

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-493
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05/02/2021

CONSULTATION ON FARM LAWS AND ORDINANCES OF 2020

493 Shri Binoy Viswam:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the process of consultation, if any, done before the passage of the Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Ordinance, 2020, the Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Ordinance, 2020, and the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020 and their corresponding Acts;
- (b) the number of individuals/organisations/unions who were consulted for the three ordinances/bills;
- (c) the recommendations received during this consultation; and
- (d) the measures the Ministry adopted to proactively disclose the drafts of the aforesaid three Ordinances and corresponding Acts of 2020?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (d): There has been continuous demand for reforming agriculture marketing system in India to facilitate farmers in selling their produce for better price realization as has been suggested from time to time by various committees etc. Government of India has been actively and intensively engaging with the States/Stackholders for about two decades for reforms in agriculture marketing sector to provide accessible markets and barrier free trade facilitates for selling their produce at better price anytime anywhere. Government had promulgated “The Farmers’ Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Ordinance, 2020”, “The Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Ordinance, 2020”, and “The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020” on 5th June, 2020 & subsequently enacted these into Acts on 27th September, 2020. Draft of the Ordinances had been circulated to various Ministries/ Departments; NITI Aayog etc. for their comments. State Governments were also consulted through Video Conferencing (VC) on 21st May, 2020, which was attended by the officials of 13 States/ UTs, to obtain feedback on new legal framework facilitating barrier free inter-State and intra-State trade in agriculture produce to provide choice to farmers.

Government of India has proactively undertaken efforts on series of extension activities through webinars, online conferences, workshops, teleconferencing, social media, print media, electronic media with the stakeholders on the aforesaid three Ordinances and thereafter on respective Acts.