

Advantage Andhra with Added Facilities

“As resources such as water and nutrients are drawn in, the seed organizes the process that generates growth. In a sense, the seed is a gateway through which the future possibility of the living tree emerges.” - Peter Senge



NEW GODOWN CONSTRUCTED AT A.P.S.S.D.C.LTD., WARANGAL UNDER R.K.V.Y. SCHEME

Background & Objectives

Seed is the basic and most critical input for sustainable agriculture. The response of all other inputs depends on quality of seeds to a large extent. It is estimated that the direct contribution of quality seed alone to the total production is about 15 – 20% depending upon the crop and it can be further raised up to 45% with efficient management of other inputs.

Therefore, making available timely and quality seeds to farmers at a reasonable price is one of the primary requirements for ensuring that production and productivity keep pace with the growing demands of food in the country.

Andhra Pradesh State Seeds Development Corporation Limited (APSSDC) was established on 26th March 1976 with a

mandate to produce quality seeds and supply them at reasonable prices to the farmers. APSSDC is producing quality certified seed to meet the indents of the districts, duly ensuring that seed chain is maintained for ensuring proper productivity to the farmers. The Corporation is producing major seeds of paddy, groundnut, bengal gram and other pulses. To meet the increasing need of quality seed production, the Corporation expanded its activities from existing 5 units to 22 unit offices located throughout Andhra Pradesh. The enhanced capacity for processing seeds will augment seed availability by an additional 3 lakh quintals approx.

The Corporation had a processing facility for 4.68 lakhs qtls per annum and storage facility of 3.99 lakh sq. ft. in order to meet the increased production requirement. The processing capacity and the storage capacity needed to be enhanced to cater to the required need. There gap between the existing production programme and existing processing and storage facility was huge.

Intervention

The Corporation has implemented the project for augmentation of Processing and Storage facilities and up-gradation of Seed Testing Laboratories with an expenditure of Rs.40.42 crores between 2008-09 and 2009-10.

The Corporation has created seed storage and processing facilities at different locations, namely Karimnagar, Nizamabad, Srikalahasti, Warangal, Armoor, Wanaparthi, Srikakulam, Vizianagram, Kadapa and Ananthpuram. The total additional godown area created thus stands at 1.86 lakh sq feet.

Apart from the above infrastructure created under the aegis of the RKVY, processing units have also been put up at other towns namely Srikakulam, Vizianagarm, Srikalahasti, Karimnagar, Warangal, Nizamabad, Armoor, Wanaparthi, Tanuku, Kurnool, Maruteru, and Ongole. The total processing capacity created under RKVY is 1.80 lakh quintals.

In addition, three Seed Testing Laboratories at Vijayawada, Kurnool & Jeedimetla have been upgraded and strengthened for quality control of seed multiplication and production.



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Outcome

After successful implementation of the RKVY Scheme the following additional storage and processing infrastructure facilities were created enabling the Corporation to meet targeted seed production.

Sl. No	Infrastructure	Existing Capacity	Additional capacity	Total increased capacity due to implementation of scheme
1.	Processing (in lakh qtls)	4.68	1.80	6.38
2.	Storage godowns (in lakh sq ft)	3.99	1.86	5.85
3.	Quality Control Laboratories (No. of samples tested)	40000	60000	100000

Since, APSSDC supplies quality certified seed to the farmers throughout the State of Andhra Pradesh, assuring availability of certified seed during the Agricultural seasons without resorting to open market procurements, elimination of uncertainty about seed

availability and quality assurances is the major benefit to the farming community.

Additional area created under cultivation is around 10.05 lakh acres and additional seed produced is 4.02 lakh qtls. Productivity increased by 15.07 lakh qtls benefiting 6.70 lakh farmers in the State.



NEW MACHINERY (FOWLER WESTRUP) ERECTED AT A.P.S.S.D.C.LTD., WARANGAL UNDER R.K.V.Y. SCHEME

Creation of scientific storage godowns has ensured that quality of seeds is maintained during storage period till seed is sold through sale points.

8000 seed growers of the Corporation have benefited by receiving early payments for the seed produced by them since seed processing of seed is now completed within 45 days, as against 80 to 100 days prior to creation of infrastructure.

The Seed Corporation is also saving Rs.1crore annually on storage charges on rental godowns and custom processing charges.



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There is a crying need for State Seed Corporations to transform themselves in tune with the industry in terms of infrastructure, technologies, approach and the management culture to be able to survive in the competitive market and to enhance their contribution in the national endeavour of increasing food production to attain food & nutritional security. That is exactly what Andhra Pradesh State Seeds Development Corporation Limited (APSSDC) has managed to do successfully under RKVY and it has set an example for other State Seed Corporations, in this endeavour.