

## Seed Village Policy

### Component details of the Central Sector Scheme 'Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure Facilities for Production and Distribution of Quality Seeds'

The Department of Agriculture and Co-operation is implementing a Central Sector Scheme known as 'Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure Facilities for Production and Distribution of Quality Seeds' since 2005-06 on an all India basis. The objective of the ongoing scheme is to ensure production and multiplication of high yielding certified quality seeds of all crops in sufficient quantities and make the seeds available to farmers, including those in remote areas, not easily accessible by rail/road on time. The Scheme has the following components:-

S. No.	Name of the Component	Details of the component
(i)	Transport Subsidy on Movement of Seeds	This component covers North-Eastern States including Sikkim, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and hill areas of West Bengal. The component provides for (a) 100% reimbursement of difference between rail and road transportation cost for the movement of seeds produced outside the State and (b) the actual cost, restricted to maximum limit of Rs.60 per quintal whichever is less for the movement of seed within the State from State capital / district headquarters to sale outlets/sale counters.
(ii)	Establishment & Maintenance of Seed Bank.	<p>In order to ensure that seeds are available to the farmers at the time of natural calamities like floods, droughts, etc. this component is implemented to establish a seed bank to maintain stocks of foundation and certified seeds of different crops / varieties which can be utilised for such contingent requirements.</p> <p>Under this component, grants-in-aid are released to National Seeds Corporation, State Farms Corporation of India, State Seeds Corporation, Kerala Seed Development Authority, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Jharkhand, etc.</p>

(iii)	Quality Control Arrangement on Seeds	<p>This component deals with arrangement to regulate the quality of seeds under the Seeds Act, 1966 to strengthen quality control organisations like State Seed Certification Agencies, State Seed Testing Laboratories, Central Seed Testing Laboratory and Central Seed Committee apart from imparting training to officials engaged in the seed sector and for enforcing the seed law in order to ensure the production and distribution of quality seeds to protect the interest of farmers. This component also deals with the strengthening of National Seed Research and Training Centre at Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh). This Centre is accredited as Central Seed Testing Laboratory and acts as referral seed testing laboratory as well as a premier training centre on all aspects of seed technology to different stakeholders.</p> <p>Under this component, grants-in-aid are released to State/UT Departments of Agriculture, National Seeds Corporation, State Farms Corporation of India, State Seed Certification Agencies, State Seed Corporations, State Agricultural Universities, etc.</p>
(iv)	Seed Village Programme	<p>To upgrade the quality of farmer-saved seed, which is about 80-85% of the total seed used for crop production programme, financial assistance is provided for distribution of foundation/certified seeds at 50% cost of the seed of crops for production of certified/quality seeds only and for training on seed production and technology to the farmers.</p> <p>The seed produced in these seed villages are preserved/stored till the next sowing season. In order to encourage farmers to develop storage capacity of appropriate quality, assistance is given to farmers for making/procuring of Pusa Bin/Mud bin/Bin made from paper pulp for storing of seed produced by the farmers on their farms.</p> <p>Under this component, grants-in-aid are released to State/UT Departments of Agriculture, National Seeds Corporation, State Farms Corporation of India, State Seed Certification Agencies, State Seed Corporations, State Agricultural Universities, Krishi Vigyan Kendras, etc.</p>
(v)	Assistance for Creation/ Strengthening of Infrastructure Facilities in Public Sector.	<p>In order to establish/strengthen infrastructure facilities for production and distribution of quality seeds, assistance for creating facilities of seed cleaning, grading, processing, packing and seed storage is provided. Assistance for strengthening of the existing seed corporation with respect to above mentioned infrastructure is also considered on case to</p>

		<p>case basis. The assistance is available in the form of grants-in-aid for specific purpose of creating infrastructure facilities mentioned above only.</p> <p>Assistance is provided at the standard rate of Rs.22.25 lakh per seed processing plant of 1000 MTs (including construction of building and machinery/equipment) or multiples thereof. For construction of seed storage godown, assistance is provided at the standard rate of Rs.25 lakh per seed godown of 1000 MT capacity and multiples thereof.</p> <p>Under this component, grants-in-aid are released to State/UT Departments of Agriculture, National Seeds Corporation, State Farms Corporation of India, State Seed Corporations, etc.</p>
(vi)	Application of Biotechnology in Agriculture.	<p>This component is being implemented for providing financial assistance for post-release monitoring of transgenic crops through State Agricultural Universities (SAUs)/Department of Agriculture of States/Krishi Vigyan Kendras, strengthening of State Seed Testing Laboratories for quality control of GM seeds, public awareness campaign through SAUs, scientific organisations/Institutes and for promotion of tissue culture through SAUs/specialised institutions/seed corporations.</p> <p>Under this component, grants-in-aid are released to State/UT Departments of Agriculture, National Seeds Corporation, State Farms Corporation of India, State Seed Corporations, State Agricultural Universities, etc.</p>
(vii)	Assistance for Boosting Seed Production in Private Sector	<p>Under this component, credit linked back-ended capital subsidy is provided at the rate of 25% of the project cost subject to a maximum limit of Rs.25.00 lakh per unit on seed infrastructure development. Private companies, individual entrepreneurs, self help groups, seed cooperatives, partnership firms are eligible for subsidy. The component is implemented through nationalised/scheduled commercial banks. The assistance is for creation of infrastructure facilities relating to seed cleaning, grading, processing, seed treating, packaging and storage units as well as for seed testing facilities. This assistance is primarily for high volume low value seeds. National Seeds Corporation is the nodal agency for implementation and monitoring of this component.</p>
(viii)	Promoting for Hybrid Rice	<p>Under this component, assistance is provided for production as well as distribution of hybrid rice seeds. Production subsidy @</p>

	Seed Production	Rs.20/- per kg and distribution subsidy @Rs.25/- per kg. are given to beneficiaries.  Under this component, grants-in-aid are released to State/UT Departments of Agriculture, National Seeds Corporation, State Farms Corporation of India, State Seed Corporations, etc.
(ix)	Assistance for Boosting Seed Export	Under this component, assistance is meant for obtaining the membership of international organisations like International Seed Testing Association (ISTA) and to participate in the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) schemes for the development of Indian seed industry and promotion of export of seeds.

**Allocation and Expenditure for 'Development and Strengthening of Seed Infrastructure Facilities for Production and Distribution of Quality Seeds during the XI Five Year Plan 2007-2008 to 2011-2012.**

(Rs. in crore)

Year	BE	RE	Actual Expenditure
2007-2008	97.57	409.04	407.09
2008-2009	153.00	549.12	548.97
2009-2010	425.00	359.06	366.02
2010-2011	399.45	380.72	226.98
2011-2012	350.00	277.40	276.74
<b>Total</b>	<b>1425.02</b>	<b>1975.34</b>	<b>1825.80</b>

Year	Unit	Production/availability of Seed (Metric Tonnes)							
		Breeder Seeds/ Foundation							
Type of Seeds		2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Breeder Seed production	Metric Ton	6865	7382	9196	9441	10604	11921	12727	10282*
Foundation Seed production/availability	Metric Ton	74000	79654	85254	96274	180817	180640	222681	161700
Certified / Quality seed Production/ Availability	Metric Ton	1405000	1481800	1943100	2503500	2797200	3213592	3536200	3285800

### Seeds Programmes in North-Eastern States

S. No	Schemes/ Programmes/ Activities Approved	Details of Schemes/ Programmes/ Activities taken	Target for 2011-12	Achievement 2011-12	Target for 2012-13
1.	Establishment and Maintenance of Seed Bank.	The basic objective of this component is to keep seed available for meeting requirement during natural calamities.	47770 Qtl.	41510 Qtl.	44720 Qtl  Achievement likely 30,000 (anticipated)
2.	Transport Subsidy on movement of Seeds to North-Eastern States including Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, J&K, Uttaranchal and Hill areas of West Bengal.	<p>The topographical situation and climatic condition being not conducive for the production of seeds in the North-Eastern States.</p> <p>(a) Reimbursement of 100% difference between road and rail transportation cast to implementing States/agency for movement of seeds produced outside the state and movement to identified state capital/district headquarter.</p> <p>(b) The actual cost, restricted to maximum limit of Rs. 60/- per quintal for the movement of seed within the State from State Capital/ district headquarters to sale outlets/sale counters is being reimbursed to implementing State/agency.</p>	It is a reimbursement programme. Therefore, targets can not be pre-fixed as transportation of seeds depends on demand which varies from year to year.	<p>For NE State , a quantity 9639.79 MT lakh quintals transported exclusively to NE States in 2011-12.</p> <p>Rs. 114.059 lakh has been released exclusively for NE States in 2011-12</p> <p>(All the State including NE States is 1.45 lakh quintals</p>	As mentioned in Col. 4 targets cannot be pre-fixed as the component is demand driven.

### Activities/scheme taken up in North Eastern States

The funds reimbursed to implementing agencies from 2007-08 to 2012-13 is as under :

Year	Physical		Financial	
	Quantity (In lakh Qtl)	Quantity transported exclusively in North Eastern States (in lakh Qtls.)	Total amount reimbursed (Rs in lakh)	Exclusively of North Eastern States (Rs. in lakh)
2007-08	1.24	0.86	133.75	100.21
2008-09	2.93	1.99	413.96	335.30
2009-10	2.00	1.44	303.73	233.22
2010-11	2.09	0.84	264.90	130.60
2011-12	1.45	0.96	144.42	114.05
2012-13	0.85	0.16*	126.00*	25.75

- Upto 28.2.2013