

5,000 FPOs coming, says Jaitley

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UNION MINISTER Arun Jaitley on Thursday said Nabard would promote 5000 farmer producer organisations (FPOs) in the next couple of years.

"Majority of land holdings belong to small and marginal farmers. Being unorganised, they are unable to realise desired value from their produce. Organising them into FPOs will benefit them from economies of scale in purchase of inputs, processing and marketing of their produce," Jaitley said at a Nabard function.

At the same event, Jaitley suggested a uniform set of policies for the agriculture sector across the country so that farmers benefit the most and their income doubles. The agriculture sector is an area that bothers both the Centre and the states with both the governments making policies for the sector, Jaitley said.

"If there is any area in the economy where we can give an example to the world and to ourselves of co-operative federalism, it's the agriculture sector. It can benefit the people more than what GST has done," said Jaitley. **WITHPTI**
