

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1636**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2018

**GRAMIN AGRICULTURE MARKETS**

1636. SHRI R. DHRUVA NARAYANA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the rural haats and their locations that are to be upgraded to Gramin Agriculture Markets (GrAMs);
- (b) the manner in which direct sale and bulk purchases can be made from these haats; and
- (c) the details of the stipulated timeline within which the Agri-Market Infrastructure Fund would be set up?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a): As per available data collected from State Agricultural Marketing Boards, the total number of rural haats in the country is 22711, majority of which are under local institutions of Panchyati Raj of States. Hence, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India is undertaking detailed consultations at the level of States/Union Territories and concerned Ministries/Departments to assess exact number, locations and status of infrastructure to develop and upgrade these rural haats into Grameen Agriculture Markets (GrAMs).

(b): To facilitate the direct sale and bulk purchases from these haats, as per Union Budget 2018-19, these GrAMs are to be exempted from regulations of Agriculture Produce Marketing Committees (APMCs). Since Agricultural Marketing is a State Subject, the concerned State Governments have to decide the manner in which direct sale and bulk purchases can be made from these haats.

(c): As National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has to create the Agri-Market Infrastructure Fund, NABARD is working towards finalizing the operational guidelines and other modalities.

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