

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1146
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 24TH JULY, 2018

LINKAGE OF RURAL AGRICULTURE MARKETS

1146. SHRI R. GOPALAKRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE किंसान कल्याण ½" be pleased to state:

- whether the Government has a proposal to link all the rural agriculture markets in the country;
- if so, the details thereof;
- the present status of implementation of the said proposal; and
- the time by which all the rural agriculture markets in the country will be completely come under the network?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

किंसान कल्याण ½" (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) & (b): As per Union Budget Announcement, 2018-19, Government has decided to develop and upgrade existing 22,000 rural haats into Gramin Agricultural Markets (GrAMs). In these GrAMs, physical infrastructure will be strengthened using Government Schemes such as MGNREGA (Mahatama Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act). These GrAMs are to be exempted from regulations of Agriculture Produce Marketing Committee (APMCs) and linked to e-NAM to provide farmers facility to make direct sale to consumers and bulk consumers.

(c): Both Ministry of Rural Development and Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare, Government of India (GoI) are working in coordinated manner to implement the proposal through concerned State/Union Territories (UTs) Governments being in their domain. Government of India has already requested States/UTs to exempt GrAMs from the ambit of APMC regulations. Directorate of Marketing and Inspection (DMI), an attached office of Department of Agriculture, has surveyed 9477 existing village haats through questionnaire method for finding their exact location, status of infrastructure, type of commodities etc., so as to achieve better convergence of various Schemes. Further, Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India has verified 1878 rural Haats on the request of Ministry of Rural Development, GoI, which are outside the purview of APMC Act. In turn, Ministry of Rural Development has already requested the States/Union Territories to develop and strengthen these aforesaid haats on priority basis as verified by DMI.

(d): Agricultural marketing is a State subject and it is for states to develop these haats. Government of India is to extend all necessary support to States for developing these rural haats.

