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**AGRICULTURE PRODUCE MARKET COMMITTEE:  
WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO MAHARASHTRA  
STATE**

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**ABSTRACT**

*Over the last several year's farmers are facing many difficulties in selling their agricultural produce in the markets albeit some improvements in the recent years. They mostly sell their produce to local traders, input dealers or commission agents and only a few sell their produce at designated regulated Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) markets at block level. With the implementation of Model APMC Act (2003) by states, the situation will improve for the benefit of the farmers. The Electric Markets (National Agricultural Markets) across all Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) markets at block level is major game changer in increasing farmers share in consumer rupee.*

**KEY WORDS:** *Regulated market, LOAN, grading infrastructure, problems of APMC.*

**INTRODUCTION**

The market committees are responsible for the implementation of fair grading practices, licensing of market functionaries, deduction of unauthorized market charges, introduction of open auction sale and implementation of standard weights and to secure impartial settlement in cases of disputes between the seller and buyer. They also maintain market yards; provide facilities for parking carts and vehicles, rest houses, farmer's canteens, godowns and sheds for auctioning sale. The producer is given a sale slip showing details of the sale proceeds and the deductions and payment is made on the same day.

The number of regulated markets has gradually increased in the country. In India, such legislations have been relatively inadequate.

Agricultural efficiency has remained at low go out and to achieve a well organized system of purchasing and selling of agricultural commodities, most of the State Governments and Union Territories enacted legislations (Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Act (APMR Act) to provide regulation for agricultural produce markets. Agricultural Produce Market Committees constituted as per APMR Acts manage the markets. The establishment of regulated markets has helped in creating orderly and transparent marketing conditions in primary assembling markets. Further, the increase in the number of regulated market yards in India, from a meager 286 at the time of independence to 8557 in the year 2015, has helped in increasing the access of farmers to such orderly market places.

**Table No. 1: Wholesale Market and Regulated market in India and Maharashtra**

Type of Markets	In India	In Maharashtra
<b>Agricultural Markets</b>		
Wholesale Markets	6262	880
Primary Markets	20870	3500
Total:	27131	4380
<b>Regulated Markets</b>		
Principal Market	2459	295
Sub Yards	5977	592
Total	8336	887

Maharashtra is the first state with Agricultural Markets in India with Wholesale as 880 and Rural Primary as 3500 with a total of 4380 as on

31.03.2007. Regulated markets and its served population and Area as follows:-

**Table No. 2: Regulated Markets, its served Population and Area**

Particulars	In India	In Maharashtra
Regulated Markets	7465	871
Population served by each	135903	114810
Area served by each Market (km <sup>2</sup> )	43500	3535

*\*Source: Economy survey of India*

**REGULATED MARKETS IN INDIA**

In India, the East India Company was interested in commerce rather than agriculture. After the war of rebellion (1857), when the Crown replaced the company, the main objective of the British Policy was administrative consideration

rather than economic regeneration. The Famine Commission of 1880 opined that it was unfortunate that agriculture formed the sole occupation of the mass of population and pointed out, “No remedy for the present evils can be complete which does not include the introduction of diversity of occupations.”

**Table No. 3: Agricultural Produce marketing Acts in India**

Sr. No.	Name of State/ Union Territory	The Act in force	Regulated Markets as on 31.3.2014
1	Andhra Pradesh	The Andhra Pradesh Agricultural Produce and Livestock Market Act,1960	821
2	Assam	The Assam Agricultural Produce Market Act,1972	32
3	Bihar	The Bihar Agricultural Produce Market Act,1960	828
4	Gujarat	The Gujarat Agricultural Produce Market Act,1963	377
5	Haryana	The Punjab Agricultural Produce Market Act,1961	273
6	Himachal Pradesh	The Himachal Pradesh Agricultural Produce Market Act,1969	29
7	Karnataka	The Karnataka Agricultural Produce Market Act,196	429
8	Madhya Pradesh	The Madhya Pradesh Krishi Upaj Mandi Adhiniyam,1972	583
9	Maharashtra	The Maharashtra Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Act,1963	822
1	Manipur	The Manipur Agricultural Produce Market Act,1980	---
11	Meghalaya	The Meghalaya Agricultural Produce Market Act,1980	---
12	Orissa	The Orissa Agricultural Produce Market	133

		Act,1980	
13	Punjab	The Punjab Agricultural Produce Market Act,1961	667
14	Rajasthan	The Rajasthan Agricultural Produce Market Act,1959	383
15	Tamil Nadu	The Tamil Nadu Agricultural Produce Market Act,1959	270
16	Uttar Pradesh	The Uttar Pradesh krishi Utpadak Mandi Adhiniyam, 1964	645
17	Tripura	The Tripura Agricultural Produce Market Act,1979	21
18	Bengal	The Bengal Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Act,1972	456
19	Chandigarh	The Punjab Agricultural Produce Market Act,1961	3
20	Delhi	The Delhi Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Act,1976	15
21	Goa, Daman	The Maharashtra Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Act,1963	5
22	Pudducherry	The Pondicherry Agricultural Produce Market Act,1973	4
23	Kerala	The Kerala Agricultural Produce Marketing Act,1967	5
24	Nagaland	The Nagaland Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Act,1985	---

#### Methods of Sale carried out by APMC Market:

1. Sale by Sample:
2. Open Auction:
3. Hatta Sale (Under Cover)

**Table : Rate of interest as per utilization of funds by APMC's**

Sr. No.	Utilization of funds by APMC	Rate of interest
1	All APMC- Shetkari Bazar	5%
2	All APMC- Agri Pledge Loan Scheme	6%
3	Term Loan- Kokan & Tribal Area	6%
4	All APMC- Land purchase, drinking water facility, auction platform, compound, weigh bridge, grading equipment, sanitary, road,	8%
5	Shopping Complex (APMCs of all category)	10%

**Table : Arrivals of commodities and its value in the year 2012-2013 (Nagpur)**

Sr. No.	Commodity	Arrivals (in quintals)	Value (Rs.)
1	Jowar	18365	16662100
2	Wheat	39574	40770750
3	Gul	63519	176886900
4	Paddy	6747	14804500
5	Vegetable	118117	109540601
6	Tur	396	1359600
7	Groundnut	9920	20619200
8	Maize	335491	276019850
9	Gram	7442	14237000
10	Bean	916	2484000

This table shows that, commodities have arrivals in the market committee. The maize has arrivals in the market yard and (Rs.276019850) value is high. The market has well-known as maize market. All types of

commodities are coming in the market and received the good prices.

## 1. The Maharashtra agricultural Produce Marketing (Development and Regulation) Act-1963

### Problems of Agriculture Marketing in India

- a. Absence of a Common Trade Language
- b. Variation in Market Charges
- c. Neglect of Rural Markets
- d. Controls under Essential Commodities Act(ECA)
- e. Infiltration
- f. Grading Infrastructure

### Problems in Maharashtra Agriculture Marketing Board:

Maharashtra State is spread over an area of 3.07 Lakh Sq. km. The total population of the State is 10.3 Crore (estimated 2004-05), out of which, 57.8% population is dependent on agriculture. Agriculture plays an important role in the State's economy. The total number of farmers in the State is 1.66 Crore, of which, 43 % and 27 % are small farmers and marginal farmers, respectively. The average land holding is 1.66 Ha. In the year 2004-05, the area under cultivation in the State was 22.66 Million Ha, which is 73.66 % out of the total physical area of 30.76 Million Ha. In the same year, the area under irrigation was 4.03 Million Ha, which is 17.78%. The food crops including cereals and pulses occupy 12.91 Million Ha (56.97%) area. The important Kharif crops are sorghum, millets, rice, pulses, soybean, groundnut, sunflower, sesame and cotton, while wheat, yellow gram, sunflower are grown in Rabi season. This profile shows agriculture has great importance in the state's economy.

The productivity levels in Agriculture are low mainly because irrigated area is low; most of the area is rain-fed. Another reason is though technology is available, it is not being fully adopted and farmers do not follow improved practices fully.

### The experts of MACP identified following problems of APMC

- i. Lack of coordination among concerned line departments,
- ii. No convergence of the schemes,
- iii. The schemes implementation is not integrated,
- iv. End to end approach is missing,
- v. Inadequate availability of funds,
- vi. Inadequate infrastructure in agricultural marketing system,
- vii. Lack of adequate arrangements to carry the marketing information and marketing intelligence to the producers,
- viii. Inadequate risk mitigation measures, and
- ix. Lack of alternate marketing system, coupled with poor knowledge of agricultural marketing

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