**Harnessing Plant Growth-Promoting Rhizobacteria, *Bacillus subtilis* and *B. aryabhattai* to Combat Salt Stress in Rice: A Study on the Regulation of Antioxidant Defense, Ion Homeostasis, and Photosynthetic Parameters**

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## Supplementary Figures

A graph of different colored bars

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

**Supplementary Figure 1.** Changes in the levels of indole-3-acetic acid (IAA) concentration of rice plants under salt stress(50 and 100 mM NaCl) with the absence or presence of three PGPRs (*Bacillus subtilis*, epiphytic *B. aryabhattai*, and endophytic *B. aryabhattai*). Data are presented as mean ± standard deviation of three replications (*n*=3). Distinct letters on the bars show significant differences between treatments at *p* ≤ 0.05 from Tukey’s HSD test.

A graph of different colored bars

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**Supplementary Figure 2.** Variations in MG (A), Gly I (B), and Gly II (C) activities of rice plants under salt stress (50 and 100 mM NaCl) in the absence or presence of three PGPRs (*Bacillus subtilis*, epiphytic *B. aryabhattai*, and endophytic *B. aryabhattai*). Data are presented as mean ± standard deviation of three replications (*n*=3). Distinct letters on the bars show significant differences between treatments at *p* ≤ 0.05 from Tukey’s HSD test.