

The 34<sup>th</sup> Dr. Gopinath Sahu Memorial Lecture was successfully organized on 29 December 2025 at the ICAR–Central Rice Research Institute (CRRI), Cuttack, by the Association of Rice Research Workers (ARRW) in association with the Dr. Gopinath Sahu Memorial Trust, Cuttack, and ICAR–CRRI, Cuttack, and was conducted in hybrid mode.

The programme commenced with a solemn ceremonial lighting of the lamp and floral tribute by the dignitaries present physically, in remembrance of Late Dr. Gopinath Sahu. Dr. Rameswar Prasad Sah, Secretary, ARRW, delivered the welcome address followed by a brief description of contributions, and enduring legacy of Dr. Gopinath Sahu, as well as the significance of the memorial lecture, presented by Dr. Koushik Chakraborty, Head, Crop Physiology and Biochemistry Division, ICAR–CRRI.

The function was presided over by Dr. Sumanta Kumar Mishra, Vice-President, ARRW. Dr. Sangita Mohanty, Editor-in-Chief, ARRW, formally introduced the distinguished speaker, Dr. Amulya Kumar Mohanty, Director, ICAR–Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute, Ri-Bhoi, Meghalaya. Dr. Mohanty delivered the memorial lecture on *“Strengthening Research–Industry (R–I) Linkage in Agriculture for Developing a Robust Agri-Business Ecosystem,”* highlighting the need for stronger collaboration between research institutions and industry to enhance innovation, technology transfer, and sustainable agri-business development. His thought-provoking talk emphasized the importance of strong collaboration between research institutions and industry to translate scientific innovations into real-world impact.

Dr. AK Nayak, President, ARRW and Dr. PK Mohapatra, President, Gopinath Sahu Memorial Trust has provided their guidance and unwavering support for the Programme.

Dr. G. A. K. Kumar, Director, ICAR–CRRI, and the Chief Guest, Dr. Pratap Bhattacharyya, In-charge Director for the day, extended their encouragement and support to the programme. The presence of the Guest of Honour, Mrs. Basanti Sahu, wife of Late Dr. Gopinath Sahu, added special significance to the event.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks proposed by Dr. Milan Kumar Lal, Councilor, ARRW, who expressed gratitude to the organizers, ARRW members, speaker, dignitaries, and participants for their contributions to the successful conduct of the event.

