

Zinc-enriched rice consumption can mitigate malnutrition problem

Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, Nov 26: Agricultural researchers and extension officials here unanimously opined that consumption of zinc-enriched rice can be a vital means of freeing the public health from various malnutrition problems.

They identically mentioned that stunting, improper mental development, indigestion, apathy to intake meal, infertility, skin diseases, disease infestation and memory-loss are the major symptoms of zinc deficiency in human body.

For this reason, there should have zinc-enriched food in regular meal menu of all irrespective of age and sex.

They made this observation while addressing a daylong awareness workshop titled "Adaptation and Commercialization of Bio-fortified Zinc Rice" at Nanking Darbar Hall in Rajshahi city on Monday.

Additional Director of the Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) Deb Dulal Dhali addressed the workshop as the chief guest while Country Director of Harvest Plus Khairul Bashar in the chair.

Chief Scientific Officer of Bangladesh Rice Research Institute (BRRI) Dr Aminul Islam, Deputy Director (Seed) of Bangladesh Agriculture Development Corporation Abdur Rouf and DAE Deputy Directors Shamsul Haque and Monzurul Huda spoke as special guests disseminating their expertise on the issue. More than 60 officials representing DAE, BRRI and other allied departments, NGO workers, millers and rice traders attended the workshop jointly organized by Harvest plus Bangladesh and Gain. —BSS