

ICAR-IIRR Industry Meet 2025

An Industry–Interaction Meet was successfully organized by the Hyderabad based premier rice research institute, ICAR–Indian Institute of Rice Research (ICAR–IIRR), at its Rajendranagar campus on 6 November 2025.

More than 70 participants from seed companies, the input industry, aspiring entrepreneurs, and start-ups attended the meet, contributing to its success. The programme commenced with a field visit where participants observed displays of innovative products developed through cutting-edge research in genomics, gene editing, and breeding for high-yielding, climate-resilient, and nutritious rice lines. Demonstrations also featured facilities for screening false smut and brown spot.

An exhibition was organized to display varietal and hybrid technologies, along with advanced crop production and protection innovations such as AI-based rapid automated soil testing devices, automatic irrigation water management systems, and novel rice-based products ready for commercialization.

Dr. R. M. Sundaram, Director, ICAR–IIRR, in his welcome address, highlighted the institute’s major achievements and its mission to develop a strong commercialization ecosystem for its technologies. He also elaborated on several recent licensing initiatives undertaken by the institute.

The Chief Guest, Dr. D. K. Yadava, DDG (Crop Science), ICAR, New Delhi, commended the consistent and systematic efforts of ICAR–IIRR in organizing the Industry Meet over the past few years, noting its visible positive impact. He also appreciated the technologies developed at ICAR-IIRR viz., new DRR Dhan varieties, soil test kit, leaf colour chart, etc. He spoke about ICAR’s AgriInnovate initiative, which supports the commercialization of agricultural technologies, and provided a comprehensive overview of ICAR’s broader technology commercialization mission. He also emphasized the organization’s commitment to promoting collaboration with private stakeholders in different forms.

Dr. S. K. Pradhan, ADG (FFC), appreciated ICAR–IIRR’s initiative in conducting the meet and emphasized the importance of developing robust product profiles based on market segments, underscoring the need for sustained dialogue with industry representatives.

Dr. Shiv Dutt, Principal Scientist (IP&TM), reiterated ICAR's recognition of public-private partnerships as vital for advancing agricultural research and technology transfer. He described the ICAR-IIRR Industry Meet as a significant step toward strengthening such collaborations.

Mr. Dhruva, Business Manager, Agrinnovate India Limited (AgIn), delivered a presentation outlining the technology commercialization process in ICAR.

Dr. S. V. Sai Prasad, Principal Scientist, ICAR-IIRR, presented an overview of the high-yielding rice varieties and hybrids developed by the institute. Dr. M. B. B. Prasad Babu, Principal Scientist, ICAR-IIRR, showcased key Crop Production and Crop Protection technologies. Dr. C. Kannan, Principal Scientist and ITMU In-charge, explained the institute's services and procedures for accessing ICAR-IIRR technologies.

On this occasion, four licensing agreements were signed with private sector partners.

Experts from private industries shared their expectations, lauded the institute's pioneering contributions to rice research and its proactive initiatives in areas such as genome editing, false smut, and brown spot. They also extended special appreciation to Team IIRR for organizing field demonstrations and exhibits that showcased the institute's technological advancements.



