

# Government e-Market place (GeM)

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**In news**— Recently, Cooperatives have been included as buyers on the government's e-marketplace portal.

## **Key updates-**

- The MSMEs will benefit from the move as they form the bulk of sellers on the GeM portal.
- The move will help over 8.54 lakh registered cooperatives and their 27 crore members as they would get products at competitive rates from the GeM portal.
- The GeM will provide technological infrastructure to support new users, as well as aid cooperatives with onboarding and transaction journeys, via available contact centres, in-field training and other support services.
- In order to encourage cooperatives, the Ministry of Cooperation will issue necessary advisories in order to encourage them to make use of the GeM platform for procurement of goods and services.

## **About GeM portal-**

- GeM is a **one stop government e-Market place where common user goods and services can be procured.**
- The Finance Minister in his Budget speech for FY 2016-17, announced setting up of a technology driven platform to facilitate procurement of goods and services by various Ministries and agencies of the Government.
- The Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals (DGS&D) under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry with technical support of the National eGovernance Division (Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology) has developed the GeM portal.
- It was **launched on 9th August 2016** by the Commerce &

Industry Minister.

- GeM is dynamic, self-sustaining and user-friendly portal for making procurement by Government officers.
- It is a web portal to facilitate online procurement of common use Goods & Services required by various Government Departments / Organisations / PSUs.
- It provides the tools of e-bidding, reverse e-auction and demand aggregation to facilitate the government users to achieve the best value for their money.
- All Central government and State Government Ministries/Departments including its attached/subordinate offices, Central and State autonomous bodies, Central and State Public Sector Units and local bodies etc. are authorized to make procurement through Gem portal.
- Authorised officers of the rank of Deputy Secretary/Equivalent or Head of the Office at Sub Center / Unit / Branch of Government Organisation / PSU / Autonomous Bodies / Local Bodies / Constitution Bodies / Statutory Bodies can register as Primary Users on GeM.