

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5401
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 05TH APRIL, 2022

DIGITISED AGRICULTURAL ECOSYSTEM

5401. SHRI RAVNEET SINGH BITTU:

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

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Government proposes to make it mandatory for farmers to enrol in the sprawling digitised agricultural ecosystem being developed to connect farm services companies and cultivators in the country;
- (b) If so, the details thereof;
- (c) Whether it is a fact that certain objections have been raised by various farm unions against the above mentioned proposal of the Government and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) Whether the Government is taking any steps to look into the objections raised by the farm unions in this regard; and
- (e) If so, the details thereof and if no, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

- (a) to (e): The Department has constituted a High Level Task Force, which is in the process of finalizing "India Digital Ecosystem of Agriculture (IDEA)" report. Task Force invited comments from subject experts, farmers, Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) and general public and considered them. Based on this, the Department is in the process of finalizing a framework for creating Agristack in the country, which will serve as a foundation to build innovative agri-focused solutions leveraging digital technologies to contribute effectively towards increasing the income of farmers and improve efficiency of the Agriculture sector in the country. Once finalized, this can serve as a foundation to build innovative agri-focused

solutions leveraging technologies to contribute effectively towards increasing the income of farmers and improve farm efficiency/efficiency of the Agriculture sector in the country.

In this regard, leading Technology/Agri-tech/Start-Ups companies were identified and invited to collaborate with the Government of India and develop Proof of Concepts (PoC) based on data of select Districts/ Villages. A public call through the Department's website was issued inviting proposals for Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). Companies were invited to sign MoU on purely pro bono basis and develop the PoCs. These PoCs will help in understanding the uses of Agristack and service & solutions that can be built using available data and some of them, if found beneficial to the farmers will be scaled up at National level. In this regard, the Government has signed MoUs with leading Technology/Agri-tech Players & Start-ups for working on Proof of Concepts (PoCs) in the select Districts/Villages.
