

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3316
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 1ST JANUARY, 2019

WB SMART PROJECT IN MAHARASHTRA

3316. SHRI J.J.T. NATTERJEE:

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

(a) whether the Government has launched World Bank assisted State of Maharashtra's Agribusiness and Rural Transformation (SMART) Project to transform rural Maharashtra and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether this will revamp agricultural value chains, with special focus on marginal farmers across 1,000 villages and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the project will create and support value chains in post-harvest segments of agriculture, facilitate agribusiness investment and strengthen value chain and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the Government is planning to extend the programme to other States also and if so, the details thereof?

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) to (c): The Government of Maharashtra has informed that they have accorded in-principle approval to the preparation and implementation of World Bank assisted State of Maharashtra's Agri-business and Rural Transformation (SMART) project to transform rural Maharashtra.

The proposed objectives of the project are to create, support and strengthen inclusive and competitive agriculture value chains in post harvest segment and to facilitate agribusiness investment with special focus on small and marginal farmers in Maharashtra. This would be achieved by expanding access to new and organized markets for producers and enterprises with complimentary investments in provision of technical services and risk management capabilities.

The Government of Maharashtra has constituted a Project Coordination Committee to prepare interventions and the project implementation plan and associated manuals.

(d): No Madam. The project is specific to the State of Maharashtra.
