

SWACHHATA HI SEVA PROGRAMME 2026

Day 7- Swachhata Hi Seva programme

Date: 23/09/2026

Institute Name: ICAR-Indian Institute of Rice Research (ICAR-IIRR), Rajendranagar, Hyderabad, Telangana

Summary of the Activity

On 23rd September 2026, as part of the Swachhta Hi Seva campaign, two major activities were taken up advocating reuse and recycling by Drs Jyothi Badri and Dr Ch Suvarna Rani.

1. Reuse – Book Reuse Drive

As part of the reuse initiative, office chambers in the Plant Breeding section were systematically sorted, and books that were no longer in active use were identified for redistribution. The selected books were displayed for students, research scholars, young professionals, technical officers and project staff to choose according to their academic and professional requirements. The book reuse drive included resources related to rice genetics, plant breeding, genomics, and technical bulletins, among other scientific and technical subjects. Participants enthusiastically selected books of their interest and expressed their appreciation for the initiative. The activity promoted the reuse of existing resources, reduction of waste and sharing of knowledge within the institute community.

2. Recycling – Composting and Plastic-Free Awareness

The recycling initiative focused on promoting the proper segregation and collection of biodegradable waste for composting at the Government Primary School, Rajendranagar. The school premises were cleaned, and awareness was created among students and staff about minimizing waste generation and preventing waste from entering the environment. Students were encouraged to collect fallen leaves, waste paper and leftover food from lunch boxes and place biodegradable waste in the designated compost bin. The importance and benefits of composting, particularly its role in improving soil health and promoting healthy plant growth, were explained to the school children.

The students and school staff were also sensitized to the importance of reducing the use of plastic and disposable items. They were encouraged to use reusable steel or glass water bottles and biodegradable cutlery, bowls and plates as environmentally friendly alternatives. As part of the awareness initiative, jute-made files/folders were distributed to the school staff, emphasizing the importance of replacing plastic files and folders with sustainable alternatives.

Overall, the activities highlighted the principles of “Reduce, Reuse and Recycle” and encouraged students, staff and the wider community to adopt simple, sustainable practices for a cleaner and healthier environment.

