



## Mandis Under e-NAM Increased

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According to the recent data, the number of connected mandis, or wholesale markets under e-NAM has increased upto 65%.

This increase is because of transport disruptions and social distancing requirements which have made physical mandi trade more difficult in recent times.

### Key Points

- After the launch of e-NAM in 2016, its progress was slow because,
  - Many States did not amend their **Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) Acts**.
  - Most **farmers were not part of the cooperatives** that would help aggregate the bulk quantity of produce needed to attract online buyers.
  - Most **mandis did not possess the infrastructure** to make the most of the platform.
- The Central Government recognised the potential of e-NAM in overcoming some of the hurdles of the lockdown, and **introduced some important new features in April, 2020**:
  - A trading module allowing **Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs)** to trade produce directly from their collection centres without bringing it to mandis.
  - A **warehouse-based trading module**.
  - A **logistics module** offering users trackable transport facilities through aggregators with access to 11 lakh trucks.
- On 1<sup>st</sup> May 2020, Agriculture Ministry had launched **integration of 200 e-NAM mandis from 7 States** including 1 new state of Karnataka being added on e-NAM.
- Now the total mandis under e-NAM has reached a total of around 950 across India from about 550 before lockdown.

### e-NAM

- The National Agricultural Market (e-NAM) is a pan-India electronic trading portal.

- It was launched in April 2016 with the **objective of integrating the existing Mandis to “One Nation One Market”** for agricultural commodities in India.
- It **networks the existing APMC mandis** to create a unified national market for agricultural commodities and has a **vision:**
  - To promote uniformity in agriculture marketing by streamlining procedures across the integrated markets.
  - Removing information asymmetry between buyers and sellers and promoting real time price discovery based on actual demand and supply.
- It provides for contactless remote bidding and mobile-based anytime payment for which traders do not need to either visit mandis or banks for the same.
- **Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC)** is the lead agency for implementing e-NAM.
  - It functions under the aegis of Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers’ Welfare

**Source: TH**