

IRREGULARITIES IN PURCHASE OF COTTON

305. SHRI Y.V. SUBBA REDDY:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES वस्त्र मंत्री
be pleased to state :

- (a) whether some irregularities have taken place in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana in cotton purchases;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and amount involved therein;
- (c) whether it is also true that CBI has registered cases against Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) officials in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the status of action taken on the CCI officials; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to check recurrence of such irregularities in future?

उत्तर

ANSWER

वस्त्र मंत्री (श्रीमती स्मृति जुबिन इरानी)
MINISTER OF TEXTILES
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. During cotton season 2014-15, Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) Limited had to undertake massive procurement operation under Minimum Support Price (MSP) and procured 86.97 lakh bales out of which about 63% (i.e.54.47 lakh bales) were procured in the State of Andhra Pradesh & Telangana. Since the procurement operation was the biggest ever in Telengana and Andhra Pradesh, some lapses in identification of cotton farmers etc. were noticed.

(c) & (d): Yes, Madam. CBI has registered total 10 cases (i.e. 4 cases in Andhra Pradesh & 6 cases in Telangana) against CCI officials posted in Andhra Pradesh & Telangana on issues related to identification of cotton farmers etc and matter is under investigation with CBI. Besides, Chief Vigilance Officer of CCI also investigated the issue thoroughly and come into conclusion that concerned 21 CCI Officials (List annexed) should also monitor their purchase operation properly to avoid such type of irregularities. Accordingly, CCI has initiated Departmental enquiry by appointing a Retired High Court Judge against all the above officials which is under progress. In the mean time all the above officials have been transferred to other branches.

(e): To overcome such type of situations, Government of India has requested all major cotton producing states to devise procedure so that the officials from State Agriculture Department, District Collectors and Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) officials may ensure that only bonafide cotton farmers sell their produce to Nodal Agencies without any involvement of Commission Agents or middlemen or traders so as to ensure that the benefit of MSP is received by cotton farmers only and not by anyone else.

Annexure

Sr. No	Names of the employees	Designation	Branch
1	Shri K.Sudhakar Rao	Sr. Cotton Purchase Officer	Guntur
2	Shri C.K.Bhatti	Sr. Cotton Purchase Officer	Adilabad
3	Shri R.B.Sahare,	Cotton Purchaser	Adilabad
4	Shri B.Rupesh Singh	Cotton Purchaser	Adilabad
5	Shri M.Anandan	Sr.Cotton Purchase Officer	Adilabad
6	Shri V. Ramesh	Cotton Purchaser	Adilabad
7	Shri C.Muralidharan	Cotton Purchase Officer	Adilabad
8	Shri Mahesh R.Kitukule	Cotton Purchaser	Adilabad
9	Shri Pankaj J. Keote	Cotton Purchaser	Adilabad
10	Shri K.V.Krishna Reddy	Sr. Cotton Purchase Officer	Adilabad
11	Shri B.H.Nimje	Sr. Cotton Purchase Officer	Adilabad
12	Shri Sumit S.Deshmukh	Cotton Purchaser	Adilabad
13	Shri Abhijeet Wankhede	Cotton Purchase Officer	Warangal
14	Shri Harjeet Singh	Sr. Cotton Purchase Officer	Warangal
15	Shri P.Mohnan	Sr. Cotton Purchase Officer	Warangal
16	Shri S. Soni	Cotton Purchase Officer	Warangal
17	Shri R. Ravinder	Cotton Purchase Officer	Warangal
18	Shri C.P.Prakash	Sr. Cotton Purchase Officer	Warangal
19	Shri R.K.Sharma	Sr. Cotton Purchase Officer	Warangal
20	Shri A.S.Ghuriya	Sr. Cotton Purchase Officer	Warangal
21	Shri Karimulla Khan	Sr. Cotton Purchase Officer	Warangal
