

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COOPERATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2729
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12th AUGUST, 2026

**AVAILABILITY OF QUALITY SEEDS AND FARMERS' SELF-RELIANCE
THROUGH BBSSL**

2729 # SHRI BABUBHAI JESANGBHAI DESAI:

Will the Minister of COOPERATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has established the Bharatiya Beej Sahakari Samiti Limited (BBSSL) under the vision of 'Sahakar Se Samridhi' to make available high-quality and certified vegetable and other seeds to farmers across the country;
- (b) if so, the specific targets fixed for the production, testing and distribution of quality vegetable seeds through Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) and the cooperative network; and
- (c) the achievements made so far thereunder towards enhancing farmers' income, conserving traditional indigenous varieties and making the country self-reliant?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COOPERATION
(SHRI AMIT SHAH)

- (a) Yes Sir, Ministry of Cooperation has set up Bhartiya Beej Sahakari Samiti Limited under the Multi-State Cooperative Societies (MSCS) Act, 2002 to act as an apex organization for production, procurement, processing, branding, labelling, packaging, storage, marketing, distribution and strategic research & development of quality seeds with a clear vision to build a strong, farmer-centric seed system through a cooperative-led structure.
- (b) Bhartiya Beej Sahakari Samiti Limited (BBSSL) has so far introduced seeds of 18 crops and 124 varieties in the market under the 'Bharat Beej' brand for distribution across the country. Further, BBSSL has undertaken initiatives for developing production and quality-testing requirements for vegetable seeds in accordance with the prescribed seed quality and regulatory standards.
- (c) During the financial year 2025–26, BBSSL produced 75,535 metric tonnes of seeds through its associated seed-producing farmers under the seed production programme for the 'Bharat Beej' brand. The programme facilitates farmers' participation in organised seed production and provides technical support for the production of seeds in accordance with the prescribed quality and certification standards.

For the conservation of traditional indigenous varieties, BBSSL has initiated a programme in Uttarakhand focusing on the identification, conservation, multiplication and documentation of such varieties. BBSSL's activities include the expansion of domestic seed production, conservation of indigenous genetic resources, and distribution of quality seeds through the cooperative network, thereby contributing to the objective of reducing the country's dependence on imported seeds and strengthening self-reliance in the seed sector.
