Strengthening of Raitha Samparka Kendras (RSKs) through Computerization

Department of Agriculture
# 1, Seshadri Road, Bangalore – 560 001
An Introduction - RSK

- The concept of need based extension system led to the establishment of RSKs at the Hobli level during 2000-01 under Raitha Mitra Yojane.
- There are 745 RSKs spread across Karnataka State, one for each Hobli (Sub-block level)
- These RSKs cater to the need of 5628 Gram Panchayaths covering 78 lakh Farmer families
Overall Objectives of RSK

- To provide technical information on crop selection, crop production related know-how, market information with to farmers.
- To provide primary seed and soil testing facilities locally.
- To facilitate on-site provision of critical inputs like seeds, bio-fertilizers, plant protection chemicals etc.
- To provide a forum for interface and on-farm demonstration about new technologies developed by both public and private sector.
Staffing Pattern and other facilities in RSKs

- Every RSK is headed by an Agriculture Officer, supported by 2 Assistant Agriculture Officers (AAO) and 4/5 Agriculture Assistant (AA)
- The staff of the RSK is instrumental in implementing all the schemes of the Department of Agriculture.
- As of now, there is >50% vacancy in the RSKs.
- Availability of computer - nil
- At least 50% of the staff have zero computer literacy.
Flagship schemes of the DoA

- Distribution Of seeds
- Farm Mechanization and Agro Processing
- Micro Irrigation
- Bhoochetana
- Distribution of other agriculture inputs
- ISOPAM
- Organic Mission
Most important activities of the RSK

- Transfer of latest Technology developed by Agriculture University Scientists or progressive farmers by way of Demonstrations in farmers fields. Conduct “Kshethrotsava” on the farmer’s field on a selected day.

- Providing technical support to farmers when they approach the RSK with problem of pest and disease problems, selection of seeds, fertilizers, cropping pattern, etc.
Important activities –cont....

1. Distribution of Seeds

- Distribution of field crop seeds to farmers (sowing purpose), such as paddy, redgram, ragi, jowar, maize, sunflower, cotton, groundnut, wheat etc. mainly during Kharif season from May to August and again during Rabi/Summer from November to February. The intensity of seed sale varies from region to region.
- Different hybrids and varieties of the same crops may be distributed or sold under various subsidy schemes (eg. 25 %, 50%, 75%, etc).
- **Amount of transaction during 2009-10 is Rs 21534.01 lakh.**
- **Number of beneficiaries during 2009-10 is 34.03 lakh farmer families.**
- **Quantity of seed sold is 9.33 lakh quintal.**
- The farmer’s share is collected from the farmers and remitted to the Bank.
- The money will be later distributed to respective organisations such as KSSC, NSC, private seed companies, etc.
- RSK collects 4 % service charges from the sale proceeds.
Important activities – cont...

2. Farm Mechanization, Micro Irrigation and Plant Protection Equipment

- Similarly, farm machinery such as tractors, power tillers, maize shellers, threshers, etc (more than 100) are also distributed under various subsidy schemes.

- Subsidy for the establishment of custom hiring centers.

- Distribution of drip irrigation and sprinkler irrigation devices to farmers at 75% subsidy (40% from Central Government assistance and 35% from State Government assistance).
3. Distribution of Plant Protection Chemicals

- Plant Protection Chemicals such as insecticides, fungicides, bactericides etc.,
- PP chemicals are distributed at 50% subsidy per ha limiting Rs 500/-
- PP chemicals are distributed based on the local conditions and requirement.
- In addition to PP chemicals, PP equipments are also distributed to farmers through RSK at 50% subsidy.
4. Distribution of Soil Ameliorants - Bhoochetana

- Bridging yield gaps through Science-led Interventions for sustainable use of Natural Resources.
- Under this scheme, micro-nutrients such as gypsum, boron, Zinc sulphate etc., are distributed at 50% subsidy to farmers.
- In addition, Bio-pesticides and Plant protection chemicals are also distributed to farmers.
- Soil sampling and analysis for preparation of GIS based soil maps.
Important activities – cont....

5. Promotion of Organic Farming

- Distribution of green leaf manure seeds.
- 50% subsidy for establishment of vermicompost unit.
- 50% subsidy for establishment of biodigestors.
- For control of pest and diseases, plant based pesticides, bio-pesticides and bio control agents are distributed to farmers at 50% subsidy limiting Rs 500/- per hac.
- Distribution of improvised seed storage bins for scientific seed storage.
- Inspectors draws samples of plant based pesticides, bio-pesticides and bio control agents and sends the samples for analysis to designated laboratories.
6. Quality control

- All Agriculture Officers (AO) are Quality Control Inspectors.
- The AO draws fertilizer, pesticide, and seed samples from the licensed dealers within Hobli limits and sends them to designated laboratories for qualitative and quantitative analysis.
- If the samples fail in the test, then the AO initiates legal procedure against the erring dealer.
Important activities – cont....

6. Quality control

Soil and water testing:
- Designated number of soil and water samples are collected by the AO and sent for analysis to designated laboratories.
- Distribution of Soil Health cards to farmers

Seed testing:
- As soon as seeds are stocked in the Raitha Samparka Kendras by the companies/organizations, the seed inspector (AO) draws seed samples and gets the seeds analyzed by the designated laboratories.
- Seed inspectors also draws samples from the stores of licensed seed dealers before and after sowing peak season.
- A seed register comprising number of seed samples drawn, analyzed and analysis results is maintained in the RSK

Fertilizer testing:
- Fertilizer inspector has to draw designated number of fertilizers from the stores of licensed dealer and send the samples for analysis to designated laboratories.
- Verify stock books of the dealer and has to take legal action if any mishap is found
Maintenance of compulsory registers in the RSK

- Staff Attendance register
- Farmers Visitors book
- Visitors Book for visiting Government Officials
- Staff Movement Register
- Cash Book Register
- Seed Germination Register
- Dead stock register – furniture, almirah, fan, clock, germination testing equipment, equipments for drawing seeds, fertilizers, PP chemicals, weighing scales etc
- Soil Test Register- Name of farmer, Address, Area of farm, No. of samples, results, recommendation, date of distribution to farmer

Continued
Maintenance of compulsory registers in the RSK

- Quality Control Register – samples drawn, quantity, name of dealer, date of dispatch for testing, date of receipt of results etc.
- Register of licensed agri inputs dealers within the hobli limits
- Indent Register for farm inputs
- Stock Register of seeds, PP chemicals, micro-nutrients, gypsum, bio-fertilizers, bio-pesticides, bio-control agents etc.
- Register of Proceedings of fortnightly meeting of RSK staff
- Demonstrations Register – Name of Demo, name of farmer, address, date of sowing, date of germination, date of flowering, seed setting, harvesting, yield data etc.
- Stationery register
- Issue register (to Agriculture Assistants) for charts, folders, pamphlets etc.
Items on Display in the RSK

- Map of the District, Taluk and Hobli
- General information of the Hobli such as Nos. and names of Gram Panchayaths, area, crops, area of crops, rainfall data, information on soil, production, productivity, no. of farm families etc.
- Fortnightly messages to farmers.
- Market information of previous day.
- Charts and posters depicting latest agricultural technology, crop production, farm machinery, plant protection methods etc.
- Rainfall information collected from the nearest rain gauge.
- Soil Fertility Map of the hobli.
- Details of Staff of RSK – names, designations, job charts, head quarters of the staff etc.
Vision of Dept of Agriculture for RSKs Computerization

- Computerization of all activities at Raitha Samparka Kendras —
  1. Providing IT infrastructure and non-IT infrastructure.
  2. Development of web-based modules for various activities that are rooted through RSK.
  3. Updating the transactions especially seed and fertilizer stocks and sales on a day to day basis during peak season.
  4. Monitoring of RSK, Taluk and District wise availability of Seed stock and sales, Fertilizer stock and sales, Pesticide stock and sales, Farm machinery and processing equipment sales etc.,
  5. Monthly report generation and reporting to the Taluk ADA.
  6. Internet connectivity to all Raitha Samparka Kendras and networking to ADA, JDA and Head Office
  7. Data Entry Operators
  8. Continuous un-interrupted power supply to Raitha Samparka Kendra (Min 8 working hours)
  9. Display of important information pertaining to Agriculture and Allied Department in RSK
  10. Computerized billing and e-Accounting
Networking between Public / Private Institutions and farmers through Raitha Samparka Kendras

PUBLIC
- Development Departments
- Agricultural Universities
- Seed Corporation

PRIVATE INPUT AGENCIES
- Seed
- Plant Protection
- Implements
- Farmers Organisations & Farmers

RAITHA SAMPARKA KENDRAS

Commodity Groups