

A brief tour Reports of Dr. J.P. Singh, Consultant (NMOOP) on his tour to AP and Telangana from 21st - 23rd July, 2015.

This tour was under taken from 21st – 23rd July, 2015 to review the condition/prospects of kharif crops and progress of implementation of NMOOP and NFSM in AP and Telangana. Director, DOD, Hyderabad and AD, DoD also participated in state level review meetings. Assistant Director, DoD also accompanied during the district level review in Anantapur, AP. Visit includes State level review meetings at Hyderabad, district level review meeting, field visits and meeting with Collector, Anantapur. The important observations/action points are summarized as under:

1. Andhra Pradesh

As against normal area of 42.57 lakh ha, an area of only 9.59 lakh ha has been covered up to 23rd July, 2015 as against the normal coverage of 16.17 lakh ha and 12.47 lakh ha of last year by the same time leaving a shortfall of >6.50 lakh ha. Major shortfall is under groundnut, wherein, an area of 2.69 lakh ha has been covered as against the normal of 6.75 lakh ha. Sowings of groundnut will continue upto 1st week of August, subject to receipt of rainfall. The contingency plan prepared in consultation with CRIDA includes promotion of coarse cereals (foxtail, bajra, fodder Jowar) Pulses (cow pea, horse gram, green gram, black gram) and oilseeds (castor). Seeds of the above mentioned crops has been arranged.

2. Telangana

As against normal area of 41.45 lakh ha, an area of 25.95 lakh ha has been covered so far against normal coverage of 26.53 lakh ha and 23.28 lakh ha covered last year by the same time. Higher coverage of 14.83 lakhs under cotton and 2.38 lakh ha under soybean as against the last year coverage of 12.13 lakhs under cotton and 2.11 lakh ha under soybean has been reported. No major disease/pest problem has been noticed so far. Wide spread light rain received on 14-15th July, 2015 have helped the crops to recover from moisture stress and further sowings. In case, if there is no rain during next one week, the contingent crop like green gram, black gram, groundnut, castor and coarse cereals including fodder sorghum will be shown as late Kharif/early Rabi crops. Seeds of these crops are available.

3. Field visit in Anantapur

Temporary wilting was observed in groundnut, green gram and red gram under dry land, however, no major disease/pest problem was noticed. If there is no rain during 1 week, crop will suffer. It was also observed that groundnut is the most sensitive crop to moisture stress followed by red gram and green gram. The summary of the field visits and few photographs are appended.

4. Meeting with Collector, Anantapur:

Plantation of Neem, which is considered as a most environment/farmer friendly and auspicious tree with good source of bio-pesticide may be encouraged in the districts. Plantation of one Neem tree with each toilet constructed under Swatch Bharat Abhiyan was suggested. Collector, while sharing the initiative taken for promotion of quinoa cultivation in Anantapur, accepted our suggestions to study the prospects of olive cultivation in Anantapur.

5. Action points emerged during the visit:-

- 5.1** The proposal for enhancement of subsidy on water carrying pipes may be re-examined.
- 5.2** Minikits of K-6 variety of groundnut may not be allocated for next Kharif season to AP and Telangana.
- 5.3** Submission of Annual Action Plan for implementation of MM III (TBOs) during 2015-16 by Andhra Pradesh
- 5.4** Approval of Annual Action Plan of NFSM-Commercial crops of Telangana for 2015-16
- 5.5** Submission of proposal for additional programme for pulses, coarse cereals and oilseeds under NFSM and NMOOP for rabi/summer-2015-16 to meet the shortfall of kharif-2015.
- 5.6** To facilitate supply of safflower seed for Rabi- 2015-16 for Anantapur district through NSC and IIOR.
- 5.7** To facilitate an exposure visit from Anantapur, AP to olive cultivation area of Rajasthan.
- 5.8** To re-examine the proposal of AP, Telangana and other states if, any for considering uniform rate of assistance on farm implements under NFSM at par with SMAM and NMOOP.

Appendix

Details of field visits undertaken in Anantapur district of AP

Location	Activity	Observations
Shri P. Damodhar Naidu, Shri P. Ranganath Reddy, Village: Raghavampally, Mandal: Battalpa Ili	1) Cluster demonstration of Green Gram + Groundnut. 2) Cluster demonstration of Red Gram + Groundnut under NFSM. Size of demonstration-50 ha. Variety-LRG-41 of Red gram Variety-Kadiri-6 of Groundnut. Other inputs supplied - Zinc, Gypsum, PSB/Rhizobium. Rows proportion – 1:7 / 1:15 Sowing date 17.6.15.	The crop condition was satisfactory but facing moisture stress and started wilting in the day time. Immediate rains are required to sustain the crop yield. Farmers requested for their exposure visits either to DGR, Junagarh or Research Station of ANGRAU. It was suggested that exposure visits may be arranged through ATMA.
Shri Rangantah Reddy and Shri Tirupathi Naidu, Mandal: Battalpa Ili	Seed Minikits of groundnut	Seed minikits of K-6, K-9, ICGV-91114 were supplied to the farmers in the Mandal on 29 th June, 2015. However, due to dry spell, sowing of only 40 seed minikits K-6 has been taken place in the area.
Shri Damodhar Naidu, Mandal: Battalpa Ili	Survey of crop condition of groundnut	It was observed that groundnut is the most sensitive crop to moisture stress followed by red gram and green gram. The farmer is having 8 acre of land and cultivated groundnut on 8 acres during 2014-15 with a yield of 18 bag/acre (40 kg/bag). During 2015-16, he has taken up groundnut under 5 acre due to deficit rainfall. Some area has been diverted to green gram and horticulture crops. The Mandal is having total cultivable area of 13450 ha and groundnut has been sown so far over an area of 9718 ha during current Kharif season. The remaining area will be sown on receipt of rains. Seed of green gram (Variety LGG 460) has already positioned for distribution to farmers as a contingency plan.

Location	Activity	Observations
Shri Bhaskar Reddy, Village: Raghavampally, Mandal: Battalpa Ili	Supply of groundnut Seeds under NMOOP and groundnut cultivation with drip irrigation. Variety- Kadiri-6.	<p>The farmer is a beneficiary of water carrying pipes supplied under NMOOP during 2014-15. He has now installed portable drip irrigation system in groundnut, wherein the laterals of drip are manually shifted from one place to other for irrigating the whole field. State officials informed that the total cost of drip irrigation is about Rs. 1 lakh per ha a subsidy of 90% has been allowed from NMSA and State budget.</p> <p>The farmer also informed that 125 kg kernel of groundnut are used, which cost to Rs. 13750/- per ha @ Rs. 110/- per kg. Higher seed rate is used to maintain the plant population under adverse weather situation.</p>
Shri Obal Reddy & others (Sideswara raithu mitra group- 5 members), Village Mustur, Mandal- Battalpalli	Custom hiring centre under RKVY.	<p>The implements like i) Seed cum fertilizer drill (Rs.60,000); ii) Mahindra Tractor (Rs.5,75,000); iii) Rotavator -36 blade (Rs. 90,000); iv) Dry pod thresher (Rs. 1,50,000). Out of the total cost of Rs. 8,75,500/- of 05 implements subsidy of Rs. 3,00,000/- lakhs has been allowed.</p> <p>The centre has fixed the charges @ Rs.600/hr for Rotavator & Dry pod thresher, Rs.700/hr for Seed cum fertilizer drill. A profit of Rs. 80,000/- was earned by the centre excluding the cost of operations on the field of members of the group.</p>
Village Mustur, Mandal- Battalpalli	Swatch Bharat Abhiyan programme	<p>Three sets of bath room + toilet have been constructed and maintained in the village. An expenditure of Rs. 30000/- has been incurred on each set and a subsidy of Rs. 15,000/- has been allowed.</p> <p>The village women informed about the collection and sale of neem seeds at the rate of Rs. 8/kg. to a firm based at Hyderabad.</p>

Photographs taken during the field visits in Anantapur district



Groundnut crop facing moisture stress



Groundnut crop condition is satisfactory but facing moisture stress



Groundnut cultivation with portable drip system



Visit to a custom hiring centre set up under RKVY



A Neem tree in custom hiring centre



Neem seed collection by village women and toilets & bathroom constructed under Swachh Bharat Abhiyan