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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 999
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 13TH DECEMBER, 2022

AGRISTACK PROJECT

999.   SHRI RITESH PANDEY:
        SHRI JAYADEV GALLA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्री

(a) the status on the finalizing India Digital Ecosystem of Agriculture (IDEA) report by High Level Task Force, the framework required for creating/implementing Agristack in the country and the status on development of Agristack;

(b) whether the Government is seeking consultation from stakeholders for the effective development of Agristack, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has entered into agreements with private companies for establishing 'Agristack' and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government is planning to provide access to the States of aggregated databases to be built under Agristack and if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has established any data sharing mechanism with companies under MoUs, if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to address the concerns raised by experts over the potential threat of privacy and data exploitation; and

(f) the number of Technology/Agri-tech/Start-Up companies with whom the Government has signed the MoUs to develop Proof of Concepts (PoCs) for Agristack?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्री   (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) & (b): The Department has commenced the work for creating Agristack in the country. In order to create Agristack, the department has finalized the core concept of "India Digital Ecosystem of Agriculture (IDEA)" which lays down a framework for Agristack. For this, a Task Force was constituted and in furtherance, a concept paper on IDEA was prepared and comments were invited from subject experts, farmers, Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) and general public.

(c): No Sir.

(d): Agristack is a federated structure and ownership of data is with the States only.

(e): Access to federated Farmers' database is with Government only. No private company is involved in developing the federated Farmers' database. As of now, the federated database is being built by taking the publicly available data as existing in the Department and in various data silos in Government.

(f): Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) for Proof of Concepts (PoCs) with various companies for development of use cases have been signed and accordingly carried out. The details of these MoU/Agreements are at Annexure.

Details of MoU entered by the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare with leading Technology/Agri-tech/StartUp companies to develop Proof of Concepts (PoCs):

S No	Name of the Company	Focus Area
1	Microsoft India Pvt. Ltd	for consolidating agri ecosystem across the value chain (farm to fork) to empower the farmer using Data Analytics in 100 villages.
2	ESRI India Technologies Limited	for Establishment & Launch of "Nation Agriculture Geo Hub" and for using their 'ArcGIS' platform enabling a GIS layer over Farmers' Database.
3	Amazon Web Services India	for digital services across the agri value chain and creating an innovation ecosystem around digital agriculture
4	Star Agribazaar Technology Private limited	for collaborating with Department of Agriculture for a pilot project to promote digital agriculture
5	Patanjali Organic Research Institute Private Limited	for farm management and farmers service
6	JIO Platforms Ltd	for taking up primary intervention module, i.e., advisory (basic as well as advanced) service in first phase
7	ITC Limited	for building a Customized 'Site Specific Crop Advisory' service and Digitization of Dairy Value Chain and support Wheat crop operations
8	Cisco Commerce India Pvt Ltd	for conceptualizing a Proof of Concept in effective knowledge sharing between farmers, administration, academia and industry
9	NCDEX e-Markets Ltd (NeML)	for a digital marketplace to contribute effectively towards increasing the income of farmers and improve farm efficiency/efficiency of the Agriculture sector
10	Ninjacart – 63Ideas Infolabs Pvt Ltd	for developing and hosting the Agri Marketplace Platform
11	Artificial Intelligence Unit of National Entrepreneurship Network (Wadhwani AI)	Scale the Pest Management Solution for Cotton Farmers to about 50,000 lead farmers and 500000+ cascade farmers in 2022 Kharif season. Create AI/ML solution.

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