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Seminar III
Seed Village Programme-A Portfolio Analysis

Synopsis

Seed is a critical and basic input for attaining higher crop yield and sustained growth in agricultural production. Distribution of assured quality seed is as critical as the production of such seeds.Good quality seed alone increases the yield by 15-20 per cent. Quality seed is the key input for realizing potential productivity. Ideally seed should be replaced every year for hybrids and every three to four years for non-hybrids. The non-availability of quality seeds in oilseeds and pulses is one of the main reason for its lower seed replacement rate. Despite implementation of the organized seed programme since the mid60s, the seed replacement rate has only reached the level of 15 per cent and remained 85 per cent of the seeds used are farm saved. It is, therefore, necessary to improve the stock of farm saved seeds for enhancing crop production/productivity. The Seed Village Programme (SVP) is one of the most important component of the Sub-mission on Seeds and Planting Materials (SMSP) under Nation Mission on Agriculture Extension and Technology (NMAET) being implemented by Government of India from 2014-15 onwards. To upgrade the quality of farmer-saved seed which is about 80-85 per cent of the total seed used for crop production and it is proposed to provide financial assistance for distribution of foundation/ certified seed at 50 per cent cost of the seed of crops for production of certified /quality seeds only and The seed produced in these seed villages will have to be preserved/stored till the next sowing season. The seed village programme includes the participation of different institutes and organizations in the implementation. The concept of seed village which advocates village self-sufficiency in production and distribution of quality seeds is getting momentum. With this brief background, the present seminar has been conceptualized with the following objectives.

1.To study and understand about the concept of seed village
2.To review the portfolio of seed village programme in India & its implementation experiences
3.To review the research /case studies

Seed: Seed is a fertilized mature ovule and consists of an embryo which develops into the future plant

Seed Village: It is a village, wherein trained group of farmers are involved in production of seeds of various crops and cater to the needs of themselves, fellow farmers of the village and farmers of neighboring villages in appropriate time and at affordable cost is called Seed Village.

Implementation: The procedure followed is primarily the Seed Production of Different Crops-Selection of area, Seed Supply, Capacity building, Training to the farmers and second the Establishing seed processing unit, Infrastructure for seed processing unit and disposal and third implementing agencies of the seed village programme.

Constraints: Inadequate supply of seeds, lack of regular guidance and training programme, lack of extension services, lack of knowledge about the programme, lack of knowledge about seed production, lack storage facility, no cooperation with neighbours, lack of sufficient finance for programme, lack of information about loan and subsidy and lack of soil testing information.

Research studies

Varsha More (2016) found that, the data obtained from the Department of Farmers welfare and Agriculture Development, Betul that the Seed Replacement Rate of Soyabean was 11.50 per cent before the Seed Village Programme. However, after that Seed Village Programme was started the Seed Replacement Rate of Soyabean in Bhainsdehi block of Betul district is 30.12 per cent as compare to old Seed Replacement Rate.

Shayamlal Hoshale(2015)reported that, the productivity of wheat crop is absolute changed after the implementation of the programme. The absolute change of wheat crop is 8.10 q/ha. During the year 2010-11 in Khandwad the Seed Replacement Rate of wheat was 14.50 per cent, but after that Seed Village Programme was started, the seed replacement rate has improved. The current Seed Replacement Rate of wheat in Chhagaon Makhan block of Khandwad district is 30.12 per cent, which is better than old Seed Replacement Rate.

G. Narappa *et. al.(*2018) revealed that the Seed Village Programme revealed that out of 3.50 lakh ha in TBP rice cultivable area, the new variety Gangavathisona (GGV-0501) occupies 15.10 per cent area during 2014-15 as nil during 2011-12 and a substantial increase in the yield of improved rice variety GGV-0501 yielded 25 to 30 q/ha in salinity stress area as compared to predominant prevailing variety BPT 5204 with yield of 15 to 20 q/ha. The results also showed that high rate of horizontal spread of new variety seeds to more farmers and farmer's willingness to adopt new technologies. And new variety gave financial confidence to the farmers also good to produce twice as it is dual as it grow both in kharif as well as in summer season.

Conclusion

The seed village programme is best for better production and use of locally available seeds by farmers at village level by reducing cost of cultivation and reducing the dependency on outsource. The farmers produced seeds can be stored scientifically and better channelization of excess seed produced through proper marketing linkage through group and area approach. The public-private partnership mode can also be explored in encouraging the seed production at village level and in making seed village programme as an enterprise for economically viable for the farming community.

References

G. NARAPPA, R.B. NEGALUR, D.H. ROOPASHREEAND G.S. GURUPRASAD.,2018,Seed Village Programme - A Boon to the Rice Growing Farmers for Variety Replacement Economic Stability, *International Journal of Current Microbiology and Applied Sciences 7*(4): 3862-3868.

SHAYAMLAL HOSHALE., 2015, A study on Impact of Seed Village Programme among the beneficiary farmers of Chhagoan Makhan block of Khandwad district of Madhya Pradesh, *M.Sc.Thesis(unpub)*, Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Jabalpur.

VARSHA MORE., 2016, Impact of Seed Village Programme on soybean among the beneficiary farmers of Bhainsdehi block of Betul district of Madhya Pradesh, *M.Sc.Thesis (unpub),*Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Jabalpur.