

## **International Training Course on *In Vitro* and Cryopreservation Techniques for Conservation of Plant Genetic Resources**

The International Training Course on *In Vitro* and Cryopreservation Techniques for Conservation of Plant Genetic Resources was organised by ICAR-Bioversity International-APAARI at the National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR), New Delhi during 15-27 November, 2010. Being organized for the third consecutive year, the course was attended by 14 participants from eleven countries, four of whom (from Sri Lanka, Chinese Taipei and Iran) were nominated by

APAARI-APCoAB. The faculty was drawn from NBPGR and other local organizations, Bioversity International, APCoAB and Royal Botanic Garden, Kew. The course was organized into 28 lectures and practicals on topics related to *in vitro* conservation and cryopreservation of germplasm of vegetatively propagated and non-orthodox seed species, and use of molecular tools for management and conservation of plant genetic resources. Hands-on training was provided on cryopreservation of non-orthodox seeds like citrus, buds of mulberry and pollen. Presentations were also made by the participants on their ongoing research programs. Interactive sessions with training faculty provided an assessment of the knowledge gained by the participants and directions for further refining of the training course.