

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3282  
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2000  
AGRICULTURE WHOLESALE MARKETS .  
SAHIB SINGH VERMA

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) the provisions made in the 73rd Amendment of the Constitution about the Agriculture Wholesale Markets;
- (b) the norms and standard fixed for such markets in the country;
- (c) the number of such markets of different sizes required in the country at present;
- (d) the manner in which the requirement of such markets is likely to be met during the next five years;
- (e) the details of components of a large Agriculture Wholesale Market;
- (f) whether the Government propose to construct such markets from the revenues being charged on agriculture produce of these markets; and (g) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD Y. NAIK)

(a): The Constitution (Seventy Third Amendment) Act, 1992 provides under Article 243G that the Legislature of a State may, by law, endow the Panchayats with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as institutions of self-government and such law may contain provisions for the devolution of powers and responsibilities upon Panchayats at the appropriate level with respect to:-

- (i) the preparation of plans for economic development and social justice;
- (ii) the implementation of schemes for economic development and social justice as may be entrusted to them including those in relation to the matters listed in the Eleventh Schedule.

`Markets and Fairs` are listed as item No.22 of the Eleventh Schedule.

(b) to (d): There are no prescribed norms or standards fixed for wholesale agricultural markets in the country. Therefore, it is difficult to arrive at the exact number of such markets, which are required in the country. The responsibility for establishment of such markets, keeping in view the requirements, lies with the State Governments/UT Administrations.

(e): The main components of a large agricultural wholesale market are the following:-

- (i) Shops of traders/agents
- (ii) Storage/ripening facilities
- (iii) Producers` common auction platforms
- (iv) Roads and parking
- (v) Service lanes
- (vi) Electrification
- (vii) Drinking water facilities
- (viii) Tea and snacks stalls
- (ix) Toilet blocks
- (x) Market Administration Office and
- (xi) Banks/Post Offices/telephones/offices.

(f): Matters relating to the imposition of levy in the markets and establishment and maintenance of agricultural wholesale markets come within the purview of the State Governments/UT Administrations. The Government of India has at present no proposal to construct wholesale agricultural markets.

(g): Question does not arise.