

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COOPERATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2732
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12th AUGUST, 2026

SEED PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION UNDER BBSSL

2732 SHRI CONSTANDINE RAVINDRAN:

Will the Minister of COOPERATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to expand the role of cooperative institutions in seed production, processing, storage, certification and marketing under the Bharatiya Beej Sahakari Samiti Limited (BBSSL);
- (b) the support extended by Government for capacity building of PACS, cooperative societies, seed growers and Farmer Producer Organisations engaged in seed production and distribution;
- (c) the details of collaborative activities envisaged with ICAR, State Agricultural Universities and Krishi Vigyan Kendras for field demonstrations, multilocation trials and technology transfer through cooperatives; and
- (d) whether any roadmap has been prepared for promoting quality seed exports through the cooperative sector and strengthening value chains?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COOPERATION
(SHRI AMIT SHAH)

(a) Yes Sir, the 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. Since its establishment, BBSSL has sold 6,41,627 quintals of graded and certified seed under the 'Bharat Beej' brand. BBSSL has also developed an extensive cooperative network comprising 38,665 member cooperative societies, thereby strengthening its institutional presence across the States and Union Territories and providing a strong foundation for expanding the role of cooperatives in seed production, processing, storage, certification and distribution.

(b) BBSSL has organised three national-level programmes in Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar to promote the objectives of the New National Cooperation Policy among grassroots-

level cooperative organisations. In addition, BBSSL regularly conducts district-level meetings with its member cooperative societies to facilitate capacity building, address operational issues, and strengthen their participation in seed production and distribution activities. These initiatives aim to enhance the capabilities of Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS), cooperative societies, seed growers and Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) engaged in the seed sector.

(c) BBSSL has signed an umbrella Memorandum of Understanding with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) to strengthen seed research, production and nationwide dissemination of high-quality, climate-resilient crop varieties through the cooperative network. BBSSL also engages with State Agricultural Universities through the Government's SATHI portal, under which breeder seed indents are placed and the allotted quantities are lifted from the respective universities. This facilitates the expansion of BBSSL's seed portfolio and the promotion of region-specific varieties.

(d) No, Sir. No separate roadmap has been prepared for promoting quality seed exports through the cooperative sector and strengthening value chains.
