

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 643
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25/07/2025

MARKETING AND STORAGE INFRASTRUCTURE FOR FARMERS IN MAHARASHTRA

643. SHRI DHANANJAY BHIMRAO MAHADIK:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of agricultural marketing infrastructure such as mandis and cold storage facilities in Maharashtra;
- (b) the steps taken to improve farmers' access to markets;
- (c) the support for post-harvest management and value addition; and
- (d) the initiatives to promote electronic National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) and direct farmer-to-consumer sales?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a): Agricultural Marketing is a State subject and Agricultural Produce Market Committees (APMCs) are regulated under respective State Agricultural Produce Market Committee Act of the State. States after assessing the requirement based on production, marketable surplus & existence of traders etc. used to establish APMC markets. Government has been assisting APMCs in developing infrastructure and value chain through various schemes like National Agriculture Market (e-NAM), Agriculture Market Infrastructure (AMI), and Agri. Infrastructure Fund (AIF) etc. Under e-NAM, one time grant of Rs.30 Lakhs per mandi is provided for purchase of hardware, internet connection, assaying equipment and related infrastructure. Additionally, Rs.40 lakhs per mandi is also provided for purchase of cleaning, grading, packaging and related infrastructure/facilities. Mandis integrated with e-NAM facilitates the farmers in getting best price for their produce.

133 APMC markets of Maharashtra have been integrated with National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) platform till 30.6.2025.

Further, under Agri. Infrastructure Fund (AIF), 253 Cold Stores and Cold Chain projects of Rs.735.9 crore have been sanctioned to State of Maharashtra. These facilities play a crucial role in reducing post-harvest losses.

(b): Government has been improving farmers' access to markets through various schemes, including Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana – RAFTAAR, Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure (AMI), National Agriculture Market (e-NAM), Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF). Besides, Government is also promoting establishment of private markets, direct wholesale purchases from farmers through farm-gate / villages outside the APMC market yards and declaration of warehouses / silos / cold storages / other places as market sub-yards for trade and delivery of the farmers' produce.

(c): Government is supporting creation of post-harvest and value addition infrastructure through schemes like:

- i. Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF): The AIF supports post-harvest management by facilitating affordable credit for infrastructure like warehouses, cold chains, primary processing units, and grading/sorting facilities. These interventions reduce crop losses, improve shelf life, and enable better price realization through value addition. By offering interest subvention and credit guarantee, AIF incentivizes private investment in strengthening the post-harvest value chain. The support given for the projects of post-harvest management and value addition under AIF in State of Maharashtra is at **Annexure-I**.
- ii. Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure (AMI): For creation of Agricultural Marketing infrastructure including Scientific Storage and to reduce post-harvest and handling losses, the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India is implementing sub-scheme "Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure (AMI)" of Integrated Scheme for Agricultural Marketing (ISAM) across the country. Under AMI Sub-scheme, since inception i.e. from 01.04.2001 till 30.06.2025, 49,796 storage infrastructure projects (Godowns), with storage capacity of 98.29 Million MT have been sanctioned to State of Maharashtra under the scheme and subsidy of Rs.4829.37 crore has been released.
- iii. Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH): Under MIDH, financial assistance is provided for various Post-harvest Management Infrastructure, such as setting up of Pack Houses, Integrated Pack House, cold storages, Reefer Transport, Ripening Chamber etc. and Market infrastructure like Rural Primary Markets/Apmmandis/Direct markets, Retail markets/outlets (environmentally controlled), Static/Mobile vending cart/platform, functional infrastructure etc. These components are demand/entrepreneur driven for which Government assistance in the form of credit linked back ended subsidy is available through respective State Horticulture Missions (SHMs).

(d): National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) platform aims to create a unified digital marketplace across APMCs. To enhance its adoption, two training programs are organized annually for farmers and stakeholders in all e-NAM mandis. 14,70,958 farmers/FPOs have been trained across the country till 30.6.2025. e-NAM is accessible via web and mobile applications, supplemented by tutorial videos on social media platforms.

To facilitate direct marketing and product promotion by FPOs, in 2024-25, 22 FPO Melas have been organised by SFAC and 27 by NABARD. Further, more than 9000 FPOs have been registered on Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) for direct sales to consumers. FPOs also participate in industry exhibitions and expos for product promotion.

Annexure-I

AIF: Support for post-harvest management and value addition

(Amount in Rs. Crore)

Project Type	No. of Projects	Sanctioned Amount
Processing Unit	5303	2314.73
Warehouse	1866	1749.35
Cold Stores and Cold Chain	253	735.90
Sorting & Grading Unit	370	350.24
Composite Project	96	141.34
Silos	15	107.59
Packaging units	40	32.17
Ripening Chambers	19	11.17
Waxing Plants	5	4.58
Grand Total	7967	5447.07
