

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6696
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2015
RURAL HAATS
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether artisans are finding it difficult to sell their products as there is no market available for them to sell and with a view to overcome their problem, the Government has any policy for setting up of rural haats at various levels i.e. village, district and State to help rural artisans, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government is releasing any amount to establish village, district and State level haats; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken or being taken by the Government to establish marketing place for rural artisans to sell their products?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT)

(a) to (c): During 2008-09, Government has introduced a sub-component under the erstwhile scheme of Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), for setting up of rural haats at various levels. The scheme envisaged funding support for creating infrastructure for three Village level haats per district, one District level haat and one State level haat that would help rural artisans to market their products. Government had released an amount of Rs.9483 lakhs as first instalment and Rs.4243 lakhs as second instalment for creation of village haats and Rs.28 lakhs for creation of one District level haat.

SGSY has since been restructured as National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) and direct funding of rural haats by this Ministry has been discontinued since 2013-14. However, the scheme has not been given up. Instead the onus for planning and implementation has been shifted to the States. If the States are interested, they can include the setting up of Haat at various levels in their Annual action plan under the infrastructure component of NRLM from the State's allocation of NRLM. There is a provision for spending upto 20% of the NRLM funds for infrastructure.