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PRESS RELEASE

**Development of three high yielding varieties**

## **BRRRI Annual Research Workshop begins**

The annual research review workshop of Bangladesh Rice Research Institute (BRRI) begins earlier today (9 October 2011) in Gazipur. Director General of the Department of Agricultural Extension Md Habibur Rahman was the chief guest in the inaugural session of the workshop held at the BRRI auditorium. BRRI Director General Dr A K G Md Enamul Haque presided over the session. BRRI Director (Research) Dr Md Khairul Bashar presented the key-note paper of the workshop.

About two hundred scientists, researchers as well as officials attended the workshop.



**Latest innovation:** BRRI's latest innovation includes three high yielding rice varieties named as BRRI dhan55, BRRI dhan56 and BRRI dhan57. These are drought tolerant early maturing varieties. Among them BRRI dhan55 can be cultivated throughout the country in favourable conditions and it yields one ton more per hectare than the most popular BRRI dhan28. The most popular Boro varieties developed by BRRI are BRRI dhan28 and BRRI dhan29. BRRI dhan33, another popular BRRI variety, is early maturing and suitable for *Monga* mitigation. BRRI has developed five salt tolerant varieties also. BRRI dhan51 and BRRI dhan52 can tolerate flash flood. BRRI dhan50 (Banglamoti) is an aromatic high yielding Boro variety, which is similar to Basmati of India and Pakistan. BRRI sources say initiative should be taken to export it for foreign currency earning. Its recent innovation also includes vitamin A-enriched BRRI dhan29. Moreover, high iron and zinc enriched advanced breeding lines have been identified.