

Minutes of 28th Meeting (Zoom Conference) on Oil palm Area Expansion programme held on 29th June 2022 at 3.00 PM.

The Director of Horticulture, TS, Hyd., has convened the 28th meeting on Oil palm area expansion programme with Oil Palm companies operating in Telangana state through zoom conference on 29.06.2022 from 11.30 AM to issue directions to all the concerned regarding implementation of Oil palm area expansion programme during 2022-23.

DH&SOs of (26) Oil palm districts, representatives from the (11) Oil palm companies, Micro Irrigation companies registered with TSMIP, OSDs from TSMIP cell, district supervisory officers and Sri. B.N. Rao, Oil palm consultant have participated in the conference.

At the outset, the Assistant Director of Horticulture has welcomed the participants to the conference and briefed about the agenda of the meeting.

The Director of Horticulture, TS, Hyd., had conducted a detailed review with Oil palm companies, MI companies and DHSOs on the achievement of plantation target of June 2022. As against the target of **5496 acres**, the achievement as on 28th June 2022 is **1869.18 acres** which is only 31.24%.

The DH&SOs Adilabad and Khammam have informed that, as on date they could not take up any plantation programme as the Oil palm companies concerned were unable to supply planting material to the farmers due to delay in obtaining planting material release certificate(s).

The DHSO Nizamabad has informed that, in view of instructions received from DOH/Head Office during the 27th meeting on Oil palm area expansion programme, they are taking up plantation even though drip installation is yet to be done. However, it was opined by the DHSOs & Companies that, inordinate delay in installation of drip after plantation may affect the plantation in case of dry spells.

During the meeting the DH&SO has raised issues with regard to drip installations as below and informed that, the MI companies are not completing in time as such they are unable to achieve the oil palm plantation targets in time.

1. The DH&SO Wanaparthy has requested for facilitating Drip trench cutting work with NREGS so that the trench cutting work would get speed up. **(Action: TSMIP)**
2. Sri. MV Madhusudhan, DDH & Supervisory Officer of Khammam&Kothagudem districts has informed that, in Khammam district the MI companies have not yet completed drip installations for last year plantations also. **(Action: TSMIP)**
3. The DHSO Siddipet has informed that, they are planning for 1000 acre single day plantation in the 1st week of July and as such the MI Companies – Jain & Netafim are not taking any steps for completion of drip installations. Further, M/s. Jain Irrigations Systems have not employed required number of fitters for completion of work. **(Action: TSMIP)**
4. M/s. PreUnique (I) Pvt. Ltd., have informed that, the drip installations in Nizamabad and Nirmal are not yet completed delaying the scheduled programme and also affecting their future plans for import of seed sprouts. **(Action: TSMIP)**

M/s. PreUnique (I) Pvt. Ltd., and M/s. Godrej Agrovet Ltd., have informed that, they have got planting material release certificate(s) and they start distribution of planting material in a day or two.

Sri. BN Rao, Oil palm Consultant has informed that,

- During the recent inspections to the Oil palm nurseries and farmers fields from 17.06.2022 to 23.06.2022 it is noticed that, the Oil palm companies are not maintaining the nurseries properly.
- Nurseries Inspection report along with observations and recommendations for improvement of the situation was already communicated to the concerned DH&SOs and the respective Oil palm companies for immediate necessary action.
- Proper culling is to be done in the Oil palm nurseries and all the culled seedlings are to be destroyed immediately.
- Oil palm companies will be held responsible for distribution of inferior planting material (if any) to the farmers. Both Oil palm companies and the district officers must be cautious in this regard.
- Oil palm companies as well as District officers should create awareness to the farmers on precautions to be taken by them during transport of oil

palm seedlings, after shifting them to the farmer's field until they are planted in the main field.

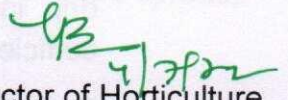
- The Oil palm seedlings must be watered properly till they are planted in the field.
- At the time of planting, the ball of earth of the seedling must be so placed that it is at the ground level. Immediately after planting, the soil around the plant must be pressed properly with legs.
- The soil around needs to be watered immediately after planting.

The meeting was concluded with following instructions of the Director of Horticulture, TS, Hyd.

- Only square method of plantation with 9m x 9m spacing is to be adopted. The farmers who have dug pits before 1st May 2022 are only allowed for triangular method of plantation.
- In case where the farmers are taking up plantation even though drip installation is yet to be done, the DH&SOs shall stop the plantation till the drip installation is completed in the field if they are not confident of sufficient irrigation being provided by the farmer.
- Both the DH&SOs and the Oil palm companies shall adhere to the month wise targets of Oil palm Area Expansion.
- The leftover targets of June month will be carried forward to the July 2022. As such the DH&SOs and the Oil palm companies have to achieve both the leftover target of June month and the July month target in the July month itself.
- MI companies should speed up the drip installations in Oil palm farmers' fields.
- DH&SOs / Horticulture Officers / Oil palm companies have to encourage border cropping with Casuarina, Teak, Sandal wood etc., which act as wind breaks and will create required humidity for Oil palm plantations.
- DH&SOs / Horticulture Officers should compulsorily tour for 20 days in a month and make night halts for at least 12 days in a month.
- All the DH&SOs shall update beneficiary wise progress in Google spread sheets day to day basis.
- DH&SOs shall take the assistance of concerned company persons in uploading beneficiary list in the progress report format.
- All the Oil Palm companies have to furnish further seed sprouts confirmations if any time to time to the Telangana State Head Office as

well as the day to day receipts (if any) of oil palm seed sprouts to their nurseries.

- Oil palm companies shall distribute Rythu Diaries to all the farmers at the time of supply of planting material or within a week after supply of planting material.
- The DH&SO Wanaparthy shall submit proposal to the DOH, TS, Hyd., for facilitating Drip trench cutting work with NREGS.
- The DH&SOs of Mahabubnagar, Wanaparthy, Gadwal, Narayanpet, Nagarkurnool, Mancherial and Mahabubabad districts where Oil Palm Pilot project was implemented, have to submit 3rd Year maintenance proposals immediately. They document all activities of Oil palm crop with digital photographs and send to the state head office time to time.
- Concerned Oil palm companies shall give Rythu Diaries to all the Pilot Oil palm farmers also.
- District Supervisory Officers shall accompany DrB.N. Rao, Oil palm Consultant in filed visits.


Director of Horticulture

To

The Oil palm companies.

The DH&SOs of (26) Oil palm districts.

The MI companies concerned through OSD TSMIP.

Copy to the OSD, TSMIP, Hyderabad.

Copy Supervisory Officers for information.

Copy submitted to APC & Secretary to Govt., GOTS for information.

Copy submitted the District Collectors of (26) Oil palm districts for information.

Copy submitted to the JS (oil seeds), GOI for information.