

REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SECOND PHASE OF KHET BACHAO ABHIYAN

Venue: Yethbarpally Village, Rangareddy District, Telangana

1. Introduction

The ICAR- Indian Institute of Rice Research, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad, on the second day of the Khet Bachao Abhiyan on 23rd October 2026 organized trainings and awareness meeting at Yethbarpally Village, Rangareddy District, Telangana. Climate resilient agriculture with nutrient use efficient rice varieties was explained to the farmers in detail. The rapid soil testing kit hands on training was provided to farmers with the main aim to create awareness among farmers about scientific soil management, balanced use of fertilizers and sustainable agricultural practices to improve soil health and enhance agricultural productivity.



Hands on Training on IIRR- Rapid Soil Testing





IIRR-Rapid Soil Testing Kit Distribution to Woman Farmer, Smt. Ramadevi

2. Objectives of the Campaign

The major objectives of the second phase of Khet Bachao Abhiyan were:

1. To create awareness among farmers about the importance of soil testing and soil health management.
2. To promote the balanced and judicious use of chemical fertilizers based on soil test recommendations.
3. To encourage the adoption of integrated nutrient management practices using chemical fertilizers, organic manures and biofertilizers, wherever appropriate.
4. To educate farmers on the adverse effects of excessive and imbalanced fertilizer application on soil health, crop productivity and the environment.
5. To promote sustainable agricultural practices that improve nutrient-use efficiency, reduce input costs and maintain long-term soil fertility.
6. To strengthen the linkages between agricultural research institutions and farmers through field-level awareness and knowledge dissemination.

3. Implementation of the Campaign

The campaign was launched at Yethbarpally Village with a focus on soil testing, soil health improvement and balanced fertilizer application. The initiative was designed to communicate the importance of scientific nutrient management and encourage farmers to incorporate soil test-based recommendations into their regular farming practices. The major areas of intervention under the campaign included the following:

a) Climate resilient rice varieties

Literature was provided in local language to explain about package of practices and unique features of nutrient use efficient rice varieties like DRR Dhan90,87,54

a) Soil Testing and Soil Health Management

Farmers were to be sensitized to the importance of testing soil before applying fertilizers. Soil testing helps determine the nutrient status of agricultural soils and supports the preparation of suitable fertilizer recommendations for different crops. The importance of maintaining soil fertility and avoiding indiscriminate fertilizer application was highlighted.

b) Balanced Use of Fertilizers

The campaign focused on the judicious application of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium in appropriate proportions according to crop requirements and soil test recommendations. Farmers were encouraged to avoid excessive application of individual nutrients and to adopt balanced fertilization for improved crop growth and nutrient-use efficiency.

c) Integrated Nutrient Management

The importance of integrating chemical fertilizers with farmyard manure, compost, green manures and suitable bio fertilizers was emphasized as part of sustainable nutrient management. Such practices can help improve soil organic matter, nutrient availability and the biological health of agricultural soils.

d) Sustainable Agricultural Practices

The campaign highlighted the need to conserve soil resources and maintain agricultural productivity through scientific crop and nutrient management. Farmers were encouraged to adopt recommended agricultural practices suited to their local soil conditions, cropping systems and available resources.

e) Farmer Awareness and Knowledge Dissemination

The village-level campaign provided an opportunity to communicate scientific agricultural information directly to the farming community. The initiative aimed to encourage farmers to seek soil testing services, follow recommended fertilizer doses and adopt improved nutrient management practices.

4. Expected Outcomes

The implementation of the second phase of Khet Bachao Abhiyan is expected to contribute to:

- Increased awareness among farmers regarding soil testing and soil health management.
- Use of climate resilient rice varieties by farmers
- Greater adoption of soil test-based fertilizer recommendations.
- Improved understanding of balanced and need-based fertilizer application.
- Stronger collaboration between ICAR-IIRR and the farming community in promoting scientific agriculture.

This event was led by Dr.Kalyani Senior Scientist and Dr.Sruti, scientist ICAR-IIRR in collaboration with NGO, Spoorthy and Mandal Agricultural Officer, Moinabad and enthusiastically attended by 51 farmers.

Conclusion

The initiation of the second phase of Khet Bachao Abhiyan on 23 October 2026 represents an important step towards strengthening farmer awareness of climate resilient and nutrient use efficient rice varieties soil health and balanced fertilizer use. By promoting 4R principles of nutrient management, the campaign seeks judicious use of agricultural inputs and support the long-term productivity and sustainability of farming systems with collective efforts of all stakeholders.

