

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1485
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29th JULY, 2022

GOVERNMENT e-MARKETPLACE FOR PROCUREMENT

1485. SHRI DHANANJAY BHIMRAO MAHADIK:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has achieved the objective for which Government e-Marketplace (GeM) portal was launched and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has approved expanding the mandate of Government e-Marketplace Special Purpose Vehicle to allow procurement by Cooperatives as buyers and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the other steps taken by Government to make it mandatory for all its Departments to procure goods and services through e-market in the country?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a): Yes, Sir. The Government of India set up the Government e-Marketplace (GeM) in 2016 as an e-marketplace to revolutionize public procurement in India by leveraging technology. Previously, public procurement in India was characterized by inefficient, opaque, and time consuming manual processes conducted offline, complicated by a fragmented and complex policy landscape. GeM's approach is underlined by commitment to three pillars of transparency, efficiency and inclusiveness elaborated as under:

- (i) Transparency: GeM is an open marketplace wherein it promotes open access to information in a transparent manner. Relevant information on Sellers, Goods and Services is easy to find and readily available for users. GeM provides database insights to support its users in decision-making process.
- (ii) Inclusiveness: GeM's focus on inclusiveness is multifaceted, involving not only making the platform usable and trusted by every type of seller but also conducting active outreach to onboard marginalized and underserved seller segments including Small and Medium Enterprises, Women Entrepreneurs, Startups and Artisans.
- (iii) Efficiency: In view of being an end to end online and integrated portal, GeM brings efficiency in Public Procurement by removing manual interventions at various stages of Public Procurement.

Since its inception, GeM has achieved total procurement value of ₹2,70,384 Crore as on 25.07.22.

(b): Union Cabinet in its meeting held on 01.06.2022 has given its approval for expanding the mandate of GeM to allow procurement by Cooperatives as buyers on GeM.

(c): Government has amended the General Financial Rules 2017 (GFR) and made a provision under Rule 149 for making it mandatory to procure Goods and Services through GeM.