



ICAR-National Rice Research Institute (ICAR-NRRI)
(An ISO9001:2015 Certified Institute)
Cuttack - 753006



Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav - Celebration of 75 Years of India's Independence at ICAR-National Rice Research Institute, Cuttack, India

Special Talk - “Smart Agricultural Water Management: Best Practices, Policy Framework and Way Forward”

The ICAR-National Rice Research Institute, Cuttack is conducting a Special Talk series to celebrate 75 years of India's independence espoused as *Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav* (AKAM). The eighth Special Talk in the series – “**Smart Agricultural Water Management: Best Practices, Policy Framework and Way Forward**” was delivered by **Prof (Dr) K Yella Reddy, Dean**, Faculty of Agricultural Engineering and Technology, ANGR Agricultural University, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh on **30 May 2022** at 03:00 PM on virtual mode.



Dr Yella Reddy emphasized at the outset that water is key to achieve success of sustainable development goals of the UN. We are going to face water scarcity in future in India unless we adopt proper policy framework for water management. He pointed out that about 15% of the water used in the world is for export in virtual form. Water foot print of a nation is equal to the domestic use of water resources, minus virtual water export flows, plus virtual water import flows. He shared his experience of creating community model - village knowledge centre - for water management at *panchayat* level. He said that microirrigation is changing farmers' life for better. He talked about new-age smart agricultural water management practices in details and laid out elaborate strategies for the future. Dr Reddy cautioned that as climate changes, droughts, floods, melting glaciers, sea-level rise and storms intensify or alter, often with severe consequences. Climate change impacts have direct consequences for water security and conflict. He touched upon the various goals and activities taken up by International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage.



The special talk by Dr Reddy on “**Smart Agricultural Water Management: Best Practices, Policy Framework and Way Forward**” witnessed a lively interaction, with the audience fielding many questions to the speaker. More than 75 participants attended the special talk in virtual mode from across the country.



The special talk was presided by Dr Padmini Swain, Director (A), ICAR-NRRI. Dr PC Rath Head (A), CPTD & Chairman, AKAM Committee at NRRI welcomed the Special Guest. Dr Sudhamoy Mandal, Principal Scientist, CPTD & Convener, AKAM introduced Prof K Yella Reddy to the august virtual gathering. The program was moderated by Dr Rahul Tripathi, Senior Scientist, CPD & Member of AKAM. Dr K Rajasekhara Rao, Principal Scientist, CPTD proposed vote of thanks. Dr Somnath Roy, Senior Scientist, CRURRS designed the flyer and coordinated the virtual program. ARIS Cell of the institute hosted the program on virtual mode.