

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1036
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10TH FEBRUARY, 2023

OPERATION KANAK TO CHECK CORRUPTION IN FCI

1036 # SHRI BRIJLAL:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has launched any undercover operation named Operation Kanak against the corruption in Food Corporation of India (FCI);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the outcome thereto;
- (c) the action taken by Government against those employees and officers and private companies found guilty of corruption under this operation; and
- (d) the other steps taken by Government to make the FCI free from corruption?

A N S W E R

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)**

(a) to (c): Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has issued a Press Release on 11.01.2023 informing that an exercise was conducted under the name "Operation Kanak" and searches have been conducted at more than 50 locations in the States of Punjab and Haryana. CBI has also registered an FIR No. RC 216 2023 A 0001 dated 10.01.2023 against serving & retired officials of FCI, private persons and other entities. Two officials of FCI arrested by CBI have been placed under suspension and 27 officers have been transferred out of zone/region.

(d): The allegations of corruption are investigated expeditiously and departmental action is initiated against the defaulting officials. Further, various following steps have been taken to leverage technology and increase automation of processes for increasing the transparency and accountability:-

- i. Artificial Intelligence (AI) based automatic Food Grain analysers are being increasingly used for procurement of rice with minimal human intervention. Samples of food grains are referred to FSSAI notified National Accreditation Board for testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) accredited labs for third party assessment for its conformity to Food Safety and Standards Regulation (FSSR).

- ii. Depot Online System (DOS) has been implemented in FCI owned and hired depots to transform the food supply chain management through innovative use of technology.
- iii. Bill Tracking System (BTS) has been introduced to cover entire range of activities from submission of claim by vendors' upto actual payment to ensure transparency.
- iv. Live feeds of CCTV over the FCI website have been made available in the public domain to check misappropriations.
- v. All the procurement activities including service contracts of the corporation are carried through Government e- market (GeM).
- vi. Open sale of food grains and pulses under Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) (OMSS-D), are carried out through service provider by online e-auction portal. This ensures transparency and eliminates chances of human intervention.
- vii. The Whistle Blower policy of the corporation has been revisited and new policy has been implemented to encourage the employees of the corporation to make disclosures about the improper/ corrupt activities. The policy has been widely circulated to create awareness among the employees about the protection and secrecy provided to them in the policy.
- viii. Further the allegations of corruption are investigated expeditiously and departmental action is initiated against the defaulting officials
