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Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan – Pre-Kharif Campaign for Sustainable Agriculture

The Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan, a large-scale Pre-Kharif campaign, was organized from 29 May to 12 June 2025 by DDS–KVK, Medak-1, Zaheerabad in collaboration with scientists from ICAR–Indian Institute of Millets Research (IIMR) and officials from the Department of Agriculture. The campaign aimed to enhance farmer preparedness for the Kharif season through scientific and sustainable agricultural practices. Six dedicated teams comprising ICAR scientists, KVK Subject Matter Specialists, and Agriculture Department officials systematically covered 45 villages across Sangareddy district, reaching a total of 14,436 farmers, including 11,552 male farmers and 2,884 female farmers. The campaign focused on key technical themes such as soil health management through soil testing, seed treatment and quality seed selection, Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), Integrated Pest and Disease Management (IPDM), and improved animal husbandry practices. Special emphasis was placed on promoting soil testing services and the use of Soil Health Cards to encourage balanced nutrient application



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Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan – Pre-Kharif Campaign for Sustainable Agriculture

Awareness was also created on nutrition-sensitive agriculture, natural and organic farming practices, and the availability of various government schemes and extension services. Extension literature was distributed widely, and farmers’ innovations and Indigenous Technical Knowledge (ITKs) were documented to strengthen research–extension linkages. The campaign significantly enhanced farmers’ technical knowledge and encouraged adoption of resilient and eco-friendly farming systems ahead of the Kharif season.

Farmers Telephone Line Advisory in Collaboration with Eenadu

As part of the field activity, a vaccination drive was conducted in which 100 goats were vaccinated against Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR), a major viral disease affecting goats. Additionally, 100 goats were dewormed to improve animal health, growth, and productivity. The intervention strengthened awareness among women farmers about the economic potential of goat farming and encouraged adoption of improved management practices for sustainable livestock-based livelihoods.



Exposure Visit to KVK Sagroli for Farmers and KVK Technical Team



An exposure visit was organized to Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Sagroli, Nanded District, Maharashtra on 10 July 2025, where DDS–KVK technical staff and progressive farmers participated to gain insights into advanced agricultural technologies and successful enterprise models. During the visit, participants observed various demonstration units including horticulture nurseries, fruit orchards, vegetable plots, karonda plantations, and mulberry-based sericulture units. The nursery unit showcased the raising of quality seedlings such as tomato, chilli, brinjal, marigold, and karonda based on farmer demand, while orchards demonstrated intercropping practices such as soybean cultivation in guava plantations. Participants also observed vermicompost production using soybean husk waste and explored the use of modern farm machinery such as groundnut harvesters, onion transplanters, mulching cum bed makers, and seed drill-cum-fertilizer applicators, highlighting their role in reducing labour and improving efficiency. The visit also provided exposure to value-addition and entrepreneurship models through the Home Science Processing Unit, where products such as tofu, aloe vera-based items, pickles, candies, and masala’s were prepared and marketed. Participants gained insights into Artificial Intelligence (AI)-based technologies in sugarcane production, focusing on precision farming, irrigation management, pest forecasting, and yield prediction. The visit strengthened understanding of integrated farming systems, digital extension platforms, and resource management practices, encouraging participants to adopt innovative technologies and enterprise models for sustainable livelihoods.

Training programmes-HDPS, INM, ICM-Pulses



The DDS–KVK SMS Agronomy organized six training programmes in Nagoor (K), Godegarpally, Bhemra, Degulwadi, Chilakapally and Ippapally villages of Sangareddy district. A total of 485 farmers actively participated and benefited from these trainings. Farmers were educated on improved agronomic practices, including: Soil health management, integrated nutrient management, high density planting system in Cotton, better management practices in soybean and integrated crop management practices in pulses. These training programmes helped farmers gain practical knowledge and encouraged the adoption of scientific and sustainable farming practices, leading to improved productivity, soil health and farm income in the district.

Training on Good horticultural practices on Zinger, Banana and Papaya.



In this training provided valuable insights into the benefits of raised bed farming for horticultural crops. Elaborated on optimal irrigation practices and fertigation schedules, along with effective weed control management strategies to minimize nutrient competition. Additionally discussed the significances of micro nutrients such as Boron, Calcium and Magnesium for improved crop growth and fruit quality.

Capacity Building on Digital Community Media Content Creation



A two-day capacity-building training programme on “Effective Community Media Content Creation for Digital Platforms” was organized during July 2025 at DDS–KVK, Medak-1, Zaheerabad by Dr. Sai Priyanka Pagadala, SMS (Agricultural Extension), to strengthen digital communication skills among community media professionals, rural youth, and farmers. A total of 39 participants actively engaged in the training, which combined theoretical learning with hands-on practical sessions. The programme introduced participants to key digital communication concepts such as audience identification, script writing, storyboarding, visual and audio storytelling, and the effective use of titles, hash tags, and thumbnails to enhance outreach. Participants were trained to use mobile-friendly and free applications such as Cap Cut, VN, In Shot, and Canva, enabling easy and accessible content creation without advanced technical skills. Five working groups were formed to develop short videos on selected topics, including soil sample collection and soil testing, botanical preparations for pest management, pruning techniques in horticultural crops, preparation of jowar-based nutritional products, and organic liquid manure preparation. Each group successfully produced short educational videos, which were edited and finalized with relevant titles, subtitles, and thumbnails. The videos were uploaded to DDS and KVK social media platforms, significantly enhancing the digital outreach of farmer-centric knowledge and promoting sustainable information dissemination through community media.

Goat Management Training and Vaccination Drive for Rural Women

DDS–KVK, Medak-1, Zaheerabad conducted a comprehensive goat management training and vaccination drive aimed at improving livestock health and enhancing livelihood opportunities for rural women across five mandals covering 20 villages in Sangareddy district. The programme, led by Dr. Kailash Madne, SMS (Animal Husbandry), provided hands-on training to women farmers on scientific goat rearing practices. Key topics included scientific housing management, feeding practices, seasonal disease management, income generation opportunities, and market linkages for goat-based enterprises. Special emphasis was given to the use of ethno-veterinary practices, combining traditional knowledge with scientific methods to ensure effective preventive and curative animal care.

Training Program on Mango Pruning



During the event, SMS Horticulture, explained on process of mango pruning. highlighted the significance of mango pruning practice by elaborating on its benefits, which include the enhancement of fruit size and improvement in fruit quality. After completion of the meeting, participants were taken on a field trip to visit the farming areas in Jharasangam and Kuppanagar, as well as Machnoor. A practical demonstration on mango pruning was carried out and explained the importance of pruning.

Seed Distribution under CFLD - Soybean Variety (DSb-34)

Under the Cluster Front Line Demonstrations (CFLD) programme on oilseeds, under NMEO, soybean variety DSb-34 seed was distributed to cover an area of 100 hectares, benefiting 250 farmers across 11 villages in five mandals Zaheerabad, Kohir, Jharasangam, Nyalkal and Kangti. Village level group discussions were conducted to create awareness on the improved features and advantages of DSb-34. The variety is suitable for both irrigated and rainfed conditions during Kharif, possessing high resistance to rust and purple seed stain, moderate resistance to pod blight, and a short duration of 80 - 95 days. Farmers were sensitized about the declining performance of JS - 335 due to increased pod blight incidence and longer crop duration. Emphasis was also laid on seed treatment, balanced nutrient management, and timely weed control to enhance productivity and reduce pest and disease incidence.



Model Pulse Village Programme



The Model Pulse Village Programme was successfully conducted in Godegarpally village (Mogudampally Mandal) and Nagoor (K) village (Kangti Mandal) of Sangareddy district. The programme aimed to enhance pulse production and promote improved cultivation practices among farmers. Under this initiative, improved quality seed was distributed to a total of 750 farmers, covering 600 acres of red gram and 150 acres of black gram. Demonstrations were conducted in all 750 farmer fields, ensuring effective adoption of improved technologies. The programme focused on increasing productivity, improving soil health and ensuring sustainable pulse production in the district. Farmers were encouraged to adopt better agronomic practices, leading to improved yield and income. Overall, the Model Pulse Village Programme played a significant role in strengthening pulse cultivation and enhancing the livelihood of farmers in the region.

Training cum Input Distribution under FLD on Nutri-Sensitive Organic Kitchen Gardens



A training cum input distribution programme was conducted at Chilkapally village under the Front Line Demonstration (FLD) programme on Nutri-Sensitive Organic Kitchen Gardens. The training focused on enhancing household food security and improving nutritional intake among rural families through the establishment of backyard Nutri-gardens. During the session, participants were sensitized on the importance of nutri-gardens in combating malnutrition and Anaemia, particularly among women and children. Emphasis was placed on achieving dietary diversity by cultivating a variety of vegetables and leafy greens using organic methods. Practical guidance was provided on crop selection, seasonal planting, and organic cultivation practices suitable for small backyard spaces. As part of the programme, Nutri-garden seed kits were distributed to beneficiaries who had sufficient backyard space to establish kitchen gardens, encouraging the adoption of nutrition-sensitive agriculture at the household level.

Demonstration on High Density Planting System (HDPS) in Cotton

The DDS-KVK conducted demonstrations on the High Density Planting System (HDPS) in cotton across Nagoor (K), Bharath Nagar, Godegarpally, Wasar, and Siddapur Thanda villages of Sangareddy district. The main objective of this programme was to promote optimum plant population by reducing spacing, thereby enhancing productivity in the red soils of Sangareddy district.



Farmers were trained on suitable spacing, nutrient management and crop management practices under HDPS. The demonstrations highlighted that adopting HDPS can lead to better utilization of resources, improved plant stand and higher yields compared to conventional planting methods. Overall, the initiative created awareness among farmers about HDPS cotton cultivation techniques and encouraged them to adopt scientific and efficient practices for increasing productivity and profitability.

Input Distribution under OFTs and FLDs

With the onset of the cropping season, baseline surveys were conducted across villages in different mandals and need-based technologies were implemented through input distribution under OFTs and FLDs covering 14 hectares and 35 farmers. Under FLDs in sugarcane, inputs for management of root grub and stem borer included pheromone traps, light traps, Metarhizium and Trichocards. In Bt cotton, inputs were supplied for pink bollworm management, including pheromone traps, Metarhizium, Emamectin benzoate, and neem oil. OFTs in guava focused on tea mosquito bug management using traps, Lecanicilium lecani and Beauveria, Neem oil and need-based chemicals. Similarly, OFTs in cotton (thrips) and rice (IPDM) involved distribution of traps, biocontrol agents and selective pesticides. The programme emphasized eco friendly IPDM practices, promoting bioagents to reduce chemical usage, enhance sustainability and create awareness while assessing pest and disease incidence under field conditions.



OFT on Wheel Hoe Weeder for Reducing Drudgery among Farm Women



An On-Farm Trial (OFT) was conducted to evaluate the performance of a wheel hoe weeder as a drudgery-reducing tool for farm women engaged in weeding operations. Traditionally, weeding is carried out using a kurpi in bending and squatting postures for long hours, leading to severe physical strain and discomfort among women workers. The wheel hoe weeder, a lightweight and manually operated implement, was introduced and assessed for its efficiency and ergonomic advantages under field conditions. Comparative results in a 5 m² area showed that the wheel hoe weeder completed weeding in 8 minutes 22 seconds, while traditional hand weeding required 14 minutes, demonstrating improved field capacity and time saving. Although hand weeding resulted in more thorough weed removal, the wheel hoe weeder significantly reduced labour intensity and was more suitable for covering larger areas. Ergonomic assessment revealed reduced backache, shoulder pain, and overall body discomfort, resulting in a lower drudgery score. The trial confirmed the wheel hoe weeder as an efficient, women-friendly tool that improves work posture and enhances productivity.

Assessment of new high yielding Bengal Gram Variety NBeG-776.

NBeG-776 is a high-yielding desi chickpea variety developed by ANGRAU, recommended for rabi cultivation in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. It matured in about 108 days and produces an average yield of around 17 q/ha, which is higher than the local check variety JG-11 (14.8 q/ha). The variety also recorded a higher benefit-cost (B:C) ratio of 2.47 compared to 2.12 in the check variety, indicating better profitability..



The crop has an erect growth habit with higher pod bearing, making it suitable for mechanical harvesting. It shows tolerance to wilt disease and drought conditions, ensuring stable performance under rainfed situations. Seeds are light brown in colour, with good market demand and about 20% protein content, adding nutritional and economic value. Overall, NBeG-776 is a farmer-friendly and profitable variety due to its higher yield, better economic returns, disease tolerance, and suitability for mechanization

Training cum Input Distribution under CFLD (Oilseeds - Soybean) under NMEO



Training cum input distribution programmes were organized in 10 villages covering 250 farmers under CFLD on soybean. Inputs such as yellow and blue sticky traps @ 12/acre, neem oil 10000 ppm @ 400 ml/acre, Panchagavya, Jeevamrutham and Dashaparni kasayam each @ 5 lit/acre were distributed to each farmer. The Integrated Crop Management (ICM) package for soybean was explained in detail. E. Swamy (PA - Soil Lab) highlighted balanced fertilizer application and weed management practices, particularly after 45 DAS, and elaborated on the preparation, dosage, and timely application of Panchagavya and Jeevamrutham. N. Snehalatha (SMS - Plant Protection & CFLD, (oilseed - Soyabean, In-charge)) explained integrated pest and disease management (IPDM) strategies, including installation and use of sticky traps and proper application of neem oil and Dashaparnikasayam. The programme emphasized eco-friendly practices for sustainable crop production.

Plantation drive



600 Karonda plants are planted at DDS-Krishi Vigyan Kendra campus. This effort is aimed to enhancing the green coverage and biofencing within the campus

Mango diversity show



Over 250 varieties of mangoes would be displayed, informative sessions on scientific cultivation of the fruit would be organised at the Mango Diversity Show to be held at Fruit Research Centre in Sangareddy. Mobilized 25 farmers to attend the Mango Diversity Show, where they gained significant awareness and knowledge about mango varieties and related aspects.

Cluster Frontline Demonstration on Red Gram



DDS-KVK, successfully conducted Cluster Frontline Demonstrations (CFLDs) on red gram in Bheemra, Turkwadgaon, Ippapally and Chilakapally villages of Sangareddy district. Under this programme, improved red gram seed was distributed to 75 farmers, covering a total area of 75 acres. The demonstrations were carried out to showcase improved production technologies and promote better crop management practices among farmers. The main objective of the programme was to increase the area and production of pulses in Sangareddy district, thereby enhancing farmers' income and ensuring nutritional security. Farmers were guided on scientific practices such as optimum spacing, seed treatment, and balanced nutrient management. Overall, the CFLD programme contributed to creating awareness and encouraging farmers to adopt improved pulse production technologies, leading to enhanced productivity and sustainability.

Follow-up Training and Exposure Visit on Millet Value Addition

A follow-up training programme was conducted for members of the Mahila Swayam Krushi Millet Processing Unit to strengthen their skills in millet value addition and enterprise development. During the training, participants were introduced to several new millet-based value-added products to diversify their product range and enhance market opportunities. As part of the programme, participants were taken on an exposure visit to the Millet Processing Incubation Centre (MPIC) at PJTSAU, Hyderabad. At the centre, participants received a comprehensive orientation on the functioning of the incubation facility and observed a wide range of millet-based products currently being developed and commercialized.

They also gained practical exposure to advanced millet processing machinery and learned about their applications in improving product quality and efficiency. Information was provided on incubation services such as training programmes, technology transfer, technical mentorship, machine hiring facilities, and business development support, enabling participants to strengthen their millet-based enterprises and improve income opportunities.



Breast feeding Awareness Campaign under World Breastfeeding Week



A Breastfeeding Awareness Campaign was conducted at Basaveshwara Mahila Anganwadi Centre and IDMT Anganwadi Centre, Zaheerabad, on the occasion of World Breastfeeding Week to promote awareness on the importance of breastfeeding among mothers. The programme focused on educating pregnant and lactating mothers about the nutritional and health benefits of breastfeeding for both infants and mothers. Special emphasis was given to the importance of colostrum feeding in enhancing the immunity of newborn babies and supporting healthy growth and development. Participants were also guided on proper breastfeeding practices, maternal nutrition, and care during the lactation period to ensure adequate milk production and maternal health. The programme concluded with the message that breastfeeding provides a strong foundation for a child's healthy future and should be practiced and supported by families and communities.

Parthenium Awareness Week



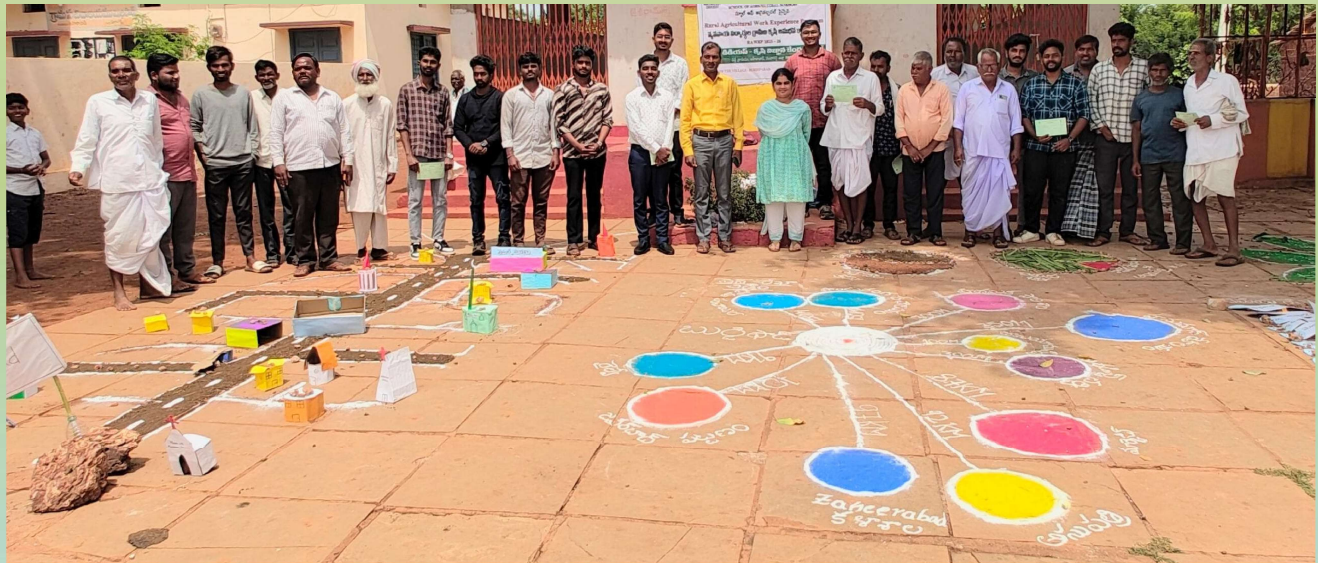
The DDS-KVK successfully conducted Parthenium Awareness Week from 16th August to 22nd August 2025 at the KVK campus and in nearby villages of Sangareddy district. The main objective of the programme was to create awareness about the harmful effects of parthenium weed on human health, livestock and crop productivity. Farmers and rural youth were educated about identification of parthenium, its rapid spread and its negative impact on agriculture and the environment. During the programme, participants were trained on effective management practices, including mechanical removal, use of competitive crops and biological control methods. Awareness campaigns, demonstrations and field visits were organized to ensure better understanding among farmers.

Uncultivated Green leafy vegetable festival

The DDS Uncultivated Green Festival was celebrated on 31st August 2025 to promote awareness about uncultivated wild greens and their nutritional, medicinal, and ecological importance. The event highlighted the conservation and sustainable use of these traditional food resources while encouraging community participation and knowledge sharing among farmers and local people.



Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) Activities in Villages under RAWE Programme



Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) activities were conducted in several newly adopted villages including Thumukunta, Huggelli, Burdipahad, Kuppanagar, Sathwar, and Kothur-B as part of the Rural Agricultural Work Experience Programme (RAWE). Agricultural students, along with farmers, actively participated in PRA exercises to understand village resources, farming systems, and livelihood patterns. Various PRA tools such as timeline analysis, Venn diagrams, social and resource mapping, seasonality matrix, and trend analysis were used to document important village information, including soil types, cropping patterns, availability of social institutions, and developmental progress over the years. The exercises also helped identify seasonal issues related to pest and disease occurrence and resource utilization. Awareness was created among farmers regarding the importance of participatory planning and the role of Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) in improving agricultural productivity and rural livelihoods. The activities strengthened interaction between students and farmers while enabling better understanding of village-level agricultural challenges and opportunities.

Live Web Telecast of PM-KISAN 20th Installment Release

A live web telecast of the release of the 20th installment under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme was organized at DDS-KVK, Zaheerabad. The event was organized in coordination with the Department of Agriculture to create awareness among farmers regarding the installment release and related procedures. Women farmers and other beneficiaries participated in the session, where the programme was broadcast live highlighting the financial assistance provided to eligible farmers. Dr. Sai Priyanka, SMS (Agricultural Extension), facilitated the session by translating the key messages into Telugu and explaining the importance of the PM-KISAN scheme.



Mrs. Lavanya, Mandal Agriculture Officer (MAO), Zaheerabad, attended the programme and oriented farmers on the importance of completing KYC updates and understanding installment release procedures. Awareness was also created on effective utilization of PM-KISAN funds for agricultural activities.

Live Streaming of Krishi Choupal



As a part of this program discussed topics on Improved seed varieties, climate-resilient crops, Integrated pest, nutrient management, Soil health management and organic farming techniques use of modern farm machinery equipment, Water conservation techniques like drip, sprinkler irrigation, post-harvest management, value addition and Government schemes and subsidies.

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