

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 255**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 15<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2020

**DECONGESTION OF WHOLESALE MARKETS**

255. KUMARI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken steps to decongest wholesale markets and to boost the supply chains during the prevailing lockdown situation which occurred due to the COVID-19 pandemic;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the National Agriculture Market (eNAM) portal has been revamped, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the number of trucks and transporters linked to e-NAM so far?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) & (b): Yes Sir. The Government has taken several steps to decongest wholesale markets and to boost the supply chains during the prevailing lockdown situation which occurred due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Government vide their letter dated 02<sup>nd</sup> April, 2020 had issued advisory to States/Union Territories (UTs) to facilitate Direct Marketing, enabling direct purchase from the farmers/ Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs)/ Cooperatives etc. by liberalizing regulations under respective State Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) Acts.

FPO trading module has been launched in National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) platform to facilitate FPOs to trade their agricultural produce from their collection centres without bringing the produce to Agricultural Produce Market Committee markets. Warehouse based trading module was also launched in e-NAM platform to enable farmers to sell their produce from WDRA registered warehouses notified as deemed market.

Further, 415 new mandis have been integrated into e-NAM platform during COVID-19 lockdown period taking the total number to 1000 e-NAM mandis in the country.

Transportation of agricultural produce is critical & indispensable component of supply chain. During the COVID-19 lockdown situation, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare launched "KISAN RATH", a farmer friendly mobile application, to facilitate farmers in finding suitable transport vehicles for transportation of their Agriculture & Horticulture produce.

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To ensure the continuous supply of essential goods, hindrance free movement of transportation & real time monitoring of supply & prices, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare had created a Whatsapp group in coordination with senior officials from State Agriculture Marketing Boards (SAMBs) to monitor the functioning of APMCs, monitor supply & price of essential goods & facilitate inter- state transportation of essential goods during COVID-19 lockdown.

The Government has promulgated "The Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation), Ordinance, 2020" to promote barrier-free inter-state and intra-state trade in farmers' produce to facilitate remunerative prices to farmers.

The Government has promulgated "The Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Ordinance, 2020" to protect and empower farmers to engage with agri-business firms, processors, wholesalers, exporters or big retailers for farm services and sale of future farming produce at a mutually agreed remunerative price framework in a fair and transparent manner.

(c): Yes Sir. National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) portal has been revamped and the following features have been added in e-NAM platform during lockdown period to enhance its effectiveness and strengthen the agriculture produce supply chain:

- i. FPO trading module
- ii. Warehouse based trading module
- iii. Logistic information module
- iv. Interoperability of e-NAM with Rashtriya e-Market Services Private Limited (ReMS)
- v. 415 New Mandis integrated into e-NAM Platform
- vi. 25 new commodities added for trade on e-NAM platform making total tradable commodities of 175 on e-NAM platform.

(d): So far, 9 Logistics Aggregators partnered with e-NAM platform having 2,31,300 transporters linked with them, taking total trucks count to 11,37,700 up to 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2020.

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