

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2180

ANSWERED ON:14.08.2006

IRREGULARITIES IN FCI

Dhindsa Shri Sukhdev Singh;Libra Shri Sukhdev Singh

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

(a) whether the Government has received complaints regarding mismanagement and misappropriation in the affairs of Food Corporation of India (FCI) in Punjab;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to hand over the enquiry of the said irregularities in FCI to Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI); and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a) & (b): Complaints regarding mismanagement etc. in the affairs of Food Corporation of India (FCI) are received from time to time, including in respect of the Punjab Region. These complaints are dealt with in accordance with the prescribed procedure, promptly, by FCI/Government as the case may be. Some of these complaints dated 28.2.2006, 5.5.2006, 20.5.2006, 21.5.2006 & 30.5.2006 have been received in the recent past. Three other complaints have been received in the Ministry/CVC. These complaints along with those against the then Sr. Regional Manager Punjab are being looked into by a Task Force which has been appointed by FCI to investigate them.

(c) & (d): The Vigilance Division of the Ministry investigated a complaint regarding irregularities in procurement of sub-standard rice on a large scale in various centres of Food Corporation of India, Punjab Region during Kharif Marketing Season 2004-05. The inspection teams of the Ministry as well as Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) conducted inspections at four districts of Punjab. The CBI registered three FIRs against eighty-three officials of the FCI including Shri K.Siva Prasad, the then Sr. Regional Manager, FCI, Punjab Region. Departmental action has already been initiated/taken against the officials/officer of the FCI identified by these inspections teams.