

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COOPERATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.334
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06/12/2023

GeM portal

334 Lt. Gen. (Dr.) D. P. Vats (Retd.):

Will the Minister of COOPERATION be pleased to state:

- (a) in what ways the Ministry is actively fostering and streamlining the registration process for cooperative societies as buyers on Government e-Marketplace (GeM) portal;
- (b) the details of specific initiatives and measures undertaken to encourage and facilitate the seamless registration of co-operative societies on the GeM platform;
- (c) in what manner co-operative societies stand to benefit from GeM registration, and what opportunities does it present, particularly in terms of procurement and market access; and
- (d) the details of statistics highlighting the impact of co-operative societies' participation on the GeM platform?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COOPERATION
(SHRI AMIT SHAH)

(a) & (b): The Ministry is actively fostering and streamlining the registration process for cooperative societies as buyers on GeM through a multi-pronged approach. All stakeholders including GeM authorities, National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI), Central and State Registrars of Cooperative Societies are taking various initiatives for encouraging and ensuring smooth registration and onboarding of cooperative societies. Some of the initiatives include –

- (i) Focussed advocacy, outreach, awareness initiatives in physical and online training sessions by GeM and NCUI with concerned stakeholders in various State Governments and Union Territories apart from setting up of dedicated Help desks for onboarding support to Cooperative Societies,
- (ii) State-wise list with contact details of GeM and NCUI nodal officers has been shared with Cooperative Societies for buyer registration, support and training mechanism/ materials through RCS,
- (iii) RCSs of all States/UTs have been issued advisories and requested through video conferencing also to encourage the cooperatives for onboarding.

(c): Purchases through GeM would allow the cooperative societies to get competitive prices through an open and transparent process from over 67 lakh vendors, thereby economically benefitting the members of these societies. Following the standard procedures on GeM would reduce procurement time and administrative burden. It would also enhance the credibility of the cooperatives by increasing transparency.

(d): Onboarding of cooperative societies as buyers on GeM is being implemented in a phased manner. In the first phase, 618 cooperative societies/cooperative banks, which have turnover/deposits of more than Rs. 100 crore as per the latest audited financial statement and 'A' grade Audit rating (wherever applicable), have been identified for onboarding on GeM. As on 15 November 2023, 559 cooperative societies have been onboarded as buyers on the GeM portal.
