

Rice production saw record increase to 4.4cr MT in FY 21-22: Razzaque

Rice production in the country increased to 4.4 crore metric tonnes in the fiscal year 2021-22, which broke the previous records, said Agriculture Minister Dr Muhammad Abdur Razzaque.

Besides, in the past 14 years, rice production has increased by 29%, wheat by 37%, maize by 671%, potato 110%, pulse 328%, vegetables 645% and onion 395%, he said while addressing the eighth convocation of

Bangladesh Agriculture university (BAU) in Mymensingh.

The minister presided over the convocation ceremony on behalf of President Abdul Hamid, also Chancellor of the university.

Due to the surprising success achieved in the agriculture sector there has been no crisis in food, he said.

He also urged the university authorities to prepare the agriculture graduates for

developing climate-resilient and sustainable agricultural systems.

The agriculture minister also urged to invent climate-tolerant, high-yielding varieties of crops and modern farming methods and spread those among farmers quickly in a bid to boost agricultural production and ensure food security in the future by tackling various challenges including shrinking of land, population growth and climate

change.

He also asked the graduates to be skilled to introduce use of robotics, artificial intelligence, genetic engineering, and drones in agriculture sector.

He also stressed the need for modifying the curriculum of the Agriculture Universities and modernizing it.

More than 6,000 students received degrees and 224 gold medals at the convocation.

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Date : 13-02-2023 (Page: B1, B3)

Dr Razzaque urges agri graduates to develop expertise on modern farming

Call upon the graduates of the agricultural universities to develop their expertise on modern farming, Agriculture Minister Dr M Abdur Razzaque today said the country needs to innovate climate tolerant and high yielding crop varieties aiming to make the production and food security sustainable.

“The country needs to discover climate tolerant modern farming technology and it needs to disseminate among the farmers considering various challenges including depletion of arable land, rising of population and climate change”, he said while addressing at the BAU convocation in Mymensingh on Sunday, reports BSS.

Dr Razzaque, chaired the convocation as chief guest on behalf of President M Abdul Hamid who is also a chancellor of the Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU).

At the same time, the agriculture minister said “the country needs to develop expertise on robotics engineering, artificial intelligence, genetic engineering, internet of things and use of drone in agriculture along with skills of precision and vertical agriculture”.

He said country’s agricultural universities have to play vital role to prepare the graduates as the country could make a sustainable and climate tolerant farming system, adding “so, the curriculum of **See page Biz-2**

Dr Razzaque calls

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the agricultural universities need to be upgraded and modern.”

Education Minister Dr Dipu also spoke at the convocation while BAU’s vice-chancellor Professor Lutful Hasan gave the welcome address.

The country has achieved tremendous success in rice, wheat, fruits, vegetables, fish, meat, milk and eggs production, said Dr Razzaque, adding that so, the country is now securing from one to ten top positions among the highest food producing countries across the world.

In 2021-22 fiscal, he said country saw record rice production up to 4.04 crore tonnes, he said. “Country’s rice production has increased by 29 percent, wheat by 37percent, maize 671percent, pulse 328percent, vegetable 645percent and onion by 395percent during last 14 years”, he added.