

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:84  
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2012  
AGRICULTURE MARKETS  
Bauri Smt. Susmita

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to revamp the Agriculture Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) and strengthen the agriculture markets in the rural areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to bring in further reforms to assist the farmers in getting better price for their produce; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE(SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 84 DUE FOR REPLY ON 20TH MARCH, 2012.

(a) to (d): As 'Agriculture Marketing' is a State subject, most of the States and Union Territories have their own Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) Act to regulate agriculture marketing in their State/UT. However, in order to bring reforms in the sector by facilitating better price realization to the farmers through improved and alternative marketing channels, enhancing investment in development of post-harvest marketing infrastructure and reducing marketing cost and post-harvest losses, the Ministry of Agriculture prepared a model APMC Act and circulated to all States and Union Territories in 2003 for adoption. The model Act, inter-alia, includes provisions for direct marketing and purchase of agriculture produce from farmers, contract farming, establishment of markets in private and cooperative sectors, special markets for agricultural commodities, 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. It is for the States / Union Territories to adopt provisions of the model APMC Act and bring reforms in marketing sector. The Central Government is regularly pursuing the States to amend their APMC Act. So far, 16 State Governments have amended their respective APMC Acts on the lines with the model Act. The State-wise status of reforms is given in the Annexure.

The Government has also constituted a Committee of State Ministers, in-charge of Agriculture Marketing on 2.3.2010 to promote the agriculture marketing reforms in the country. The Committee has submitted its first report in September, 2011 which has been circulated to the States for taking further action.