



Bangladesh Society of Plant Science and Technology (BSPST)

Constitution

June 2026

The Constitution of BSPST was originally adopted and approved by the First Annual General Meeting (AGM) of BSPST held on 22 December 2021. The First Amendment to the Constitution was subsequently approved by the Sixth General Meeting (GM) held on 25 June 2026.

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Constitution

1. Name

The name of the society shall be “**Bangladesh Society of Plant Science and Technology**”

2. Preamble

Faculty members and graduates from Crop Botany/Agricultural Botany/Crop Physiology & Ecology /Allied departments of Agricultural and Agriculture based Science and Technology public universities had long felt necessity for the formation of a professional platform for the well-being of their graduates in employing in universities/research institutes/seed companies/private organizations, government/NGO sectors. Morphology, anatomy, embryology, taxonomy, physiology, ecology economic botany & plant tissue culture & biotechnology are the major subjects studied in the Crop Botany/Agricultural Botany/Crop Physiology & Ecology /Allied departments of the universities and these subjects form the basis of understanding of other disciplines related to production, protection, processing & improvement in Agriculture.

For example, Systematic Botany/Chemotaxonomy/Taxonomy helps identification of plants and thus aid in digital data-base development and conservation strategy of plant genetic resources in arboreta, parks, botanical gardens and conservatories. The tissue's deposition and composition being studied in plant anatomy is one of the important determinant of pest resistance in entomology and plant pathology disciplines. Agronomy and horticulture disciplines need to understand the improvement of photosynthesis, control of respiration and transpiration, and mechanism of water retention/removal in food tissues to better understand longer preservation and insect pest control during storage in cereals, nuts, tubers, rhizomes, storage roots, fleshy fruits and leafy vegetables. Such investigation of intrinsic physiological processes and postharvest events helps control for increased shelf life, hence aids in export marketing. Studying postharvest physiology, therefore, helps alleviating loss and improves storability and shelf-life of fleshy fruits and vegetables. The knowledge of eco-physiology/toxicology/ecology imparts greater inputs to understand climate change and protection of our green earth. The ‘green shelter belt’ surrounding ‘Sundarbans’ mangrove forest during last couple of cyclones attack already proved that

Bangladesh could be a living laboratory for studying climate change effect to preserve our motherly environment and make a safe habitat. The reduction of 'carbon foot print' and minimization of emission of greenhouse gases have been the key subjects in the ecology. The production of germ free plant-lets and rapid multiplication of non-seeded valuable plant genetic resources plays a vital role in plant tissue culture. Commercial production of banana, potato and strawberry saplings are vibrant examples of plant tissue culture. The genetic transformation and production of modified organs or organisms ushered a new era in the development of new variety with increased yield to feed the future and thus, help achieving food security.

The increasing prevalence/encroachment of major abiotic stresses (water, temperature, salinity etc.) in Bangladesh and significant crop loss and depletion of plant genetic resources from the forest and other natural habitat threaten food crop production and plant biodiversity. This again signifies the importance of stress physiology and eco-physiology to reduce crop yield and stress tolerant varieties. The knowledge of seed physiology; viz., seed filling & development, seed structure, assimilate deposition to seed tissues, maturation process, moisture removal technique, nutrient contents, quality assessment, drying and preservation principles; reduces post-harvest losses and greatly ensures our grain and seed during storage.

Teaching and researching important subjects like plant physiology, plant ecology, nutritional physiology, seed physiology, biodiversity & conservation, plant tissue culture & biotechnology, medicinal properties of herbs and their processing ensures food and nutrition security of the country. All these applied fields are being taught and investigated in these disciplines in the universities/research institutes. The graduates from such disciplines can always better explain principles involved slowing ripening process of fleshy fruits, hence promotes preservation, intrinsic mechanisms for development of drought and salinity tolerant crops, improvement mechanisms for breeding new varieties, conservation principles of indigenous and exotic plants, and visualize basis of molecular physiology. With this view in mind academicians, researchers, extension worker, NGO personnel graduated from such disciplines emphasize to form a professional society in the key discipline of 'Plant Science & Technology'

3. Head Office

The office of the general secretary of the Executive Committee will be the head office until getting permanent office.

4. Objectives of the Society

- i. To form a professional society in the subject of broad field of '**Plant Science & Technology**';
- ii. To cater wellbeing, protection and safeguard of the society's members towards employment, promotion and overall improvement of the plant scientists;
- iii. To organize seminar/conferences/workshop/panel discussion periodically to address the challenges/improvements of plant science & technology in the tropical and subtropical regions;
- iv. To propose up to date and unified course-curricula in educational institutes for such discipline;
- v. To publish a scientific journal/magazine of society to foster academia research activities;
- vi. To promote science through providing scholarships, certification & reward to the scholars;

5. Membership

- i) The membership of the Society shall be open to all postgraduates of Crop Botany/Agricultural Botany/Crop Physiology & Ecology/allied subject having basic degree in agriculture
- ii) However, in special cases graduate from other relevant subject (s) working as academician/researcher in Crop Botany /Agricultural Botany/Crop Physiology & Ecology/Plant Physiology department / division of agricultural university/agricultural research institute is eligible to be a member of the society.

There shall be five categories of membership as follows:

I. General Members/Regular Member

Person having a minimum Master of Science (MS) degree in Crop Botany/Agricultural Botany/ Crop Physiology & Ecology with basic agricultural degree or equivalent to those shall be eligible for enrolment as the General Members. They shall have voting right to any election organized by the Society.

II. Life Member

Persons having the qualifications for a general member shall be eligible for enrolment as the life members. They shall have voting right to any election organized by the Society.

III. Associate Members

Persons having a minimum basic degree in Agriculture Science or equivalent to this shall be eligible for enrolment as the associate member. They shall have no voting rights in any election.

IV. Students Member

Postgraduate students of Crop Botany/Agricultural Botany/Crop Physiology & Ecology are eligible to be a member of society. They shall have no voting rights in any election.

V. Fellow Member

Persons having national and international contributions in the plant science and technology may be offered as fellow members on the recommendation of the Executive Committee. They shall have no voting rights in any election.

6. Benefits of the members

The Life and General/Regular Members shall enjoy all the privileges of society including voting rights, taking participation in general election, proposing for new members, receiving a printed copy/electronic version of each issue published by the Society's journal and getting access to all kind of publications on the society website. Fellow, associate and student members shall enjoy all the privileges except having voting right and taking part in general elections.

7. New member enrolments

Interested candidate having above mentioned qualifications should apply through the prescribed form of the society to the general secretary of the Executive Committee. The membership of the individual will be confirmed upon recommendation by the Executive Committee meeting.

8. Fees for membership

The membership fees for each category and annual subscription fee will be fixed by the approval of executive committee of the society. The fees will be regularly updated in the general meeting of the society.

9. Membership abolition

- a) The members of the society will be eliminated by the following reasons:
 - i. By the death of the respective member;
 - ii. By the removal of the membership;
 - iii. By doing activities against the rules/ and interest of the society but in such case the member must get the hearing opportunity to the president of the Society. In such case, the respective person may get return his membership by the recommendation of the two third members in the Executive Committee;
 - iv. Removal of membership by force by the decision of executive committee followed by the approval of general meeting.
- b) A member may withdraw from the society through a letter addressed to the President of the society.
- c) Membership of the society of any individual will remain as such until getting approval of the letter of withdraw by the Executive Committee.
- d) In case of withdrawal or removal of membership, the Society is not liable to return any fee paid in advance by the respective individual.

10. Executive committee

The Society of Plant Science and Technology shall have an Executive Committee who will be liable to do all business of the society. The Executive Committee shall be elected for two years.

The Executive Committee of the Society shall consist of the following members (21 in total):

- (a) President – 1 (one)
- (b) Vice-President – 2 (two)
- (c) General Secretary – 1 (one)
- (d) Joint Secretary – 2 (two)
- (e) Treasurer – 1 (one)
- (f) Publication Secretary – 1 (one)
- (g) Joint Publication Secretary- 1(one)
- (h) Seminar/Cultural Secretary – 1 (one)
- (i) Member – 11 (including president and secretary of the immediate past executive committee)

11. Election of the Executive Committee

The existing Executive Committee must form an election commission constituted by at least three members led by a Chief Election Commissioner. The election commissioner must be formed at least one month before the expiry of the existing committee. The election commission shall be

liable to execute by voting system with secret ballot papers/via online system. The Chief Election Commissioner will announce the elected Executive Committee after completion of the election. The members of Election Commission will not be able to take part in election.

12. Duties and responsibilities of the Executive Committee

- I. The Executive Committee shall be liable to regulate and execute all the activities of the society as per the rules and regulations of the society.
- II. The Executive Committee will take initiatives for the development of the society business and make future plan for the wellbeing of the society.
- III. The Executive Committee will propose the modification and amendments to the rules and regulations of the Society when required.
- IV. The Executive Committee will form a three-member election commission at least one month ahead of the termination of the prior committee.
- V. The Executive Committee shall recommend associate and fellow members for getting membership of the society.

13. Specific duties and responsibilities of the Society

I. President

- The President shall be the head of the Society.
- The President shall preside over the executive committee and annual general meetings of the society.

II. Vice Presidents

In the absence of president, the senior vice president will take all responsibilities and privileges of the president. In the absence of president or vice president I, the vice president II will take the same responsibilities and the privileges.

III. General Secretary

- i. The general secretary shall be responsible for planning, arranging and organizing meetings of the general body and the executive committee under the direction of the president of the society.
- ii. The general secretary shall be responsible for recording the proceedings, implementing the recommendations and making resolutions of the executive committee and the general body of the society.
- iii. The general secretary shall take care and preserve all the essential documents of society.
- iv. The general secretary shall be responsible to arrange national and international seminars or conferences in consultations with the president.
- v. The general secretary shall administer and take care the funds of the society in the case of long absence or unavailability of the treasurer.

IV. Joint Secretary

In the absence of general secretary, the Joint Secretary-I will take all the duties and responsibilities of the general secretary. In the absence of general secretary or Joint Secretary-I, the Joint Secretary- II will take the same responsibilities.

V. Treasurer

- i. The treasurer shall open a bank account jointly with the general secretary in the name of the society and shall be responsible for receiving, depositing and disbursing funds on behalf of the society under the directions of the executive committee.
- ii. The treasurer shall be responsible to present accounts and the funding reports at the annual general meeting of the society.
- iii. The treasurer will support the general secretary in regulating and maintaining the financial matters of the society.

VI. Publication Secretary

The publication secretary shall oversee the publication of journal/magazine. An editorial board constituted by the executive committee will work to publish the journal under the leadership of Chief Editor. The publication secretary will act as executive editor, associate editor, and the members of editorial board (at least nine in number) will execute editorial activities such as preparing reports, continuous reviewing and, regulating publications of

journal, books, proceedings and others. The editorial board shall be responsible for maintaining quality of research publication.

VII. Seminar/ Cultural Secretary

Seminar/Cultural Secretary of the executive committee will manage cultural, tourism and recreational activities throughout the tenure.

VIII. Member

The members of the society shall be assigned for giving valuable suggestion and doing varieties of responsibilities as decided by the executive committee.

14. Advisory Council (AC)

The Advisory Council shall consist of an odd number of members, with a minimum of five (5) and a maximum of seven (7). Advisors shall be senior Life Members of BSPST with distinguished contributions to the Society and the discipline. The members of the Advisory Council shall be appointed by the newly elected Executive Committee (EC) through a resolution adopted at a duly constituted EC meeting.

The immediate past president shall serve as a member of the Advisory Council, provided that he or she is not concurrently serving on the Executive Committee (EC) in an ex officio capacity.

15. Functions and Responsibilities of the Advisory Council

- i. The Advisory Council shall elect one of its members as Chairperson by consensus for a term of two (2) years and shall formally notify the President of the Executive Committee (EC) of such election.
- ii. The Advisory Council shall serve as the principal consultative body of BSPST and shall provide guidance and recommendations on matters of strategic importance to the Society. The President or the Executive Committee may seek the advice of the Advisory Council on any matter requiring senior counsel, including issues resulting in a deadlock within the Executive Committee.
- iii. Members of the Advisory Council may be invited to attend meetings of the Executive Committee, as a whole or in part, whenever their advice, expertise, or counsel is considered necessary.
- iv. The Advisory Council may request the President to convene a meeting to deliberate on matters of significance to BSPST. Upon receipt of such a request, the BSPST

Secretariat shall provide the necessary administrative, secretarial, and logistical support for the conduct of the meeting.

16. Meetings

I. Executive Committee Meeting

The general secretary will issue the notice of the meetings in consultation with the president of the society, and the president shall preside over the meeting. Vice-President I will take the responsibility in absence of president. In absence of both the President and Vice-President-I, the Vice-President- II will take those responsibilities. The notice should be issued one month before execution. In consultation with the president, the General Secretary also call an emergency council meeting when required. The General Secretary should arrange at least three Executive Committee meetings per year. At least one third members must be present to form the quorum of the Executive Committee Meeting. The financial year may be considered as the year for society.

II. General Meeting

The general meetings of the society shall be organized once per year (AGM) by the General Secretary of Executive Committee in consultation with the president. The general meeting shall be dated by the Executive Committee. The President shall preside over the meeting and Vice-President- I will take the responsibility in absence of President. In absence of both the President and Vice- President- I, the Vice-President- II will take those responsibilities. The notice should be issued before well ahead of time.

III. Extra ordinary meeting

The extra ordinary meetings can be arranged by the requisition of the members upon permission of executive committee. The meeting shall be presided over by the president of the society or vice president in absent of president.

17. Society Journal

The editorial board made by the executive committee shall be responsible for regular publication of research articles, proceeding, books etc.

18. Seminar/Conference/Symposium

The Seminar/cultural secretary shall be responsible to arrange at least one national or international seminar/conference/workshop per year.

19. Accounts of the Society

The accounts of the society will be operated jointly by the general secretary and treasurer.

- I. The treasurer in consultation with the general secretary of Executive Committee will be responsible for regular deposition and disbursement of the society funds.
- II. The treasurer shall present annual financial report in the general meeting.
- III. The accounts of the society will be audited for two-year term.
- IV. The property of the society will be utilized for promotional activities such as awarding to the contributors, researchers etc.
- V. General secretary/treasurer will seek written prior permission from president for money withdrawal.

20. Withdrawal and fill up the vacant position of the Executive Committee

A letter with valid reasons shall be addressed to the president of the society for getting withdrawal of the position from executive committee. The president upon discussion in executive committee meeting can approve this. The president shall have the right to fill the vacant position from any member of the executive committee.

21. Amendments

- I. The existing rules of the society may be amended by getting proposals from any member having supports of one third votes of the members present in a general meeting. The member shall propose the amendments to the executive committee via general secretary of the society.
- II. The general secretary upon getting the proposal of amendments by any respective member of the society, will place this issue to the general meeting.

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