



Fig. 10: A view of National Seminar held on 3-4 June 2002 at LGED Conference Room, LGED Bhovan, Dhaka

Apart from this around 300 top and mid-level executives from different GOs and NGOs, development partner organizations, donor agencies, Universities, academics and research organization academy participated in the inaugural session of the second seminar on 3-4 the June 2002 of them 200 participated in the working sessions.

7.02.10 Study Forum-

The “Study Forum” comprises the professionals with interest and background on rural development and poverty alleviation. The “Forum” holds meeting once in two months. All the participating organizations have the opportunity to present their activities for discussion and feedback.

Ten study forum meetings had so far been held with an average attendance of 40 participants from development partners like UNDP, EC, NORAD, SIDA, ADB, JBIC, and different NGOs and Govt. organizations, academies, institutions and university. The participants from PRDP, UNDP CARE, Action Aid, and Sapla Neer have presented papers in the forum. The topics presented in the seminar were as follows:

- Environment Friendly Technology Suitable to Rural Development
- The role and potentialities of Village Committee in Rural Development
- The PRDP in enhancing the role of BRDB in rural development
- The role of village Committee and Union Coordination Meeting
- Capacity Building of Union Parishad
- Siraj Gonj Local Governance Development Project
- Local Government system in Japan
- “Reflect”: A presentation from Action Aid.
- Experiences of Agricultural Extension services in rural Japan and its relation to PRDP
- General Aspects of agricultural development and some issues of contemporary agriculture in Japan
- Activities of Sapla Neer
- Human Security
- Agricultural Extension and rural livelihood services in Japan
- Experiences of study visit to local government (Gram Panchayet and Panchayet samity) in West Bengal.
- The link between local government and Villagers

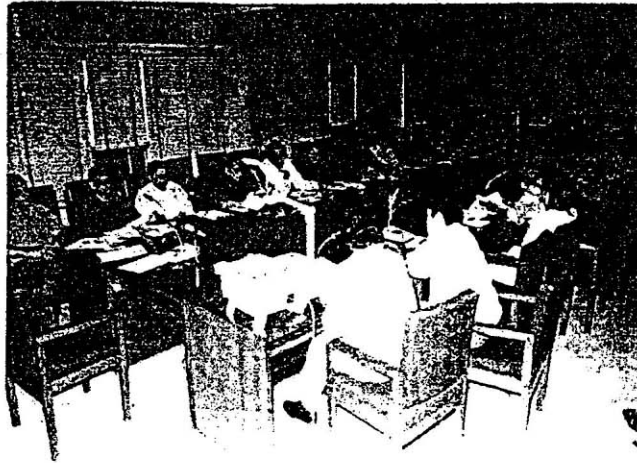


Fig. 11: A view of the Representation from GOs, NGOs and donors agencies who attended the Study Forum

The meetings provided opportunities to deepen our understanding on rural development and its problems. It also helped in sharing knowledge and information which benefited the project by providing policy support and guidance.

8.00 Review of the Comparable Projects/Programme.

8.01 Joint Study on Agriculture and Rural Development (JSARD)

The Joint Study on Agricultural and Rural Development (JSARD) was conducted under the supervision of Ministry of Agriculture and financial and technical assistance of the JICA. Bangladesh Agricultural University, BARD and RDA Bogra were the executing agencies on behalf of the GOB. The Kyoto University represented the technical team for JICA. It was implemented during the period of four years from 1986-90. This was basically a village based study to identify "Key questions" that the villagers were facing. Eight study villages were selected covering 5 different agro-ecological zones. Under this project necessary information on agriculture and rural development was collected and related problems were identified.

A number of key questions and clues have been identified in the course of four-years time. These are as follows :

8.01.1 Key Questions :

- a) How to increase agricultural production to make the rural economy self sustaining not only from technological aspects but also from socio-economic aspects?
- b) How to improve the living condition of the landless households who represent the majority of the population ?
- c) How to improve the functional gap between Upazila center and the village ?

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