

Introduction

Mega Seed : ➤ The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has sanctioned the 'MEGA SEED' project entitled "**Seed Production in Agricultural crops**" for field and horticultural crops during 2006-07 to Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari with total outlay of Rs. 317.06 lakhs. Under this project, NAU, Navsari has created infrastructure such as seed godowns, threshing floors, farm fencing, irrigation facilities, nursery facilities, seed processing plant, seed testing laboratory, training facilities etc. in different seed production centres. Different farm machineries and equipments such as combined harvesters, tractors, power tillers, submersible pumps etc., were also purchased. Under Mega Seed project, NAU, Navsari has started seed production programme in 7 districts of South Gujarat i.e. Navsari, Valsad, Dang, Surat, Tapi, Bharuch and Narmada which includes 35 research centres. Apart from quality seed production, capacity building programme, training modules for various stakeholders, technology dissemination and participatory seed production approach are foremost strides made under this project.

Pulses : ➤ Pulse Research Project was sanctioned in the year-1983-84 for conducting evaluation trials on the important pulse crops of this region. Subsequently in 1987-88 it was strengthened to undertake research on location specific problems of South Gujarat heavy rain fall zone; which comprises of whole Narmada, Bharuch, Surat, Tapi, Navsari, Valsad and Dangs districts.

Castor : ➤ Castor Research Project was sanctioned in the year 2009-10 under Niche Crops Scheme Project. The main objective is to find suitable hybrid or varieties of castor suitable for late *Kharif* or *Rabi* in South Gujarat. The research centre is also working as volunteer centre of *Rabi* Castor IIOR-ICAR (2015-16). Evaluate and develop varieties/hybrids and their production technologies of *Rabi* castor in South Gujarat.