

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1087
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2007
TRIBAL CO-OPERATIVE MARKETING DEVELOPMENT FEDERATION
Nayak Shri Ananta;Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the States where the Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation (TRIFED) has set up its offices;
- (b) whether some offices are not operational;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Union Government has reviewed the working of this Federation, and
- (e) if so, the findings thereof along with suggestions for improvement?

Answer

MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH)

(a): The Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited (TRIFED), with its Head Office at New Delhi has 13 Regional Offices (ROs) which are located in the following States:

1. Andhra Pradesh
2. Assam
3. Chhattisgarh
4. Delhi (RO)
5. Gujarat
6. Jharkhand
7. Karnataka
8. Madhya Pradesh
9. Maharashtra
10. Orissa
11. Rajasthan
12. Sikkim
13. Uttaranchal

(b): No Sir. All offices of TRIFED are operational.

(c): Does not arise.

(d): Yes Sir. TRIFED engaged a firm of private consultants in the year 2002 for conducting a diagnostic study and for preparing an operational plan, including restructuring of the organisation for improving its functioning and performance.

(e): The main findings of the study regarding the Federation's performance were as follows:

Organisational deficiencies arising out of limited focus on procurement, lack of market intelligence, ad hoc approach to project execution and poor work culture.

Systemic failures resulting from a lack of planning framework, monitoring procedures, and the ad hoc nature of purchase and selling operations.

Operational weaknesses brought about by poor storage practices, high inventory costs, huge fixed expenses and unprofitable procurement activities.

The conclusion of the Consultants was that TRIFED needed a complete overhaul.

The Consultant had also suggested that TRIFED should:

Effect a change in its role from an agency for procurement and trading in Minor Forest Produce to marketing development activities (i.e. TRIFED should act as a market developer and service provider and not as a direct trader in Minor Forest Produce and

Agricultural produce)

Undertake development of marketing of tribal craft items, tribal resource capability, etc.