SAARC member countries and distributed to the relevant agricultural institutions.
- (ii) In addition to newspaper indexing, Current Contents Bulletin from the subscribed and collected agriculture related publications was also prepared. During the period SAIC prepared one such Current Contents Bulletin and distributed among the important agricultural institutions of SAARC countries.

Strengthening of Video Library

SAIC has a video production program for strengthening its resource base on important issues and newly developed technologies related to Agriculture, by acquiring and developing new video productions with the help of different organizations in SAARC countries. The total collection of the Video Programs in SAIC video library is 80 and as a continuous effort, a comprehensive catalogue on the collected video has been prepared and distributed to different institutions & TV broadcasting stations of the SAARC countries for mutual sharing of the information. A good response have been received in respect to the technical information on video and so far 215 copies of the video films have been distributed among different organizations of the SAARC member countries to meet their request.

Dissemination of Newly Developed Agricultural Technologies Through SAVE

With a view to disseminate the newly developed agricultural technologies in SAARC countries, SAIC has made correspondence with SAARC Audio Visual Exchange (SAVE) forum offering them to make use of SAIC's collection of video programmes and broadcast them on their TV channels for dissemination of newly developed agricultural technologies to the farming community.

During the period SAIC has distributed 12 video to Bangladesh Television and Ekhushe ((ETV, a private television channel) in Bangladesh as per their request and both have already telecast the video of SAIC in their agricultural transmission.

Video productions on New Agricultural Technologies

In addition to collecting video programmes related to different agricultural technologies, SAIC is also actively engaged in preparing some video productions on recent developments in agriculture with collaboration of different institutions of the SAARC member countries.

During the reported period SAIC has worked on the following video programmes:

(i) BRRI and its success

SAIC has completed the above cited video programme in collaboration with Bangladesh Rice Research Institute, Gazipur, Bangladesh. This film covers the introduction of BRRI and research activities being carried out by different departments of Bangladesh Rice Research Institute in Gazipur, near Dhaka. The duration of the film is about 20 minutes and produced in Betacam format in English.

(ii) Milk Testing Method

SAIC is completing a video production program in collaboration with university of Agriculture, Faisalabad, Pakistan. Production of this film is in progress in U-matic Hi-band System and the language of the film is English.

(iii) Multi operational Machine

Production of this film in collaboration with, Agricultural University, Faisalabad, Pakistan is also in progress in U-matic Hi-band System and the language of the film is English. All the expenditure involved for both the video's has already been released to the relevant institute.

(iv) The Current Practice of Sericulture in Bangladesh

The preparation of this film is in progress in collaboration with Bangladesh Sericulture Research and Training Center, Baliapukur, Rajshahi. The film will be in English and in Betacam format.

(v) Cotton Development in Bangladesh (Betacam Format):

The production of this film in collaboration with Bangladesh Cotton Development Board is in progress. This film will be produced in Betacam format and in English language.

Microfilming and Microfiching of Information Materials.

SAIC has a program of microfilming and microfiching the conventional and non-conventional information materials received from the SAARC Member countries. SAIC is regularly collecting the information material from resourceful agricultural institutions on agriculture and allied areas and does microfilming and microfiching of that material for the benefit of the agricultural scientists, researchers, planners, administrators and policy makers.

In the year 2000, SAIC has collected four hundred conventional and non-conventional information materials from different agricultural institutions of the SAARC member countries which will be processed for preservation in microforms.

Updating the Display Board

SAIC has two display boards for its visitors for exhibiting the activities of SAIC and other eminent agricultural institutes of SAARC member countries. It was a regular practice to portray SAIC Publications and demonstrate various activities of SAIC by way of fixing photographs. SAIC Newsletters are also displayed to keep the people informed about the development of agricultural sectors in SAARC member countries.

Statement of Expenditure During 2000

<u>A. Institutional cost</u>	<u>Amount in US\$</u>
01. Allowances to the Director and Professionals	38,974.25
02. Salaries and allowances to the GSS	48,476.34
03. Printing, stationery and reproduction	1,493.02
04. Utilities, services and maintenance	1,978.42
05. Vehicles, POL, insurance, repairs etc.	1,650.08
06. Contingencies and miscellaneous (including loss/gain on exchange rates)	1,228.81
Total Institutional Cost (A)	93,800.92
	- - - - -
<u>B. Programme Cost</u>	
01. Acquisition of conventional and non conventional publication in agriculture	4,432.49
02. CD-ROM and computer software	7,926.00
03. Microfilming, microfiche and reproduction of conventional publications information materials	431.12
04. Periodic Services (Current Awareness and SDI)	147.66
05. Audio-visual media production	2,298.05
06. SAIC Annual Report	934.17
07. SAIC Newsletter	3,935.39
08. Distribution of SAIC Publication and information collection	4,217.09
09. Computer mediated communication of information	912.55
10. Quarterly Food Production Bulletin	146.98
11. Agricultural Research and Extension Systems in SAARC Countries	524.00
12. Compilation of National Papers on Development of Horticulture in SAARC Countries	884.23
Total Programme Costs (B)	26,789.73
	- - - - -
GRAND TOTAL (A+B)	1,20,590.65
	=====

Audit Certificate for the Year 1999

The Receipts and Payment Account of SAARC Agricultural Information Centre (SAIC), Dhaka for the year ended 31st December, 1999 was audited by the Joint Audit Team (JAT). Examination and review of the financial statements were carried out in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and accordingly included such sample tests and other auditing procedures we considered as necessary to examine the evidence supporting the accounts and the disclosures in the statements. To the best of our knowledge, we have obtained all the information and explanations which were necessary.

We are of the opinion that the books and records have been properly maintained by the SAARC Agricultural Information Centre. To the best of our knowledge, the financial statement exhibits a true and fair view of the state of affair of the SAIC as at 31st December, 1999 subject to the comments appearing in forgoing sections of the report.

Sd/-

(Iswar Raj Shrestha)

Director

Office of the Auditor's General
Kathmandu, Nepal

Sd/-

(M. K. Wimalasena)

Assistant Auditor General

Auditor General's Department
Colombo, Sri Lanka

Joint Audit Team

Dhaka, Bangladesh
05 September, 2000

Price List of SAIC Publications

Title of SAIC Publications	Price in US\$ for SAARC Countries	Price in US\$ for Other Countries	Retail Price in BD Taka
1. Agricultural Scientists and Technologists of SAARC Countries	10.00	14.00	Tk. 440.00
2. Agricultural Institutions in SAARC Countries: 2nd Revised Edition	10.00	15.00	Tk. 440.00
3. Annotated Bibliography on Agroforestry in the SAARC Region	10.00	14.00	Tk. 440.00
4. Annotated Bibliography on Potato in the SAARC Countries	Out of print		
5. Bibliography on Fish Diseases in the SAARC Countries	Out of print		
6. Database on Renewable Energy Resources in SAARC Countries	3.00	5.00	Tk. 132.00
7. Directory of Agricultural Periodicals of SAARC Countries	5.00	10.00	Tk. 220.00
8. Dynamics of Agricultural Biotechnology SAARC Bibliographical Database	10.00	15.00	Tk. 440.00
9. Database on Livestock Production Breeding and Management in SAARC Countries	10.00	15.00	Tk. 440.00
10. Improved Equipment for the Farm People of the SAARC Region	5.00	10.00	Tk. 220.00
11. Postharvest Management in Agriculture SAARC Bibliographical Database	5.00	8.00	Tk. 220.00
12. Women in Agriculture, Gender issues in South Asian Farming	7.50	10.00	Tk. 352.00
13. Agricultural Training in SAARC Countries	2.00	5.00	Tk. 40.00
14. Agricultural Information Needs, Mode, Mechanism and Information Flow in SAARC Countries	2.00	5.00	Tk. 50.00
15. Bibliography on Technologies for Drought-prone and Salt-affected AEZ in SAARC Countries	3.00	5.00	Tk. 100.00
16. Success Stories on Transfer of Farm Technology in SAARC Countries	2.00	3.00	Tk. 50.00

17. Hybrid and High Yielding Crop Varieties in SAARC Countries	2.00	3.00	Tk. 50.00
18. Innovative Agricultural Technologies in SAARC Countries	3.00	5.00	Tk. 75.00
19. Regional Workshop of Experts in SAARC Countries on Transfer of Technology in Agriculture	3.00	5.00	Tk. 75.00
20. Agricultural Information Systems and Services in SAARC Countries	3.00	5.00	Tk. 75.00
21. Union Catalogue of Ph.D. Thesis of SAARC Countries	3.00	5.00	Tk. 75.00
22. Development of Horticulture in SAARC Countries	3.00	5.00	Tk.75.00

Note: (i) The Booksellers in SAARC countries will receive 25% commission on all SAIC Publications. (ii) Prices in the above list inclusive of postal charges, applicable only in SAARC member countries.

Members of the SAIC Governing Board During 2000

1. Mr. Mirza Shamsuzzaman
Director General (SA & SAARC)
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Segun Bagicha, Dhaka - 1000, Bangladesh
2. Dr. M. Shahidul Islam
Member-Director (Soils), Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council
Farmgate, New Airport Road, Dhaka - 1215, Bangladesh
3. Mr. Karma Tashi
Chief Extension Officer
Research, Extension & Training Division (RETD), Ministry of Agriculture,
Tashocho Dzong Complex, Thimpu, Bhutan
4. Dr. Mruthyunjaya
Assistant Director General (ESM)
Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Krishi Bhawan, Pusha
New Delhi - 110001, India
5. Mr. Md. Naseem
Agronomist, Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture
Government of Maldives
Male, Maldives
6. Mr. Badri Prasad Bimoli
Chief, Agriculture Information and Communication Centre
Department of Agriculture, Harihar Bhawan
Phulchawk, Lalitpur, Nepal
7. Ch. Abdul Hafeez
Director (NILTA), Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC)
Plot No. 20, G-5/1, P.O. Box - 1031
Islamabad, Pakistan
8. Mr. D. B. Weeratunga
Additional Director, Seeds and Planting Material Development Centre
Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box No. 18
Peradeniya, Sri Lanka
9. Mr. Mahmood Hasan
Director, SAARC Secretariat
P.O. Box. No.- 4222
Kathmandu, Nepal
10. Dr. Md. Abdur Razzaque
Director, SAARC Agricultural Information Centre (SAIC),
BARC Complex, Farmgate, Dhaka - 1215, Bangladesh

SAIC Personnel (as on December 2000)

01. Dr. Md. Abdur Razzaque, Director
02. Dr. Mohammad Munir Goraya, Deputy Director, Policy Planning
03. Mr. Prachanda Den Ranjit, Reprography Specialist (left in September, 2000)
04. Mrs. Mansura Begum, Information Specialist
05. Mr. Mohammad Abdullah, Editor
06. Mr. Md. Akhtar Hossain Chowdhury, Senior Finance Officer
07. Mr. Kamal Mustafa Hossain, Support Services Officer
08. Mr. Shahalam Mowla Chowdhury, Cameraman
09. Mr. Sayadum Faruque, Private Secretary to Director
10. Mrs. Mafruha Begum, Artist
11. Mrs. Nasrin Akhter, Assistant Editor
12. Mr. Md. Abdul Kadir, Data Entry Operator
13. Mr. Mizanur Rahman, Data Entry Operator
14. Mr. ATM Mostafizur Rahman Mojumder, Accountant
15. Mrs. Raihana Kabir, Production Assistant
16. Mrs. Najmoon Nahar, Cataloguer
17. Mr. Ananda Chandra Kha, Typist
18. Mr. Md. Nurul Wara, Reprographic Assistant
19. Mr. Md. Mizanur Rahman, Steno-Typist
20. Ms. Tahmina Mehzabin, Documentation Assistant (left in April, 2000)
21. Mr. Kamrul Haque, Documentation Assistant
22. Mr. Md. Rafiqul Islam, Driver
23. Mr. Md. Nurul Amin, Driver
24. Mr. Md. Helal Uddin, Messenger
25. Mr. Md. Harunor Rashid, Messenger
26. Mr. Md. Akhter Hossain, Watchman
27. Mr. Md. Altaf Hossain, Sweeper
28. Mr. Md. Abu Taher, Scavenger

Acronyms

AGRICOLA	:	Agriculture Online Access
AVRDC	:	Asian Vegetable Research Development Centre
BARC	:	Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council
CAB	:	Commonwealth Agricultural Bureau
CD-ROM	:	Compact Disc Read Only Memory
ETV	:	Ekhushhe Television
FAO	:	Food & Agricultural Organization
FSTA	:	Food Science and Technology Abstracts
GB	:	Governing Board
GSS	:	General Service Staff
ICARDA	:	International Centre for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas
IRRI	:	International Rice Research Institute
ISNAR	:	International Service for National Agricultural Research
ISSN	:	International Standard Serial Number
ISP	:	Internet Service Provider
NILTA	:	National & International Liason & Training Academy
SAARC	:	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
SAIC	:	SAARC Agricultural Information Centre
SAVE	:	SAARC Audio Visual Exchange
SDI	:	Selective Dissemination of Information
TCA	:	Technical Committee on Agriculture
UK	:	United Kingdom
WARDA	:	West African Research & Development Association