**Summary of tour report of Shri S S Kagi, Senior Technical Assistant, Directorate of Oilseeds Development, Hyderabad to Anantapur district of Andhra Pradesh, from 23rd to 24th July, 2014.**

Anantapur is the southern-most district of the Rayalseema region of Andhra Pradesh. Being located in the rain-shadow region of Andhra Pradesh, the district is drought-prone. District is having predominantly red soils followed by black soils. The normal rainfall of the district is 553 mm and major crops cultivated are groundnut, bengalgram, paddy and redgram, sunflower and jowar. A tour was undertaken to monitor the crop condition of oilseed crops and implementation of Mini Mission I : Oilseeds under NMOOP during 2014-15 in Anantapur district of Andhra Pradesh.

**Crop Situation**: Groundnut is major crop cultivated in the district. During Kharif, 2014, an area of 2.63 lakh ha has been reported to sown against the targeted area of 6.95 lakh ha with expected shortfall of 3.45 lakh ha. This is mainly due to deficient/scanty rainfall received in most of the weeks of south west monsoon, 2014, which has affected the sowing of groundnut and also already sown groundnut crop. The groundnut crop which has been sown on receipt of rainfall during last week of May and first week of June is under severe moisture stress condition. The groundnut crop, which has not received rainfall after first week of June, is under severe moisture stress and possibility of recovery of groundnut crop along with intercropped redgram is very difficult, even after receipt of rains hereafter. However, the groundnut crop, which has received rains or provided with life saving irrigation through drip/sprinkler, is in normal condition. District officials are ready with the contingency plan and the crops like jowar, bajra, cowpea, greengram and horsegram have been suggested for cultivation, sufficient quantities of seeds have already been arranged.

**Scheme Implementation**: The Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) under ISOPOM was implemented during 2013-14 and reported about 69% utilization of funds. The sprinkler sets and pipes carrying water from source to field are well accepted by the farmers due to advantages of increased available water use efficiency and better crop yield. District Officials requested for revision in subsidy pattern under pipes carrying water from source to field up to 50%, irrespective of the size of pipe and cost of pipe.

Mini Mission I : Oilseeds under NMOOP is under implementation with total outlay of Rs. 411.42 lakhs during 2014-15 and the district officials informed that implementation of components under the scheme is in progress. They also informed about requirement of pending liabilities and release of funds for implementation of scheme during current year. The groundnut varieties K-6, ICGV-91114, Narayani and Kadiri-9 and Castor variety Haritha have been allotted to district during *Kharif*, 2014. All the groundnut varieties have performed better during previous years and are being popularized in the district.

\*\*\*\*\*

