

## **Highlights of All India Rice Research Group Meetings (9 to 11 April, 2007) held at Hyderabad**

Directorate of Rice Research (DRR), Hyderabad organized the 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual All India Rice Research Group Meetings during April 9-11, 2007, at the University auditorium of Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad . Dr. S. Raghuvardhan Reddy, Vice Chancellor, ANGRAU, was the chief guest for the inaugural session. Dr. S.N. Shukla, ADG(FFC), Dr. M.P. Pandey, Director, CRRI, Cuttack, Dr. B. Mishra, Project Director, DWR as well as around 470 delegates across the country and abroad including a delegation from IRRI-Philippines participated in the Workshop. Some of the highlights of the Workshop are as under:-

### **Varieties identified:**

- Four rice varieties, MTU 1075, UPR 280-98-125 for irrigated areas and two varieties developed through **Marker Aided Selection (MAS) for pyramiding of bacterial blight resistant genes in backgrounds of Samba Mahsuri (IET – 19046) and Pusa Basmati-1 (IET – 18990), were identified for submission for release. These two are the first products of molecular breeding in rice in the country.** Varietal Identification Committee (VIC) also identified one early duration hybrid HRI-152, from Pro-Agro Seed Company.

### **Production and Protection Technologies identified:**

- The new herbicide Penoxsulam 24 Sc @ 0.02 to 0.025 kg a.i./ha was found effective both as pre-emergence or and post-emergence treatment.
- Supplementation of critical levels of zinc and green manuring and cultivation of tolerant rice varieties can substantially reduce the amount of gypsum for soil amelioration of salt affected soils and hence can form the Integrated Soil Management strategy.
- Three cultures *viz.*, JGL 11118 (in early maturity group), MTU 1001 (medium) and MTU171-61-1-1 (late) were identified with seed dormancy of four weeks indicating their suitability for coastal areas.
- Three multiple pest resistant cultures/varieties M45-20-1, BG 380-2 and Salkathi were recommended for yield evaluation under advanced yield trials.
- Tricylcazone 40 g + propiconazole 12.5 g against blast and Kocide 2000 54 DF, a copper hydrochloride formulation against bacterial blight are recommended where these diseases are serious production constraints.