Impact of demonetisation on agricultural activities

1781. SHRI K.T.S. TULSI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the mode of monetary transaction in the four main areas of agriculture *viz.* sale, transport, marketing and distribution of ready produce; and
- (b) whether there was any impact of demonetisation in these areas, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) The mode of monetary transactions in Agricultural Produce Market Committees (APMCs) for sale, transport, marketing and distribution of ready produce between the farmer and trader was principally happening through cheques and cash to some extent. RTGS/NEFT and debit/credit card based payments were also adopted in some States like Telangana, Maharashtra etc. but volume of such transactions was very low. Micro ATMs in the APMC market yards in some States/UTs has helped to minimize the constraints due to less availability of cash.

(b) After the announcement of demonetization, the mandi arrivals declined for a week and thereafter gradually improved during subsequent weeks. Hence, there is very limited immediate impact for small period. Presently, the APMCs are functioning normally.