

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3579
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 10TH DECEMBER, 2019

MEASURES TO IMPROVE AGRICULTURE

3579. SHRI PARVESH SAHIB SINGH VERMA:

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

- (a) the steps taken by the Government with regard to policies, schemes and collaborations for better storage, transport and marketing of agriculture produce in India;
- (b) the steps taken by the Government with regard to policies, schemes and collaborations for development of technology for the aid of farmers in India; and
- (c) the list of other schemes and programmes being undertaken by the Government for economic empowerment of farmers in India?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a): The Government has taken a number of steps for providing better storage, transport and marketing facilities for agriculture produce in India.

Government of India has circulated a new model “The Agriculture Produce and Livestock Marketing (Promotion & Facilitation) Act, 2017” to States/Union Territories (UTs) for its adoption with an objective of promoting alternative competitive marketing channels and investment in post harvest marketing infrastructure including storage facilities for agriculture produce for better price realization by farmers.

Further, considering the importance of integrating farmers with agro-industries with the objectives to mitigate market and price uncertainties, reduce post-harvest losses, promoting post harvest infrastructure for better marketing and create rural employment, Department formulated and circulated a model Act; “The ---State/ UT Agricultural Produce and Livestock Contract Farming & Services (Promotion & Facilitation) Act, 2018” to states for adoption.

The Government is providing better scientific storage facilities for the farmers in the country through the scheme of “Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure (AMI)”, which is a sub-scheme of Integrated Scheme for Agricultural Marketing (ISAM). Under AMI Scheme, Refrigerated Van as a transport vehicle is eligible for subsidy assistance for Integrated Value Chain (IVC) projects.

Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) provides assistance for development of post harvest management and marketing infrastructure such as cold storage facilities, ripening chamber, pack houses, reefer vehicles to farmers to improve marketability of their produce.

Further, in order to develop the marketing infrastructure including storage and cold storage etc., the Government is implementing Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana-Remunerative Approaches for Agriculture and Allied Sector Rejuvenation (RKVY-RAFTAAR) Scheme including with Public Private Partnership for Integrated Agricultural Development (PPPIAD) projects.

In addition to above, Under National Programme for Dairy Development (NPDD), marketing infrastructure for preserving/maintaining quality of milk such as insulated/refrigerated tanks/vans etc. are provided. Under Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme (DEDS), assistance is provided for the activities such as enhancement of milk production, preservation, transportation, processing and marketing of milk.

Further, the Government is promoting development of produce clusters through formation of Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs).

(b): The Government has taken several steps for development of technology for the aid of farmers in India.

National e-Governance Plan in Agriculture (NeGPA) aims to achieve rapid development in India through use of Information & Communication Technology (ICT) for timely access to agriculture related information for the farmers.

The Government has also developed and made functional SMS/ mKisan Portal (www.mkisan.gov.in) for sending advisories on various crop related matters to the registered farmers through SMSs. Mobile telephony has transformed the tenor of farmers life also.

Various mobile applications including Kisan Suvidha have also been developed to facilitate dissemination of information to farmers on the critical parameters viz., Weather, Market Prices, Plant Protection, Agro-advisory, Extreme Weather Alerts, Dealers – Seed, Pesticide, Fertilizer, Farm Machinery, Call to Kisan Call Centre, Soil Health Card and Cold Storage & Godowns.

Under Market Research & Information Network (MRIN) Scheme, support is provided to the States towards setting up and maintain connectivity with Agmarknet portal for collection and dissemination of market information on arrivals and prices of agri-commodities.

Government is implementing National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) scheme wherein online trading of agriculture and horticulture commodities is done for transparent price discovery for farmers for their produce through competitive online bidding system.

Under Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM), the Government is increasing the reach of farm mechanization to small and marginal farmers, creating hubs for hi-tech & high value farm equipments.

(c): Government has undertaken various scheme and programme for economic empowerment of farmers in India such as National Food Security Mission (NFSM) Programme, Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN), Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maan Dhan Yojna (PM-KMY), Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA), Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (Scheme for Agro-Marine Processing and Development of Agro-Processing Clusters) etc.
