

Constitution Day Celebrations at ICAR – IIRR from 26th – 28th November 2025

The ICAR–Indian Institute of Rice Research (IIRR), Hyderabad, organized a three-day programme to commemorate Constitution Day (Samvidhan Divas) from 26th to 28th November 2025. The celebrations focused on promoting awareness about the values and principles enshrined in the Constitution of India and involved active participation from staff, students, and scholars of the institute.

On 26 November 2025, the celebrations commenced with a solemn Preamble reading session. Dr. R. M. Sundaram, Director, ICAR–IIRR, led the gathering by reading the Preamble in English. This was followed by the Preamble reading in Hindi by Shri Shitanshu Kumar, Chief Administrative Officer, which was repeated by all participants. Staff from scientific, technical, administrative, supporting categories, and students participated in large numbers. The programme was coordinated by Dr. V. Chinna Babu Naik and his team.

As part of the day's activities, a Quiz and Essay Writing competition was conducted. A total of 60 participants representing Scientific, Technical, Administrative staff, Research Associates, SRFs, Young Professionals, and students took part. The event received enthusiastic participation and was appreciated by the organizing committee.



On the second day **27 November 2025**, a debate was organized on the topic: “Should a Minimum Educational Qualification Be Made Mandatory for Politicians to Contest Elections?” The programme was inaugurated by Dr. R. M. Sundaram, Director, and Shri Shitanshu Kumar, CAO. A total of 45 participants, including Scientific, Technical, Administrative staff and research students, presented arguments both for and against the motion. The debate was intellectually enriching and offered a platform for constructive dialogue. The event was judged by Dr. Rajnikanth, Principal Scientist, PJTSAU, and Dr. Amtul Waris, Principal Scientist, IIRR. The organizing committee expressed gratitude to all participants for making the event a success.



The Constitution Day celebrations concluded with a valedictory ceremony on **28 November 2025**, the Chief Guest for the event was Dr. Y. G. Prasad, Director, Agricultural Biotechnology Forum (ABF). Dr. Suvarna Rani, Scientist (GPB), delivered the welcome address. Dr. R. M. Sundaram, Director, IIRR, delivered the introductory remarks highlighting the relevance of constitutional principles in institutional and scientific responsibilities. A special Constitutional Lecture was delivered by Shri Shitanshu Kumar, CAO, offering insights into the structure, values, and objectives of the Constitution. Prize distribution was held to award the winners of the Quiz, Essay, and Debate competitions conducted during the three-day celebration. The programme was coordinated by Dr. V. Chinna Babu Naik, Senior Scientist

(Agril. Entomology) and Nodal Officer for the event. The ceremony concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Raghavendra K. V., Scientist (Agril. Entomology), followed by a group photograph and high tea.



The Constitution Day celebrations at ICAR-IIRR provided an opportunity for staff and students to reflect on the guiding principles of the Constitution of India. Through pledge reading, competitions, debates, and lectures, the institute reaffirmed its commitment to democratic values and civic responsibility. The active participation and coordinated efforts of all departments contributed to the success of the three-day programme.