

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:784

ANSWERED ON:31.07.2006

IRREGULARITIES IN PROCUREMENT OF MUSTARD .

Nagpal Shri Harish;Patel Shri Jivabhai Ambalal

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) Whether the National Agriculture Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED) was directed to buy mustard from the farmers at the Minimum Support Price (MSP) during 2004-05;
- (b) If so, the details thereof indicating the other directive issued for the purpose;
- (c) Whether the said directions were violated in purchasing the mustard from the traders instead of farmers;
- (d) If so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (e) The number of complaints received by the Government in this regard alongwith the action taken thereon? ANSWER

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): The Government of India fixed Minimum Support Price (MSP) of mustard seed Rs.1700 per quintal for Rabi Crop season 2005. NAFED was appointed as Central nodal agency for implementation of Price Support Scheme to procure mustard seed stock as and when the prices of mustard seed rule below the MSP .

(c)&(d): Procurement of mustard under Price Support Scheme by NAFED is undertaken through the State Level Cooperative Marketing Societies/Oilseeds Growers Federation in each producing State. These agencies in turn, procure the stocks from the farmers at identified centers by ensuring that the stocks belong to farmers and also release payment to the farmers.

(e): Some references had been received alleging certain irregularities in the procurement of mustard seed during Rabi 2005. With reference to these complaints NAFED had withdrawn Gujcomasol in Banaskatha District and allocated the work to Banaskatha Union. Further, on the request of Government of Gujarat, NAFED appointed the Gujarat State Cooperpative Cotton Federation as an additional agency for procurement of mustard seed in the State.