

FPOs can play a major role in aggregating small farmers and adding value agri. produce. Explain.

The Farmer Producer Organizations (FPO) increased exponentially to 16,000 in least 7 years. Government has allocated 26800 crore for the development of FPOs. FPOs can light up the 86% of small and medium farmers life.

Aggregating small farmers

- ① FPO can act as bridge between agriculture inputs, ~~and~~ machinery and customers. They can provide services to their members.
- ② The milk based, poultry based, coconut and spice based FPO clusters can be promoted by the respective agencies.
- ③ The e-Nam has FPO trading module which enables the FPO to sell the without the APMC for enhanced prices.
- ④ The AMLA strategy - Aggregation, market linkage and advisory services can give

technology based interventions to the farmers

⑤ Listing in several stock exchange can give greater access to capital.

Value addition to produce

① The grading and sorting activities are from harvesting to pulping and juice making, chopping and freezing of fruits and vegetables.

② The Agriculture Infrastructure Fund must accommodate funds to support value addition drive of FPOs. Ready to eat and cook foods can be prepared.

③ Convergence with Sampada Yojana can improve the footprint of FPOs along with Kisiki Udan and Kisan eAil scheme

Way forward

Support from cluster based business organisations must be extended to FPO and collective bargaining can improve livelihood of 126 million small and marginal farmers.