

The present Scheme requires major changes to adjust to the changed scenario. Some of the reasons for restructuring the present scheme and launching it in the form of a Mission are as under:-

The existing Scheme has 9 components. It is necessary to make modifications in some of the existing components of the Scheme on account of the dynamism in the seed sector and the experience gained in the implementation of the Scheme. The components such as 'Seed Village Programme' and 'Assistance for Boosting Seed Production in Private Sector' and the parameters for seed storage, processing and laboratories etc need major modifications. The pattern of assistance in some other components also requires revision.

The existing Scheme is being implemented w.e.f. 2005-2006. Seed production technologies are changing and new technologies like transgenics, tissue culture, soil-less agriculture etc. have emerged. There is greater emphasis on seed quality assurance particularly to safeguard the interest of the farmers. There has also been a significant change in the country's socio-economic conditions. The economy has been substantially liberalized and the private sector is playing an increasing role in various spheres including agriculture.

Sub-Mission on Seed and Planting Material (SMSP)

The 11th Plan on-going Central Sector Plan Schemes (i) Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure Facilities for Production and Distribution of Quality Seeds (DSIS) and (ii) Implementation of PVP Legislation (PPVFRA) are to be merged with the Sub-Mission on Seed and Planting Material with 26 new components on seed sector and another 6 proposed for Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority (PP&FRA), to be implemented during 12th Plan. These 26 new components can be broadly categorized into 10 categories viz. 1 component of Seed Planning, 7 components of Seed Production, 4 components of Varietal Replacement, 2 components for Specific interventions for public seed producing organization, 2 separate and 1 new component in Quality Control, 1 component of Contingency Planning, PPP in seed sector, provision for meeting cost implementing international treaties, National Campaign, Capacity Building, Innovative measures and 3 components of Mission Management. During the XI Plan period, Scheme relating to Implementation of Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act(PPVFRA) had twelve components, which are now being extended to 18.

Interventions proposed under sub mission on seed and planting material.

The interventions are proposed under the following major sectors covering the entire seed chain from nucleus seed to supply to farmer for sowing and also the major stakeholders in the seed chain, both public and private

- **Seed Planning** : containing one new component
- **Seed production** : with eight components of which 7 are new and one component of Seed Village is proposed to be continued with some modifications

- **Varietal Replacement** : containing four new components of which one component pertaining to minikits and FLD's exists under some of the crop production programmes of DAC
- **Seed Infrastructure** : where two existing components of seed storage and seed processing are re-structured to provide for modern infrastructure
- **Quality Control** : The components under the existing Scheme and support to NSRTC Varanasi are proposed to continue with amendments. Two new components of National GOT facility and Seed treatment are included.
- **Specific interventions for public Seed Producing Organisations** : Two new components for computerization and Working Capital support are proposed.
- **Contingency Planning** : It brings in an ambitious element of National Seed Reserve (NSR) and proposes to continue the existing component of Seed Bank till such time as the Reserve is operationalised.
- **Private Sector** : in which two components are proposed of which one concerning Public Private Partnerships is new and the existing component of assistance is modified.
- **International Co-Operation** : where one is a continuing component and the other pertaining to Seed Export Promotion is new.
- **Other Measures** :that contain existing components of Transport Subsidy and Bio-Technology in agriculture which are to be continued; an enlarged component of training and introduces 3 new components of National Campaign for Seed Promotion, surveys and local initiatives.
- **Mission management**: containing provisions for operationalising the Mission.

In all 35 components are proposed of which 4 are continuing; 5 are continuing with modifications and twenty six are new.

The Planning Commission had earlier given in-principle approval to the scheme in July, 2010. EFC approved the Mission on 01.04.2011. The note on the National Mission on Seeds was sent to Planning Commission for Full Planning Commission approval. Planning Commission has now suggested a new National Mission for Agricultural Extension and Technology comprising inter alia a Sub- Scheme/Mission on Seed and planting Material. Revised DPR and EFC Memo for the sub scheme/Mission on Seed has been prepared and forwarded to JS(Extension) for appropriate action. Revised DPR with 10% State's share was forwarded to Extension Division on 5.6.2012.

Planning Commission has reduced/revised the allocation for the XII Five Year Plan for the Department. Accordingly the revised allocation for both the schemes of the Division for XII Five Year Plan is Rs. 1986 crores for 'Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure Facilities for Production and Distribution of Quality Seeds' and Rs.102 crore for scheme for Implementation of PVP Legislation(Rs. 2088 crores). Accordingly combined EFC with revised allocation is prepared and being circulated by extension division.