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Title: Need to bring Agricultural Produce Market Committee in the definition of local authority under Income Tax Act-Laid.

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK (KOLHAPUR) : Sir, the new amendments to Income-Tax have excluded the Agricultural Produce Market Committees from the definition of local authority. The section 10(29) of Income-Tax Act initially included them (APMC) in the definition of local bodies as such they were not liable for payment of Income-tax since these committees are not profit-making bodies. APMCs recover a very marginal fee by way of tax from traders and use it for providing basic storage and trading facility to the farmers in the surrounding areas. Profit-making is not the motive of a APMCs, so to levy Income-Tax is a great injustice to them and then the entire marketing system used for the benefit of poor farmers will collapse.

Sir, I request the Finance Minister through your Honour to remove these anomalies by (i) including APMCs as local authority in the Income-Tax Act as it was originally included and (ii) in the meanwhile issue the necessary instructions to all the Income-Tax Commissioner to stop issuing notices to APMCs.