

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2076  
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2002  
SETTING UP A NEW COMPETITIVE MARKET  
PADAMSEN CHAUDHARY

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

- (a) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government to set up a new competitive market and formulate a scheme for providing loan for the modernization of existing agricultural marketing premises;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a)to(c): An inter-Ministerial Task Force set up by the Ministry of Agriculture has in its Report of 28th June, 2002, suggested reforms in the State Act dealing with agricultural marketing for promotion of direct marketing and contract farming programmes and development of agricultural markets in private and cooperative sector. Recommendations of the Task Force were discussed with the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations at a National Conference held at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on 27.09.02. With a view to work out an action plan for the implementation of the reforms a Standing Committee of State Ministers is set up on 13.11.2002 under the Chairmanship of Union Minister of State (Agriculture).

A Central Sector Scheme for the Development/Strengthening of Agricultural Marketing infrastructure has been formulated to attract investment from private and cooperative sectors in market infrastructure development projects and for the modernization of existing markets. Planning Commission has given `in principle` approval to the scheme for implementation during Xth Plan period.