

Bangladesh Petroleum Institute (BPI)

In order to ensure the capacity building of the Oil, Gas and Mineral Sector of the country for enabling it to play vital role in industrial development and poverty alleviation the **Bangladesh Petroleum Institute (BPI)** was set up in 1981 as a Development Project under the Ministry of Energy & Mineral Resources (MoEMR). Financial support was provided by the Government with external assistance of UNDP & NORAD for skilled human resources development as well as R&D works of the sector. The implementation of the two-phase project was completed in 1996.

After the end of the project phase, in order to maintain the momentum achieved, the Government decided to build up BPI as a well organized and high technology based training institute capable of doing R&D, data management and providing Post Graduate Diploma education for the personnel of the oil, gas and mineral sector. Towards this end, the Bangladesh Parliament passed a bill titled "Bangladesh Petroleum Institute Act, 2004" on 26 February 2004 and the Act came into force from 17 May 2004.

Activities of BPI are carried out according to the directives of a 10 member Governing Board chaired by the Secretary, Energy and Mineral Resources Division, Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources. Director General, who is also the member-secretary of the Governing Board, is the executive head of the institute. The Director General is aided by 70 other personnel (of whom 27 are professionals in the fields of hydrocarbon research).

Location and Facilities

BPI is located in its own building (4 storied in a 1.5 bigha plot) in Sector 8 of Uttara Model Town at a distance of 24 kms from Dhaka City Centre/Bangladesh Secretariat. The building has an auditorium, classrooms, a data processing centre, a library, offices and laboratories.

Activities

a. Research

Right from its inception this Institute has been working relentlessly to identify the potential areas of finding oil and gas by way of doing relevant photo-geology, log interpretation, seismic geological and geophysical interpretation modeling and various other studies and have prepared 25 research/technical reports, till date. Researchers in BPI had identified two new prospects for hydrocarbon in Sariakandi and Madarganj areas. It has also identified the oil prospect in the deeper horizons of Bakhrabad gas field area. Huge Gondwana coal deposits of the Bogra shelf could be a good source of hydrocarbon as indicated by the Basin Modeling & Petroleum System studies of the area. The new concept evolved out of BPI research of a regional fold separating Surma Trough from the Faridpur Trough and the Quaternary geology map of the Surma basin have been re-shaping the earlier geological thoughts/ideas of the Tectonic set up of the Bengal Basin.

b. Training

During the period from 1982 till June 30, 2008, BPI has undertaken 263 training courses of various duration and provided training to 4,921 participants. It imparts training to the new entrants and also arranges refresher courses for professionals working in the hydrocarbon and mineral sectors.

BPI's training activities are being geared up and will increase exponentially in the coming months.

BPI has prepared the training calendar for the fiscal year 2008-09 consisting of 11 courses. It is proposed that the courses offered during the period will cover different aspects of oil, gas and mineral Sector matters along with administrative and financial aspects. During the just concluded 2007-08 fiscal year, BPI has successfully conducted 10(ten) training courses.

In addition to its own scheduled courses, BPI also arranges different special training courses in collaboration with national and international organizations.

c. Special Activities

BPI has recently implemented Unified Material Code (UMC) based IMS system for the Stores of the different companies of Petrobangla as a part of introducing e-governance in the sector. This UMC system has interlinked different companies of Petrobangla, MoEMR & BPI with each other through computer networking. At present the system is functional under the joint operation of [Petrobangla](#) and the prime contractor—IBCS Primax Software (BD) Ltd.

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