

In addition, Government has formulated a new Model Agricultural produce and Livestock Marketing (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2017 to provide farmers market options beyond the existing APMC regulated market yards. The provisions include private markets, direct marketing, farmer-consumer markets, special commodity market yards, declaring warehouses/silos/cold storages or such structures as market sub yards so as to reduce the number of intermediaries between producer and buyer and increase the share of the farmer in consumer's rupee.

Linking of Krishi Upaj Mandis of Bihar with e-portal

†2096. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the progress made towards the establishment of e-mandis (market);
- (b) the number of Krishi Upaj Mandis linked with the e-portal in Bihar, so far;
- (c) whether Government is bringing any concrete proposal for the procurement of produces of farmers, so that they could be protected from exploitation by profiteers/middlemen; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) The Government is implementing National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) scheme for transparent price discovery for the farmers for their produce through competitive online bidding system. Under the scheme, an electronic trading portal with pan India trading facility has been deployed in 470 regulated wholesale markets across 14 States in the country so far. The scheme is being implementing through State Governments. The Government of Bihar has not sent any proposal for integrating their mandis with e-NAM. Hence, no mandi of Bihar have been integrated with e-NAM.

(c) and (d) Government procures oilseeds and pulses at Minimum Support Price (MSP) directly from the farmers through central/state agencies under Price Support Scheme to eliminate possibility of middlemen taking advantage of the scheme. Further, the Government procures paddy and wheat through the Food Corporation of India (FCI) and State Government agencies across the country. Under Market Intervention Scheme (MIS), procurements of agricultural and horticultural commodities, which are perishable in nature and are not covered under PSS Scheme, is done. Under MIS also,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

procurements are made by State Nodal Agencies directly from the farmers at Market Intervention Price (MIP), which is fixed based on cost of production. Procurements of selected commodities, namely, onion, potato and pulses are made under the Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) Scheme directly from the farmers or the farmers associations at farm gate/rnandi to protect the farmers from exploitation by profiteers/middlemen.

Placing agricultural marketing in concurrent list

2097. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a Government appointed high-level committee has called for placing agricultural marketing in the Concurrent List and for greater private sector participation in agri-marketing and logistics;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the other recommendations made by the said high-level committee; and
- (c) the reaction of Central Government on the recommendations made by the said Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) The Government has constituted a high level Inter-Ministerial Committee under the chairmanship of Chief Executive Officer, National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA), Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare to examine issues relating to doubling of farmers' income and recommend a strategy to achieve the same by the year 2022. In order to involve the stakeholders across the country in finalizing the strategy, the Committee has been placing its reports in instalments. As of now, seven volumes of the draft report including a volume on Agricultural marketing, have been uploaded on the website of Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare inviting public opinion.

- (c) The committee has not submitted its final report to the Government. Hence, the reaction of the Government does not arise.

Compensation for families of farmers who committed suicide

2098. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of farmers' suicide in the country during the last three years, State-wise; and