

The 4th annual hill rice research group meeting was organized at ICAR- National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, New Delhi on 13th February, 2017. The inaugural session was chaired by Dr. J.S. Sandhu, DDG (CS) ICAR while Dr. Himanshu Pathak, Director, NRRI; Dr. S.C. Dubey I/c. Director NBPGR; Dr. R.P. Kaushik, Emeritus Scientist, RWRS Malan and Dr. V. Ravindra Babu, Director IIRR were the dignitaries for the inaugural session of the group meeting. A total of 20 Scientists from different co-operating centres of hill ecology participated in the meeting. After the formal invocation and welcoming the dignitaries with floral bouquets Dr. V. Ravindra Babu extended a very warm welcome to all the participants and expressed his gratitude to Director of NBPGR for hosting this group meeting. He gave a brief account of salient findings of AICRIP activities of hill ecology; highlighted the results of the trials conducted by 7 funded and 23 voluntary centres of hill region stating that five trials with 83 test entries were conducted as 73 experiments at 22 locations and informed that receipt of data was 78%. He further stated that progress in this ecology is not very satisfactory as checks remained as top ranking entries in majority of the experiments, although 5 varieties were released in the last year from this region for hill ecology.

