

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:220
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2011
AMENDMENT IN APMC ACT
Reddy Shri Anantha Venkatarami

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is considering to bring fresh amendments in the Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee Act;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether under the APMC Act, it is mandatory for the farmers to sell all their produce through local committees;
- (d) if so, the details alongwith the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the time by which the APMC Act is likely to be amended to provide more relief to the farmers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a)&(b): As `Agriculture Marketing` is a State subject, States/Union Territories have their own Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee Act. However, in order to facilitate better price realization to the farmers through improved and alternative marketing channels, enhance investment in development of post-harvest marketing infrastructure and reduce the marketing cost and post-harvest losses, the Ministry of Agriculture prepared a model APMC Act and circulated it to all the States/Union Territories in 2003 for their consideration and adoption. The Model Act, inter-alia, includes provisions for direct marketing/purchase from farmers, contract farming, establishment of markets in private and cooperative sectors, special markets for commodities like onions, fruits, vegetables and flowers, prohibition of commission agency, rationalization of market fees, replacement of licensing system with simple registration, promotion of Public Private Partnership in development of markets, promotion of grading and standardization, etc. So far, 16 State Governments have amended their respective APMC Acts and provided for direct marketing, contract farming and establishing of markets in the private/cooperative sectors.

(c): No, Madam,

(d): Does not arise.

(e): The remaining State Governments/Union Territories Administrations are being persuaded to make necessary amendments in their APMC Act on the lines of Model Act.