LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5960 TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 3RD APRIL, 2018

SUPPLY CHAIN OF FOODGRAINS

5960. SHRI BHARAT SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE ‡ãðŠãäÓã एवं किसान कल्याण ½ãâ¨ããè be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has identified the roadblocks in the supply chain of foodgrains from the farms to the kitchen with a view to strengthening the condition of farmers and if so, the details thereof and the remedial steps being taken in this regard;

(b) whether the Government proposes to make amendments in the Fertilizer Control Act, the Seed Control Act and the Pesticide Control Act;

- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the time by which these Acts are likely to be amended?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

‡ãðŠãäÓã एवं किसान कल्याण ½ãâ¨ããÊã¾ã ½ãñâ À㕾ã ½ãâ¨ããè (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a): Yes, Madam. The Government has identified roadblocks in the agriculture supply chain as multiple intermediation, fragmented supply chain, high post-harvest losses etc. In order to remove roadblocks in the supply chain of foodgrains from the farms to kitchen and make it barrier free, the Government of India has circulated a model Agricultural Produce and Livestock Marketing (Promotion & Facilitation) Act, 2017, for adoption by States, which provides for progressive agricultural marketing reforms including alternative marketing channels such as setting up markets in private sector, direct marketing, farmer-consumer markets, de-regulation of fruits and vegetables, declaring warehouses/silos/cold storage as market sub-yards for improving access of farmers to the market through reduction of intermediation, promote investment in post-harvest marketing infrastructure, improving supply chain, reducing post-harvest losses thereby facilitating remunerative prices to farmers for their produce. The Government is also promoting e-trading of agri-produce through National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) platform.

Further, in the Union Budget Announcement 2018-19, the Government has decided to develop and upgrade existing 22,000 rural haats in the country to Gramin Agriculture Markets (GrAMs) in convergence with Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act and other Government schemes and link them with National Agriculture market (e-NAM) and exempt from regulations of APMCs.

(b) & (c): No, Madam. There is no proposal under consideration for amendments in the Fertilizer (Inorganic, Organic or Mixed) (Control) Order, 1985, Seeds Act and Seed Control Order. However, the Government is in process of re-introducing Pesticides Management Bill.

(d): In view of above, the issue does not arise.
