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FOREWORD

It gives me immense pleasure to present the 45th Annual Report of Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University. It is a compendium of the university's activities during the year 2008-09.

Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University is constantly endeavouring to further the cause of agricultural improvement in the state. Its achievements in this regard have been duly recognized by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) which has honoured it twice in 1997 and 2007 with the prestigious award of "Best Institute" among all the state agricultural universities in the country. The university has laudable work to its credit in its mandate areas viz., teaching, research and extension.

In teaching the university offers five UG programmes, seven PG programmes and two programmes at Ph.D. level in agriculture and home science faculty in thirteen different fields of specialization. In addition to it a number of PG, UG and Post-matric diploma courses are being offered. So far, a total of 31240 students comprising of 22902 UG and 8338 PG students have graduated from the university and are serving in various capacities within the country and abroad. The university was the first to introduce the Rural Agricultural Work Experience Programme (RAWEP) in the country which was later implemented by other agricultural universities. The university has adopted the revised course curricula for UG programmes and has introduced PG and Ph.D. programmes in new subjects like Environmental Science and Agricultural Biotechnology.

Research is of paramount importance to the University. The efforts put fourth by ANGRAU scientists over past few years have enabled it to release 24 improved varieties / hybrids of different crops during 2008-09. These new varieties / hybrids of cereals (12 comprising of 7 rice, 3 maize, 1 sorghum and 1 finger millet), pulses (6 comprising of 1 greengram, 2 blackgram, 2 redgram and 1 soybean) and oilseed and commercial crops (comprising of 4 groundnut, 1 sesamum and 1 cotton) are hoped to embark upon new era of productivity of these crops in the state during coming years. The staff of ANGRAU deserve compliments for these achievements. To further augment the seed replacement rate to enhance productivity in the State, a massive seed production programme was undertaken. Research activity on many location specific problems was intensified with the funds from Rajiv Krishi Vigyan Yojana(RKVY).

ANGRAU has a strong and effective network of extension services with 22 District Agricultural Advisory and Transfer of Technology Centres (DAATTCs) and 12 *Krishi Vigyan Kendras* (KVKs) and other extension units. These units act as capacity building centres to impart knowledge and relevant skills to the farmers and extension functionaries in the process of agricultural development. These units perform important tasks like assessment and refinement of technologies, organizing

training programmes for farmers, extension personnel and NGOs, undertaking diagnostic field visits, conducting method demonstrations, group discussion and organizing field days and *kisan melas*. The extension units of the university, a source of mass communication, also bring out popular articles, information bulletins, press notes, radio and TV programmes to enlighten the farming community on agricultural development. The Extension Education Institute (EEI) plays a pivotal role in improving the skills and professional competency of extension functionaries of development departments, SAUs and NGOs in six states and two union territories. The Agricultural Technology and Information Center (ATIC) at the university has been identified as an 'Expert Node' for agriculture and it is connected with 26 village resource centres across Andhra Pradesh.

I take this opportunity to thank the Government of India, Indian Council of Agricultural Research and Government of A.P. for their whole hearted financial and technical support to the university. I heartily thank the Hon'ble Members of Board of Management for their wise counsel, guidance and cooperation in the University administration. I immensely thank the Deans, Directors, University Officers, Associate Deans, Associate Directors of Research and Heads of Research Stations and Extension units for their help in preparation of the Annual Report. I appreciate the sincere efforts of Dr.T. Yellamanda Reddy, Dean of Agriculture, Dr.B. Chenchu Reddy, Director of Planning and Monitoring Cell and their team comprising of Dr.Md. Basheeruddin, Dr.I. Swarnalatha Devi, Smt.K. Supriya and the supporting staff for their untiring efforts in preparation of the report.

(P. RAGHAVA REDDY)

FORTY FIFTH
ANNUAL REPORT
2008-09



ACHARYA N.G. RANGA AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY
Rajendranagar, Hyderabad - 500 030

Compiled by

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