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#### Model Act: Answering Problem of Agricultural Marketing

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#### Introduction:

Indian economy has diversified in industrial and service sector. Agriculture still occupies important place. It provides raw materials to agro based industries and contributes 14.6% share in GDP. In the rural area 70% income generated through agriculture sector. The exports from this sector constitute 15 to 20% out of total exports. Agriculture provides developmental inputs to trade, commerce, transport, rural development etc. However, only to call "Produce More" is not sufficient, but it requires efficient marketing system. Agriculture Produce Market Committees provides useful facilities regarding agriculture marketing. In the modern times it requires more freedom to the agricultural producers. Model Act gives comprehensive scope in selling of agricultural products.

#### Objectives of the Study:

- 1. To study importance of agricultural sector in Indian economy.
- 2. To study Agricultural Marketing.
- 3. Fo study Maharashtra Agriculture Produce Market (Regulation )Act 1963
- 4. To study problems faced by agro producer-seller.
- 5. To study Model Act, the State Agricultural Product marketing (Development and Regulation) Act, 2003

#### Agricultural Marketing:

The two basic elements of an agricultural system are production and marketing. Production is the main function of agriculturist. However, marketing of agricultural surplus and its system is beyond the control of agriculturists and he is unable to determine agricultural produce prices in the existing marketing system. "Marketing is a link between producers and consumers, marketing plays a very importance role not only in stimulating production and consumption but also in increasing the pace of economic development. Its dynamic functions are thus of primary importance in promoting economic activities and for this reasion it has been described as the most important multiplier of agricultural development"<sup>3</sup> The Problem of agricultural produce marketing has been raised after modernization of agriculture. For fair return for agricultural produce it is necessary formation of adequate marketing machinery. Hence, the success of any agricultural development programme rests ultimately on the efficiency of the marketing system. According the National Commission on Agriculture, "Agricultural marketing is a process which starts with a decision to produce a saleable farm commodity and it involves all aspects of market structure of system, both functional and institutional, based on technical and academic considerations and includes per and post harvest operations, assembly, grading, storage, transportation and distribution"4

#### Background information on agriculture policy/APMC

The Government is of the opinion that the proposed APMC Act Amendment will address the loopholes of the prevailing APMC Act and strengthen the current marketing system by bringing professionalism and competitive attitude into the system. This, it claims, will be a boon to farmers. At present, we are witnessing an agrarian crisis where farmers are committing suicide across the country due to indebtedness over crops, less yield, and crop loss due to heavy rains in some parts of the country and severe drought in others. In this critical moment, the state government should ideally introduce programmes which will support the farming community.

To speed up the process of privarizing the APMC Act - privatizing APMC act?, the central government has gone to the extent of threatening the State Governments by canceling grants meant for certain schemes/subsidies if the state government delays or fails to implement the APMCmodel act

1

#### Main Features of APMC Model Act

The two main features of the APMC Model Act 2003 are:

- 1) Privatisation of the agricultural sector by encouraging private and special markets and contract farming. Any individual or group can start these markets and the special / private market traders can directly purchase produce from the farms.
- 2) Centralization of power within the state government through nomination of representatives of the market committee.

#### Maharashtra Agriculture Produce Market (Regulation) Act, 1963;

The basic objects towards the regulation of markets is saving the producer- seller, from the ciuthes of the trader, middlemen and other market function arise operating in the markets for agricultural produce. With this view various states have passed an Act for regulating the market of agricultural produce. The object of this Act was to improve the economic conditions of the producer- seller by checking the rampant malpractices restored by the middlemen. With this view Maharashtra State Government has also passed an Act in the year 1963. With the implementation of the Act the various regulated markets have came into existence at various District as well as Tsahalis paces of the states. In the Maharashtra State total numbers of villages are 40106 covered under the regulations. Out of six regions Aurangabad is the first and covered 7989 villages, followed by Nagpur 7928 villages, Amravati 7079, Nasik 6212 Pune 5803 and Mumbai is least in this context. 876 Agricultural produce market committees are established in Maharashtra covering 278 principal markets and 598 subsidiary markets.

### The Muharashtra agricultural produce marketing (Regulation) Act, 1963-Overview:

The work of unification of various market laws of the state began soon after the formation of Manarashtra state on 1st May 1960. But this process took five years and finally the present Act came into force from 25th May 1967. Accordingly various states prepared their separate acts.

#### Leatures of the act:

Open auction or open agreement.

- I reensed weigh men with standard metric weights and measures.
- Market amenities.
- Prohibited unauthorized deduction and Regulate deductions as per law. 3.
- Dissemination of the current prices and movement of goods in the market. 4.
- Rules provide for prompt payment of the price to the seller. 5
- Sub-committees for the settlement of disputes between the sellers and buyers 11
- Representation of producer-sellers on the committee.
- Prohibit wholesale trade of the notified commodities outside the market yard.

#### Problems faced by the Producer-seller:

Regulated markets are mainly formed for the purpose of self-quard their economic interest and contribution purchase activities of agricultural produce, prohibited malpractices, prompt payments: to farmers etc. however, these market committees unable to safeguard the producer-sellers. interest. Following problem faced by them.

- Wrong weighting procedure
- Luc paya ent.
  - som standard grading system.
- Non application of rule regarding minimum upper a price particularly when prices are
- Heavy purchases expenses, such as various contains are a weighing and measuring charges. igy a max off

Charging for levy a/30% from producers- sellers, even though it is not permitted by the Hon. Aurangabad High Court.

MODEL ACT: The Agricultural Produce Marketing (Development & Regulation) Act,2003. Agricultural marketing is witnessing major changes world over, owing to liberalization of trade in agricultural commodities. To benefit farming community for the new global market access opportunities. The internal agricultural marketing system in the county needs to be integrated and strengthened. "In this context government of India in the Ministry of Agriculture appointed an expert committee on 19th December 2000 followed by an Inter Ministerial Task Force to review the present system of agricultural marketing in the country and to recommend measures to make the system more efficient and competitive. They suggested various reforms relating to agricultural marketing system as well as in policies and programmes for development and strengthening of agricultural marketing in the country. The Ministry of Agricultural. Government of India accordingly set up a committee under the chairmanship of Shri K.M. Sahni, additional secretary, Dept. of Agriculture and Co-Operative to formulate a model law on agricultural marketing in constitution with the state. The draft model legislation was fully discussed by the committee at Pune on the 78th and 9th September 2003 and finalized.

#### Main Features of the Models Act:

The draft model legislation titled the ---- State Agricultural Produce Marketing (Development and Regulation) Act.2003.

- Provides for establishment of private market/yards in a one or more market area U/S 45.
- State government may be notification declare any market as "Special Market" or "Special Commodity Market" after consideration of turnover, serving large area and special infrastructure requirement for particular commodity.
- Implementation of one licensing policy. Process industries, companies exporters, any private or public company can purchase agricultural produce at where.
- Purchasing party should pay national market cess only (Levy market fee) whether agricultural produce brought from the state or outside the state into the market area. Such levy/Cess fixed by the state government subject to minimum Rs. 0.50 and maximum Rs.2.00 for every hundred rupees of the price. It is collected at once only. In the process of resold, not necessary to pay levy changes.
- There is no any deduction from producer sellers.
- The State Government declares any specified space including any structure, enclosure, open space, or locating in the market area to be a market yard, as the case may be.
- 7 Formation of direct purchase centers.
- 8 Public private partnership in the management and development of agricultural markets.
- 9 Provides separate constitution for special markets for commodities like onion fruits, vegetables, flower etc.
- Publish & circulate for time the data of arrivals and rates of agricultural produces slandered wise bough in to the market area for sale as prescribed. The agricultural producers can take appropriate decision regarding sales of their product in the market.
- Contract farming is possible; contract farming sponsor shall registrar himself with the market committee or with a prescribed officer U/s 38(1). It is an agreement between processing and or marketing firms, market intermediaries and the farmers for the production and support of agricultural products under forward agreement frequently at predetermined prices.
- "the basis of such arrangement is a commitment on the part of farmer to provide a specific agricultural commodity in quantities and quality standards determined by the purchaser and commitment on the part of registered dealer/ businessmen to support the farmers production and to "purchase the commodity".

The main advantage for farmers is that the sponsor will normally undertake to purchase all produce grown within specified quality and quantity parameters, often predetermined rates. The farmers

can receive advanced techniques related with particular product. In many instances, the larger companies provide their own extension support to contracting farmers to ensure production according to specialization.

- 12. It will not be necessary to bring agricultural produce covered under contract farming to the market yard / submarket yard / private yard and it may be directly sold to contract farming sponsor from farmers field U/s 40(1).
- The price of the notified agricultural produce brought in the market yard submarket yard private yard shall be paid on the same day to the seller the above place (U/s 41) (2) (a). In case parchasser does not make payment under clause (a), he shall be liable to make additional payment at the rate of one percent per day of the total price of the agricultural produce, payable to the sellers that I satisfies (a) and (b) above, within five days from the date of such pruchase, his the deemed to have been cancelled on the sixth day and he shall not be a such as a such a such as a such a such as a
  - Producers:
  - 15. it redefines the role of present agricultural produce market committees to promote alternative marketing system.
  - Proper grading by following standards. It would facilitate pleage financing, e-trading, direct purchasing, export forward future trading, warehouse facility.

    Conclusions:

Through Indian economy has diversified if the share of agriculture in GDP is 14.0%, it provides source of live hood to 65 to 70 cores of Indian population. Agriculture also provides food and raw materials. Agriculture in Indian suffers from many problems like low productivity, defective marketing practices, lack of finance and storage facilities etc. The main problem of defective marketing was solved through development of cooperative marketing in 1960s. But this system developed many systemic ills which harmed the producer farmer. The trader pocketed bulk profit while the farmers received only 70% of the total sale proceeds. In order to overcome this problem the potential government persuaded the states to enact model acts for agricultural produce marketing.

The main problem of this received bulk profit while the farmers received only 70% of the total sale proceeds. In order to overcome this problem the potential government persuaded the states to enact model acts for agricultural produce marketing.

The provides for liberatived and in the farmers regarding various commission, taxes and deductions. The implementation of this act could increase the income of the farmers by 30 to 15% and farmers would be empowered as they would have liberay to sale their produce wherever they please. As private companies and individuals are also allowed to purchases. Govt. should, form private vards and implement the Model Act strictly.

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