



Brainstorming Session on “Rice and Water

Conducted in Hybrid mode on 11th Feb. 2022

ICAR - Indian Institute of Rice Research (ICAR-IIRR) in association with **Society for Advancement of Rice Research (SARR), Hyderabad** organised a **Brainstorming Session** on “**Rice and Water**” on 11th February (Friday), 2022 from 10.00 AM - 02.30 PM in Hybrid mode. A total of 175 rice researchers, R & D personnel and progressive farmers participated in the session.

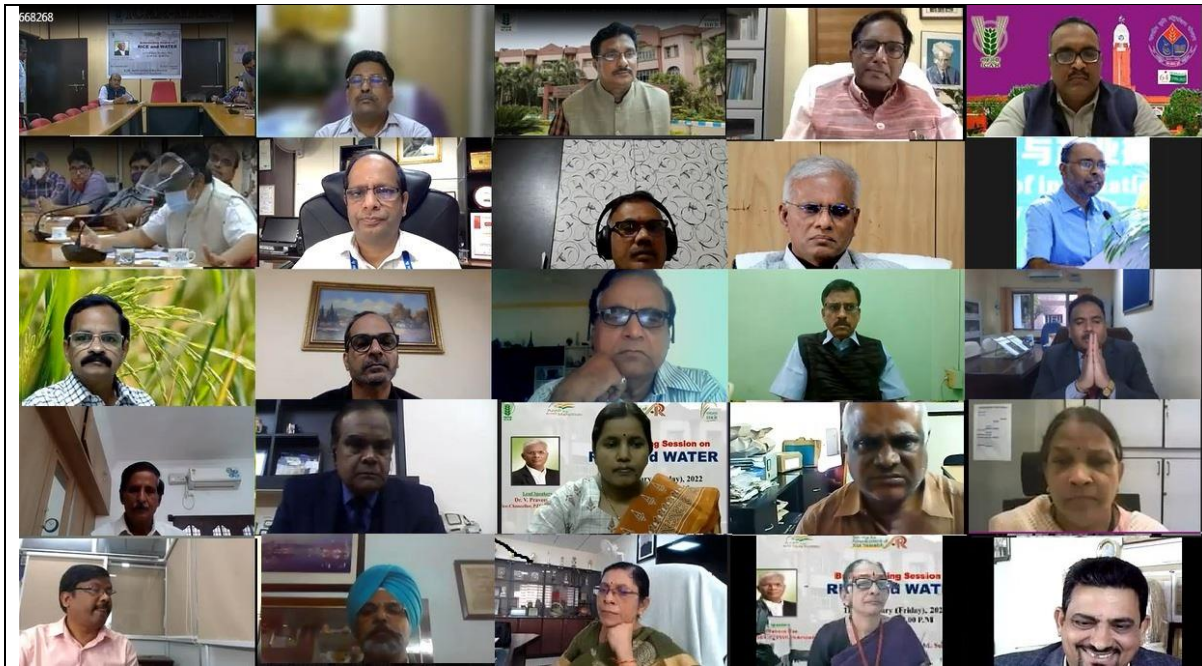
The brainstorming session focussed on the following major themes followed by a panel discussion.

- Current status of “Rice and Water” from major rice producing and rice-exporting states in India
- Sustainable rice production through novel water-saving technologies and practices.
- Innovations in sustainable water management focussing on efficient use by re-source mapping and optimal utilization of this precious resource.
- Assessment of water footprint and virtual water trade for national policy planning for resource management and sustainable supply of food and water.
- Export trends of both basmati and non-basmati varieties in India and the world
- To develop a national guideline to help map the volumes of water already lost from the hydrological cycle due to export and ways to offset the loss through improved management strategies

Dr. R. Mahender Kumar, Principal Scientist & Head, Agronomy, ICAR-IIRR and Secretary, SARR welcomed the dignitaries. Dr Mrutyunjaya, social worker and an organic farmer explained the need for deliberations on this important topic to the participants. Dr. VK Singh, Director, ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad; Dr. Padmini Swain, Director, ICAR-NRRI; Dr. RM Sundaram, Director, ICAR-IIRR, Dr. Himanshu Pathak, Director, NIASM gave their inputs on various facets of Rice and Water. Dr.V. Praveen Rao, Vice Chancellor, PJTSAU, Hyderabad also fondly known as “Water Man” of India gave the lead talk in the topic “Sustainable Agri-food systems: water challenges and transformation technologies for the benefit of technology adaptation, farm profitability and wellbeing”. He stressed the need for a detailed discussion on the theme of the Brainstorming session as significant quantity of water is applied by farmers for growing rice and it is estimated that this can be as high as 3000-5000 liters of water per kg of rice produced. Since there is a change in the dietary habits of Indians, rice consumption pattern is changing rapidly people are looking for rice with better nutritional quality. He also emphasized on the limits to be imposed on the virtual water trade, testing of proven technologies for conservation of water in rice in at least 1000 ha in each district and adopt technologies that improve water use efficiency. The lead talk was followed by a panel discussion from six experts from various discipline viz., Dr. A.K.Naik , ICAR-National Rice Research Institute (ICAR-NRRI), Dr. Rithesh Sharma, Basmati Export Development Foundation (BEDF), Dr. M.S. Bhullar, Punjab Agricultural University (PAU), Dr. Sheelabhadra Mohanty, ICAR-Indian Institute of Water Management (ICAR-IIWM), Dr, Kaluvai Yella Reddy, Acharya N G Ranka Agricultural University (ANGRAU) and Mr. Vijay Kumar, Premier Irrigation Adritech. Besides the experts, two progressive farmers, Sri Meka Jaganmohan (AP) and Sri Nagaratnam Naidu (TS) also shared their practical experience in

the adoption of water saving technologies for achieving higher rice grain yield. The progressive farmers were felicitated by Director, ICAR-IIRR. The meeting was moderated by Dr LV Subba Rao, Principal Scientist and Head, Plant Breeding and Crop Improvement, ICAR-IIRR; Dr Ch Padmavathi, Principal Scientist, Entomology, ICAR-IIRR introduced Dr. V. Praveen Rao and Dr B. Nirmala introduced the panellists to the audience. The proceedings were recorded by Drs AP Padmakumari, B. Nirmala and Mangaldeep Tuti.

The meeting ended with a formal vote of thanks by Y. ChandraMohan, Principal Scientist, Rice Research Station, Agricultural Research Institute, Rajendranagar and Vice President, SARR.



Brainstorming session on Hybrid Mode
Address by Lead speaker Dr. V. Praveen Rao , VC PJTSAU



Felicitation to Progressive farmer Mr. Meka Jagan Mohan of Andhrapradesh during Brainstorming session