

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5114
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2012
STRENGTHENING OF MARKETING SYSTEMS
Pandey Shri Ravindra Kumar

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any measures are being taken by the Government to control the wholesale foodgrains related purchases by the multinational companies in the markets of the country including strengthening of the basic facilities linked with agriculture; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Agriculture Marketing is a state subject and wholesale marketing including wholesale purchase of food grains by multinationals is regulated by State Governments through State Agriculture Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) Acts. However, in order to provide the farmers with the choice of alternative marketing channels for sale of their produce at remunerative prices and to encourage investment in development of market infrastructure and supply chains, Ministry of Agriculture has circulated Model Agricultural Produce Marketing (Development & Regulation) Act, 2003 to States/Union Territories for its adoption. Model APMC Act, inter alia, provides for registration of market functionaries including traders, contract farming sponsors etc., direct marketing, setting up of private markets, dispute settlement, etc.

In order to promote basic facilities including development of agriculture marketing infrastructure, Government has been implementing various schemes such as Rural Godown Scheme (RGS), Development/Strengthening of Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure, Grading and Standardization (AMIGS), Market Research Information Network (MRIN), Strengthening of Agmark Grading Facilities (SAGF), National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States (HMNEH), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Small Farmers' AgriBusiness Consortium (SFAC), etc.