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Experts stress need for effective groundwater management

Water experts at a workshop on Monday stressed the need for effective management of groundwater, particularly in irrigation, so that the country's growing farm outputs are not affected in the future, reports UNB.

They said irrigation is a major input in agriculture and about 80 percent of the country's irrigation water comes from underground sources since farmers are indiscriminately extracting groundwater, putting it at risk.

Australia's national research agency CSIRO and Dhaka-based think tank Institute of Water Modelling (IWM) jointly arranged the workshop at a city hotel to launch a research project.

CSIRO principal research scientist Dr Mohammed Mainuddin said over 93 percent of agricultural land in the country's northwestern region is being cultivated with groundwater.

About the need for irrigation wa-

ter to grow food grains, he said: "Can we stop irrigation? We need food...so we cannot stop irrigation instantly."

IWM executive director Prof Dr M Monowar Hossain said a huge volume of groundwater is being extracted each year in the country for mainly irrigation and supply to urban areas for industrial use.

He said the volume of surface water is gradually declining in the country at an alarming rate, increasing people's dependence on groundwater sources.

About the water-food nexus, Prof Monowar said: "Food security is related to water security because you cannot grow food without water."

Chairman of Barind Multipurpose Development Authority (BMDA) Md Akram Hossain Choudhury said groundwater management is yet to be an agenda for farmers or policymakers, but the water recourse must be conserved for the future generation.

Director general of Water Resources Planning Organisation (WARPO) Md Sarafat Hossain Khan said about 24 billion cubic metres of water are being withdrawn for irrigation from underground every dry season, which is really a matter of concern.

At the workshop, a new partnership was launched between Australia and Bangladesh to study water resource management in the northwest region of Bangladesh, the most productive cropping region in the country.

CSIRO will lead the project that brings together researchers and policymakers from the two countries to understand the sustainable level of water use, particularly groundwater, for irrigation in the region.

IWM, WARPO, BMDA, Bangladesh Agricultural University, and Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute will work as partners in the study project.

Experts stress on effective groundwater management

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The project forms part of Australian government's Sustainable Development Investment Portfolio, funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

The northwest region of Bangladesh has the largest areas of cropping in the country and is crucial to Bangladesh's food security, said Dr Mohammed Mainuddin, the project's leader from CSIRO.

"The northwest region is also the region of greatest concern over falling groundwater levels, particularly in the Barind area, affecting access to water for drinking and irrigation in some areas. This project will seek to understand the sustainable level of water use, particularly groundwater use, for irrigation in the region," he said. The project will apply CSIRO's knowledge and experience in integrated water resource management to contribute to improved groundwater management and agricultural production for the northwest region.

Researchers will estimate water demand for current and future cropping scenarios, and estimate the sustainable limit of water use in the region by water balance and groundwater modelling.

Dhaka, Tue, 23 May 2017

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Dhaka, Tuesday, May 23, 2017

Effective ground water management stressed

UNB, Dhaka

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Effective ground

Cont from page 12

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ইসলামী ব্যাংকে আইডিবিবির
শেয়ার বিক্রির প্রতিশ্রুতি শুরু ১১

মূল কাগজের সঙ্গে চার পৃষ্ঠার
ফিচার অয়োজন- হাসফতিং
সুহৃদ সমাবেশ ও টেক লাইন

মঙ্গলবার ২৩ মে ২০১৭

৯ জ্যেষ্ঠ ১৪৩৮ ২৬ শাবান ১৪৩৭, রেকর্ড নং ডিএ ৪০৬৪, বর্ষ ১০ সংখ্যা ৬১

২৪ পৃষ্ঠা ১০ টাকা

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রাজধানীর একটি স্থানীয় হোটেলে গতকাল ভূগর্ভস্থ পানির ব্যবহার ও খাদ্য নিরাপত্তা শীর্ষক কর্মশালা অনুষ্ঠিত হয়। কর্মশালার মূল বিষয় ছিল পরিবেশের ওপর বিরূপ প্রভাব না ফেলে দেশের উত্তর পশ্চিমাঞ্চলে ভূগর্ভস্থ পানি কী পরিমাণ ব্যবহার করে খাদ্য নিরাপত্তা নিশ্চিত করা যায়। অস্ট্রেলিয়ার জাতীয় গবেষণা সংস্থা সিএসআইআরও-এর মাধ্যমে চার বছরব্যাপী এ গবেষণা প্রকল্পের অর্থায়ন করবে অস্ট্রেলিয়া সরকার। কর্মশালায় অন্যান্যের মধ্যে অস্ট্রেলিয়ার হাই কমিশনের মিস জেন হার্ডি, কর্মশালায় প্রবন্ধ উপস্থাপন করেন সিএসআইআরও-এর ড. পিটার ওয়ালব্রিংক এবং ড. মোহাম্মদ মাইনুদ্দিন। সভাপতিত্ব করেন ইনস্টিটিউট অব ওয়াটার মডেলিং এর নির্বাহী পরিচালক প্রফেসর ড. এম মনোয়ার হোসেন।

বি-১৭

মতালোচনা

23 May 2017 - ৯ জ্যৈষ্ঠ ১৪২৪ (9 Jai sht ha 1424) Tuesday – মঙ্গলবার



রাজধানীর একটি হোটেলে সম্প্রতি ভূগর্ভস্থ পানির ব্যবহার ও খাদ্য নিরাপত্তা শীর্ষক কর্মশালা অনুষ্ঠিত হয়। কর্মশালায় উপস্থিত ছিলেন অস্ট্রেলিয়া হাইকমিশনের জেন হার্ডি। কর্মশালায় প্রবন্ধ উপস্থাপন করেন সিএসআইআরও'র ড. পিটার ওয়ালব্রিক এবং ড. মোহাম্মদ মাইনুদ্দিন। সভাপতিত্ব করেন ইনস্টিটিউট অব ওয়াটার মডেলিংয়ের নির্বাহী পরিচালক প্রফেসর ড. এম মনোয়ার হোসেন

মঙ্গলবার, ২৩ মে ২০১৭, ৯ জ্যৈষ্ঠ ১৪২৪, ২৬ শাবান ১৪৩৮



গতকাল রাজধানীর একটি হোটেলে 'ভূগর্ভস্থ পানির ব্যবহার ও খাদ্য নিরাপত্তা' শীর্ষক কর্মশালা অনুষ্ঠিত হয়। কর্মশালায় অন্যান্যের মধ্যে অস্ট্রেলিয়া হাই কমিশনের জেন হার্ডি, সিএসআইআরও-এর ড. পিটার ওয়ালব্রিংক, ড. মোহাম্মদ মাইনুদ্দিন এবং ড. এম মনোয়ার হোসেন উপস্থিত ছিলেন। বিজ্ঞপ্তি