

No: SFAC/43/Parl.Qus/2024-25 **11775**
Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium
5th Floor, NCUI Auditorium Building,
August Kranti Marg, Hauz Khas, New Delhi – 110016

Dated 31.01.2025

01.02.2025

To,

Under Secretary (M-II)
Department of Agriculture & Farmer Welfare,
Krishi Bhawan
New Delhi

Sub: Rajya Sabha Question Dy No. U710 regarding Farmers' Welfare-Digital Governance Division reg.

Sir,

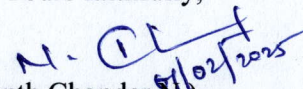
Please refer to your letter dated 30.01.2025 on the above subject. In this regard, point wise reply is furnished as below:

Sl. No.	Question	Reply so far as SFAC is concerned
a)	what measures the Government is implementing to empower Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) through the recent collaboration between CSC e-Governance Services India Limited and IFFCO;	An MoU dated 07.06.2024 Annexure – I (copy enclosed) has been signed between CSC e-Governance Services India Limited and Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (MoA&FW) dated 6.06.2024 to deliver citizen-centric services, similar to those currently provided by CSCs, through FPOs registered under Central Sector Scheme for Formation and Promotion of 10,000 FPOs. Besides, MoA&FW vide letter no. 28011/1/2020-M-II (Pt.)-Part (1) FTS-139136 dated 6.11.2024 have communicated to all the Implementing Agencies and all State Governments (Anneuxre-II) that CSC will facilitate access to the 'O' Form of IFFCO and KRIBHCO to FPOs.
b)	how essential agricultural inputs provided are expected to enhance productivity and support rural development;	The farmers in rural areas face difficulties in getting timely supply of seed, fertilizer and pesticide. Through the input business services of FPOs the farmers will get the input support in getting timely quality seed, fertilizer, pesticide, etc. which will help the farmers in enhancing productivity and their income. As on date, 4359 FPOs have taken seed license, 3911 FPOs taken fertilizer license and 3319 have taken pesticide license to extend the input services to the FPO members.
c)	what initiatives are being taken to ensure small and marginal farmers benefit from this partnership;	With the partnership with the CSC e-Governance Services India Limited, the FPOs will get input licenses and input dealership for seed, fertilizer and pesticide with the support of CSC e-Governance Services India Limited. Further the FPO formed under the 10,000 FPOs scheme can open the Common Services Centre with the support of CSC e-Governance Services India Limited to deliver citizen-centric services, including the benefit of

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		<p>various welfare scheme of Government of India, to benefit members and Non-members.</p> <p>As per the MoAFW letter dated 06.11.2024 no registration fee will be charged from CSC FPOs for their registration as Common Service Centres (CSCs). As most of the shareholders of members of FPOs are small and marginal farmers, they will benefit from this initiative.</p>
d)	how does the Government plan to monitor the impact of this MoU on employment generation; and	<p>Depending on the volume of the services provided at Common Service Centre and sale of inputs, the FPOs may need additional human resources in running the service centre. Measurement of any such manpower deployed by FPOs will indicate direct employment generation through this MOU.</p> <p>Besides there will be indirect employment generation as a result of the services availed by the people through the FPOs.</p>
e)	what steps are being taken to promote sustainable agricultural practices among FPOs?	<p>Formation and promotion of FPO is based on Produce Cluster Area, which is broadly defined as a geographical area wherein agricultural and allied produce such as horticultural produce of similar or of almost similar nature is grown / cultivated; This also covers Organic Produce and Natural Farming which adopt sustainable agricultural practices.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As on 30.01.2025, 252 Natural Farming (INM) FPOs are formed under the 10,000 FPOs scheme to promote sustainable agricultural practices. • 4,141 FPOs have received Seed license to distribute quality seeds amongst the farmers. • 977 FPOs have acquired Custom Hiring Centers (CHC) through convergence to provide farm machinery and equipment on a rental basis to small and marginal farmers. • 1296 FPOs have processing infrastructure commissioned to reduce post-harvest losses etc.

Yours faithfully,


 (Prasanth Chander N.)
 Dy. Director (Admn)

Encl : As above.