

Awareness Programme and Interactive Session on the Use of Artificial Intelligence in Rice Cultivation through Demonstration of the RAISE-IIRR Mobile App

A Farmers' Awareness Programme on "RAISE-IIRR Mobile App (Rice AI Stress Evaluator)" was organised on 7 October 2026 at Jammikunta and Illanthakunta mandals of Karimnagar district, Telangana. ICAR-Indian Institute of Rice Research (ICAR-IIRR), Hyderabad, and Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Jammikunta, jointly conducted the programme to create awareness among farmers, students, and field personnel about applying Artificial Intelligence (AI) in rice crop management.

During the programme, Dr. B. Sailaja, Principal Scientist (Computer Applications), ICAR-IIRR, explained the growing role of AI in modern agriculture and demonstrated the key features of the Rice AI Stress Evaluator (RAISE) mobile application. She highlighted that the app, developed by ICAR-IIRR, uses AI-based models to identify rice crop stresses from field photographs and provide timely management advisories to support informed decision-making by farmers.

Dr. D. Krishnaveni, Principal Scientist (Plant Pathology), ICAR-IIRR, explained the major diseases and other problems affecting rice cultivation and discussed their management practices. She also demonstrated the RAISE app and explained how farmers can use it for the timely identification and management of crop stresses. Dr. Srinivas Reddy, Scientist, KVK Jammikunta, highlighted the practical benefits of the app, explaining how farmers can upload three to four photographs of affected rice plants to obtain diagnostic support and make timely decisions regarding pest and disease management.

As part of the hands-on training, the RAISE app was installed on farmers' mobile phones, and participants were guided through its various features. Farmers also practised using the app with actual rice crop samples collected from the field, gaining practical experience in image uploading and AI-assisted crop stress identification.

The programme was followed by an interactive session with B.Sc. Agriculture students and field associates of the Natural Farming Project at KVK Jammikunta. The session provided an opportunity to discuss the potential of AI-based mobile applications in agricultural education, field-level problem identification, and farmer advisory services.

The programme was attended by Dr. N. Venkateswara Rao, Senior Scientist, KVK Jammikunta; Mr. G. Ashok, SRT Coordinator; Mr. Mahesh; Mrs. Prashanthi; Mr. Venugopala; Mr. Vangala Venkata Reddy, ATMA Chairman; 5 staff members of RAISE Project, 10 staff members of the Organic Farming Project; 60 B.Sc. Agriculture students participating in the Rural Agricultural Work Experience (RAWE) programme; village assistants; and 50 local farmers.

The programme successfully promoted awareness of AI-enabled rice crop management and provided hands-on exposure to the RAISE-IIRR mobile application, encouraging farmers and agricultural students to explore digital technologies for timely diagnosis and improved management of rice crop stresses.

