

NoA-49012/23/2022-Estt (Coop.)
Government of India
Ministry of Cooperation

Atal Akshay Urja Bhawan, New Delhi.
Dated: 15.07.2022

To,

The Chief Secretary/ Advisor to Administrator (All States/UTs)

Subject:- Procurement of Goods and Services by Cooperative Societies through GeM (Government e-Marketplace)-reg.

Sir,

Cooperatives in India have been performing a wide range of activities for the production of goods and rendering services. At present, there are about 8.54 lakhs Cooperatives in India with about 29 crore members. These Cooperatives make huge purchases of goods and services from the open market to support their operations for which there is a need to provide a platform for them to avail competitive prices through a transparent and efficient process so that the members of Cooperative Societies derive maximum benefit.

2. Government e-Marketplace (GeM) has been set up as a National Procurement Portal to provide an end-to-end online marketplace for Central and State Government Ministries/Departments, PSUs etc. for procurement of common-use goods and services in a transparent and efficient manner. The Gross Merchandise Value of procurement using GeM was more than Rs.1 lakh crores in the FY 2021-22. There are around 41 lakh products listed across more than 10,000 product categories and 288 service categories on GeM portal. Various independent studies have shown substantial savings in cost in case of procurement through GeM due to increased transparency and enhanced seller participation.

3. So far GeM was not enabled for registration of Cooperative Societies as 'Buyers' on its platform. Now, the Union Cabinet vide its decision dated 01.06.2022 has approved to expand the mandate for GeM to allow Cooperatives to procure goods and services through GeM. Purchases through GeM will provide the following benefits:

- a) The Cooperative Societies would get competitive prices through an open and transparent process, thus providing economic benefits to their members.
- b) The Cooperative Societies can procure from about 45 lakh authenticated sellers/service providers available across the country on a single platform.
- c) Following the standard procedures on GeM would lead to saving of time and reduction of administrative burden.

- d) The credibility of the Cooperatives would be enhanced and complaints of irregularities in procurement would reduce.
4. To facilitate onboarding of Cooperatives, GeM authorities will provide a dedicated process and extend other support services. Detailed guidelines in this regard will be issued by the GeM authorities.
5. National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) will be coordinating with GeM authorities and will handhold the Cooperative Societies in the process of on-boarding.
6. The details of contact persons of NCUI & GeM for the purpose are:-
- i) Mr. Anurag Awasthi, Chief Manager (Social Inclusion, Training & Communication), GeM
(Mob.No.-9936304149)
 - ii) Ms. Sandhya Kapoor, Director (Finance), NCUI
(Mob. No.-9910666540)
7. Therefore, it is requested that the Cooperative societies/Banks may be encouraged to on-board themselves with the GeM platform as buyers to reap the benefits of competitive pricing of goods and services.
8. The onboarding of Cooperative Societies/Banks will be done in a phased manner. In the first phase, Cooperative Societies/Banks with turnover/deposits of more than 200 crores as per the latest audited financial statement and with A grade Audit rating (wherever applicable) would be taken up for onboarding.

Yours Sincerely


(Vijay Kumar)
Additional Secretary &
Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies

Copy for information and necessary action to :

1. Principal Secretary/Secretary(Cooperation)/Registrar of Cooperative Societies
2. MDs of National Cooperative Societies
3. MDs of Multi State Cooperative Societies/Banks
4. CEO, GeM
5. CEO, NCUI