ICAR–INDIAN INSTITUTE OF RICE RESEARCH
HYDERABAD

REPORT ON JANJATIYA GAURAV PAKHWADA – 2026

Farmer Awareness, Training and Soil Testing Kit Demonstration Programme

Date	9 November 2026
Venue	Grama Panchayat Office, Mennemguda Thanda, Balanagar Mandal, Mahabubnagar District, Telangana
Participation	23 farmers, including the Sarpanch of the village
Programme leads	Dr. Divya Balakrishnan, Dr. Basavaraj and Dr. Papa Rao Vaikuntapu

1. Introduction

As part of the observance of Janjatiya Gaurav Pakhwada–2026, ICAR–Indian Institute of Rice Research (ICAR-IIRR), Hyderabad, organised a farmer awareness and training programme on 9 November 2026 at Mennemguda Thanda, Balanagar Mandal, Mahabubnagar District, Telangana. The programme was conducted to create awareness among tribal farmers about improved rice varieties and the importance of soil health management.

2. Participation and Coordination

The programme was held at the Grama Panchayat Office, Mennemguda Thanda, with the participation of 23 farmers, including the Sarpanch of the village. The programme was led by Dr. Divya Balakrishnan, Dr. Basavaraj and Dr. Papa Rao Vaikuntapu.

3. Activities Conducted

3.1 Awareness on ICAR-IIRR Rice Varieties

Farmers were sensitised to improved rice varieties developed by ICAR-IIRR and the importance of adopting suitable varieties for rice cultivation.

3.2 Training on Soil Testing and Soil Health

The participating farmers were sensitised to the importance of soil testing and its role in understanding soil fertility status and supporting informed nutrient-management decisions.

3.3 Distribution and Demonstration of Soil Testing Kits

Soil Testing Kits were distributed to the farmers. An on-site demonstration of the kits was also conducted, explaining their use and operation. The demonstration was well received and appreciated by the participating farmers.

4. Major Outcomes

1. A total of 23 farmers, including the village Sarpanch, participated in the programme.
2. Awareness was created about improved ICAR-IIRR rice varieties.
3. Farmers received training on the importance and use of Soil Testing Kits.
4. Soil Testing Kits were distributed to the participating farmers.
5. The practical demonstration helped farmers understand the use of the kits.

5. Conclusion

The Janjatiya Gaurav Pakhwada–2026 programme at Mennemguda Thanda was successfully conducted with the participation of local farmers. The awareness activities on ICAR-IIRR rice varieties, training on soil testing,

distribution of Soil Testing Kits and practical demonstration provided an opportunity to share relevant agricultural technologies with the tribal farming community.

PHOTOGRAPHIC DOCUMENTATION



Photograph 1. Group of participating farmers and programme team at Mennemguda Thanda.



Photograph 2. Participants holding the programme banner during the event.



Photograph 3. Group photograph of farmers and the programme team.



Photograph 4. Group photograph of farmers with the Janjatiya Gaurav Pakhwada–2026 banner.