CREATION OF PAN-INDIA MARKET FOR FARM PRODUCE

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

(a) whether the Government had proposed to create a pan-India online national market for farm produce, if so, the details and the present status thereof;

(b) whether intermediaries, traders and local politicians had opposed the pan-India online national market for farm produce, if so, the response of the Government thereto;

(c) whether about 40 per cent of India is now reeling under near-drought conditions which could further aggravate the rural economy and dampen the prospect of Fast Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG) companies, which receive 40 per cent of sales from rural consumers;

(d) if so, the response of the Government thereto; and

(e) the stringent steps taken by the Government to make online national market for farm produce successful to reign in the intermediaries?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a): Yes Sir, the Government has launched National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) Scheme on 14th April, 2016 with the objective of creating online transparent competitive bidding system to facilitate farmers with remunerative prices for their produce. So far, 585 wholesale regulated markets of 16 States and 02 Union Territories (UTs) have been integrated with e-NAM platform. Till 25.06.2019, a total of 1,64,47,924 farmers have been registered under this scheme. Already trade transactions having total volume of 2,57,92,311.76 MT with total value of Rs.70784.23 crore, have been recorded on e-NAM platform till 25.06.2019.

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(b): Though there were some initial opposition from traders in few local mandis, respective local APMC authorities have promoted e-NAM through various approaches such as creation of awareness, training and motivation to stakeholders and regulatory changes to address the issues of traders for smooth implementation of e-NAM.

(c) & (d): As per second India Metrological Department (IMD) Long Range Forecast, released on 31.05.2019, rainfall over the country as a whole for the year 2019 South-West Monsoon Season (June to September) is likely to be NORMAL (96% to 104% of the Long Period Average).

(e): Government is promoting inter-state trade and inter mandi trade through e-NAM platform. States have been advised to strengthen quality assaying facilities in e-NAM mandis for proper quality testing of commodities, e-trading, online payment facility. Mobile application has been enhanced for ease of transaction and e-trading. Close monitoring of the progress through meeting at various levels and visits of the officers to e-NAM mandis is carried out. The Central Government is providing free software and assistance for related hardware including quality assaying equipments and creation of infrastructure like cleaning, grading, sorting, packaging and compost unit etc. Under the scheme, various training & awareness programmes are conducted for farmers, traders and other stakeholders for successful implementation of e-NAM.