

Brief progress report on SRI collaborative project up to 30th March 2014 from AP SRI Consortium

Department of Agriculture, Government of Andhra Pradesh has taken up a collaborative program to strengthen SRI with the support from NFSM, NABARD and AP SRI Consortium. It is implementing in four districts namely, Medak, Mahabubnagar, Nalgonda and Khammam; targeting 4000ha i.e. 1000 ha per district, spread over 10 blocks of 100 ha each.

15 NGOs were selected to implement the program by a panel of members from AP SRI Consortium. These NGOs are implementing the program in the three districts except Khammam.

Since, we don't find the good support from NGO's, the project has been not active in Khammam, so we are planning to implement it in Karimnagar district from next season onwards.

Progress:

- The present status of the SRI is that the transplantation is completed in three districts **2006.5** acres (**812** Hectares) with **1317** farmers till now for Rabi season 2013-14.
- The total area of SRI under this program for the Kharif season 2013-14 is **912** farmers consisting of **1337.75** acres (**541** Hectares) transplanted.
- The total area of SRI under this program for the Rabi season 2012-13 is **568** farmers consisting of **755.40** Acres (306 Hectares) transplanted.
- In Rabi season 2011, we have reached only **50%** of the target area, and Kharif season 2012, we have reached **64%** of target area. But now in this Rabi 2012-13, we have reached **63%** of target area.
- Medak, Mahabubnagar and Nalgonda districts JDA have conducted the review meetings on SRI collaborative project with concern NGO partners.
- All NGO's requested to release the budgets of kharif & Rabi season 2013-14 from JDA's, apart from that, they are asking extra weeders for the Rabi season 2013-14.
- In this Rabi season 2013-14, Eco-Club 1 organization did not start the work yet. Because there is water scarcity problems.

- Medak and Mahabubnagar SRI collaborative project NGO partners did not get the “farmer inputs” and “training to laborers” which are the components of Rabi season 2012-13, because there is no budget. But Dept. of Agriculture has 11 lakhs budget of the previous seasons in SAMETI.
- NABARD released 3rd installment budget of Rs. 22.5 lakhs to SAMETI for the season of Kharif 2013-14, on 05th September 2013.
- I went all the organizations in three districts for the purpose of cross checking and also interacted with farmers on SRI Field visits.
- Dr. R. Mahendra Kumar, Principal Scientist Agronomy, DRR who is also member of the steering committee of JAISRI, also visited the SRI Fields in Mahabubnagar and Nalgonda districts and gave his valuable inputs.
- He explained to farmers about the Alternate Wetting and Drying (AWD) method in SRI, it is a water management concept. We are implementing it as part of JAISRI collaborative project with selected farmers.
- We are inviting the Steering committee members to the field visits.
- All NGOs were updating the Monitoring data through SMS and JAISRI google group mail.
- Details of the 3rd installment budget to be released accordingly district wise from April 2013 to March 2014 (12 Months).

District Name	Area in hectares	Unit cost/ Hectare (Rs)	Amount to be released (lakhs)
Medak	520.44	2853	1,484,815
Nalgonda	316		901,548
Mahabubnagar	516.84		1,474,544
Total	1353.28		3,860,907

Budget releases:

Till now NABARD has released three installments of budget to dept of Agriculture. But DOA has released only two installments to NGO's.

The details are given below in the table.

NABARD & DoA Budget released dates & Amount						
Installment	NABARD released to DoA (lakhs)	Time of release	DoA released to NGOs (lakhs)	Time of release	State level Coordinator salary (lakhs)	Remaining balance at DoA (lakhs)
1 st	33.71	01-11-2011	24.70	02-02-2012	1.23	
2 nd	33.71	11-01-2013	22.68	02-05-2013	2.11	
3 rd	22.50	05.09.2013				
Total	89.92		47.38		3.34	39.20

Reasons for shortfall in Achievements against targets:

- As there is delay in providing labour incentives to the farmers, they are showing no interest in cultivating SRI for the next season.
- NGO's efforts were not up to their potential, and had no trust on the release of the budget. Some of the NGO's performances were not up to mark.
- Some of the NGO's discontinued in the middle for some seasons due to the staff problems and water scarcity at the ground level.
- Administrative delays in budget releases to NGOs hampered the progress.
- When the project started, there is a drought situation for initial three seasons, so the fields end up in dry situation.
- At the ground level, there are problems like labour shortage, difficulty in weeding and also the irregular power cuttings especially in Rabi season.
- Even through NGO's submitted UC's on "Field days component", there is no release of budget till now.
- Steering committee meetings where not held timely.
- Delays in the budget for alternate a month to release from JDA's to NGO's.

- Steering committee members field visits – it will help us to cross check the progress and learn new things happening in the field.

SRI system can be popularized effectively:

In Medak district, the project area under SRI is doing well and farmers are showing much enthusiasm for cultivating SRI. Two mandals Doulathabad and Bomraspet of Mahabubnagar district have positive approach on SRI. And also Gundala and Mothkur mandal doing very well in cultivating SRI method.

Labour training programs:

All the NGO's are given to labours village level training programs on transplantation and weeding in JAISRI collaborative project.

Enclosed the labour group details are given bellow.

Annexure:

- 1). District wise Rabi season data 2013-14 till now
- 2). NGO wise Rabi season data 2013-14 till now

1). District wise Rabi season data 2013-14 till now:

District Name	No. of farmers	Area of acres in Rabi 2013-14
Medak	462	725.5
Nalgonda	455	567.5
Mahabubnagar	400	713.5
Khammam		
TOTAL	1317	2006.5

2). NGO wise Rabi season data 2013-14 till now:

S.No	DISTRICT	NGO Name	No. of farmers	Area of acres in Rabi 2013-14
1	MEDAK	ASSMA	168	258.5
2		TREES	90	136
3		NAVAJYOTHI	84	146
4		BASIX-1	76	113
5		BASIX-2	44	72
6	NALGONDA	SHARP	113	200
7		PILUPU	159	122.75
8		ARDS	64	72
9		SWEET	40	64.5
10		CROPS	79	108.25
11	MAHABUBNAGAR	BMMS	236	391.5
12		DMMS	120	220
13		ECO-CLUB 1	--	--
14		ECO-CLUB 2	--	--
15		BALAVIKAS	44	102
16	KHAMMAM	JAGRUTHI		
17		CHESTD 2		
		TOTAL	1317	2006.5