

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.396
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19TH JULY, 2016

ONLINE NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL MARKET

396. SHRI C.S. PUTTA RAJU:
SHRI A. T. NANA PATIL:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up an Online National Agricultural Market and amend the Agriculture Produce Market Committees (APMCs) Act to break the monopoly of middlemen/traders and provide benefits to the farmers and consumers, if so, the details and the objectives thereof;
- (b) whether the scheme is likely to be implemented in all the States of the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the benefits likely to be accrued to the farmers and the number of agricultural markets linked with the e-portal at present in the various States of the country; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to strengthen the existing agricultural marketing infrastructure in the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. Agriculture marketing is administered by State Governments and Union Territories (UTs) as per their respective Agriculture Produce Marketing (Regulation) Acts. Realising the need for reforms in the agri-marketing sector, the Government has from time to time played an advocacy role. To take the agri-marketing reform agenda forward and with the objectives to benefit farmers and provide quality produce at reduced cost to consumers, the Government approved a scheme for setting up of National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) on 01.07.2015 with a budget of Rs.200 crore. Under the scheme, a pan India electronic trading portal (e-NAM) is being deployed in selected regulated wholesale markets in States across the country and 585 markets are proposed to be integrated with e-NAM by March, 2018.

In order to integrate with e-NAM, States are required to complete certain pre-requisite reforms in their respective Agriculture Produce Marketing (Regulation) Acts to provide for (i) A single licence to be valid across the State, (ii) Single point levy of market fee, and (iii) Provision for electronic auction as a mode of price discovery. These reforms, it is expected, will facilitate integration of markets at the State level to break the monopoly of middlemen/traders and provide benefits to the farmers and consumers.

Contd...2/-

The scheme is demand based and applicable to all the States of the country.

(c): At present, 23 wholesale regulated agricultural markets of 08 States in the country have been linked with e-NAM portal. e-NAM is expected to benefit the farmers through enhanced market access by way of allowing remote online bidding for their produce, removal of information asymmetry between buyers and sellers, real-time price discovery based on the actual demand-supply gap through transparent online auction, uniform marketing procedures, remuneration according to quality of produce and online payment directly to farmer's account.

(d): In order to implement e-NAM, the Government is providing software free of cost to the the States and grant up to Rs.30 lakh per mandi for related infrastructure/equipments including for assaying. Apart from this the Government implements various schemes to strengthen agricultural marketing infrastructure viz. Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY), Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure (AMI) sub-scheme of Integrated Scheme for Agricultural Marketing (ISAM), Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), etc.
