

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3914
ANSWERED ON:18.02.2014
SEED BANKS
Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of seed banks functioning in the country as on date, State/UT- wise including Odisha;
- (b) the number of seed banks set up in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has any proposal to set up more seed banks in the country including Odisha to preserve and promote local indigenous varieties of plants;
- (d) if so, the details thereof State-wise; and
- (e) the details of the funds allocated/ utilised along with the number of farmers benefited from these seed banks during the said period?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR)

(a): There are 18 seed banks functioning in the country, viz., at the national level with National Seeds Corporation (NSC), State Farms Corporation of India (SFCI) and one each in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala, Tamilnadu and Orissa.

(b): One seed Bank was set up for Chhattisgarh through Rajya Beej Evam Krishi Vikas Nigam Limited, Chhattisgarh during the last 3 years.

(c) & (d): The Government has no proposal to set up more seed banks in the country including Odisha. However, the National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR) are operating Gene Banks in different states including CRRI, Cuttack in Odisha, with the objectives to collect, characterize, evaluate, conserve, and to make available germplasm including land races, wild species and traditional varieties of different crops for research purposes. Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority under Ministry of Agriculture also conserve and encourage the use of local strains.

(e): The details of funds allocated/utilized during each of the last three year and the current year is given below:-

Years	Amt. allocated (Rs. in Lakh)	Amt. utilized (Rs. in Lakh)
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2010-11	672.99	672.99
2011-12	594.64	594.64
2012-13	486.00	486.00
2013-14	341.00	341.00
(till date)		(till date)

The funds are directly utilized by the State Governments, for the benefit of the farmers.