

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2865
ANSWERED ON:03.09.2007
GENERAL BODY ELECTIONS OF KENDRIYA BHANDAR
Jha Shri Raghunath;Singh Shri Prabhunath

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the elections to the general body/delegates of the Central Government Employees Consumer Co-operative Society Ltd. (Kendriya Bhandar) were held after a gap of eight years;
- (b) if so, the details of the statutory position regarding the period of holding elections;
- (c) the reasons for delay in holding these elections beyond the stipulated period; and
- (d) the persons held responsible for the lapse alongwith the action taken against guilty person and the Board of Directors?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002 provides for term of office of the elected members of the board and not delegates of a General Body of a Multi State Cooperative Society.

(c): The election of the delegates of the representative general body of a multi-State cooperative society is the responsibility of the Board of Directors of the Society. Vide amended bye-law No.14 as approved by the general body, and registered on 9th May, 2003, the term of the delegates to the general body of Kendriya Bhandar was fixed for a period of 5 years. In the meantime, there was a dispute regarding membership of the Kendriya Bhandar agitated vide writ petition No.8983-84 of 2005 before the Delhi High Court. On the direction of the High Court of Delhi in the above writ petition, the Central Registrar decided the matter of membership vide order dated 8th December, 2006. The election to the delegates of general body has since been held in February, 2007. Further Returning Officer is the competent authority to decide the issue of disqualification of the candidates under the provision of the Multi State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002 if election is not conducted in time. Also infirmity regarding conduct of election can be agitated as an election dispute under section 84(2)(c) of the Act.

(d): Does not arise.