GOVERNMENT OF INDIA CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3898 ANSWERED ON:18.02.2014 DEALING OF KRIBHCO Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan;Gowda Shri D.B. Chandre;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Shekhar Shri Neeraj;Singh Shri Yashvir;Yadav Shri Dharmendra

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether a case of bribery/irregularities involving pay off by a Norwegian firm to clinch deal with Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited(KRIBHCO) has come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has inquired into the matter;

(d) if so, the details and outcome thereof and

(e) the action taken or being taken by the Government in this regard.

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE (I/C) IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SRIKANT KUMAR JENA)

(a) and (b) : Yes Madam, Department of Fertilizers has received newspaper reports published in "The Hindu" and "The Tribune" through Principal Director General(M&C), Press Information Bureau, Government of India regarding Fertilizer scam involving a former officer of this department, Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited (KRIBHCO) and Norwegian Fertilizer company Yara International. The press report published in "The Tribune" dated 19.01.2014 mentions that Director, CBI has stated that CBI has received a Letter Rogatory(LR) through Interpol and they are examining the papers.

Further, Central Vigilance Commission has forwarded copies of news items appeared in "The Hindu" dated 17.01.2014 and in the "Indian Express" dated 16.01.2014 regarding payment of bribe to Indian Officials by YARA, a Norwegian company in setting up of a JV with KRIBHCO. The newspaper report has contended that Norwegian criminal investigators have said fertilizer giant Yara illegally paid \$1 million to a top Indian bureaucrat's son in return for his helping it secure a joint venture with KRIBHCO.

(c) to (e) : Department of Fertilizer has taken up the matter with Ministry of External Affairs(MEA) to obtain a copy of the report/findings from the Norwegian Authorities through Indian Mission in Norway. This department has also written a letter to CMD, KRIBHCO to furnish comments in the matter at the earliest. The matter will be further examined on receipt of Report from MEA and comments from KRIBHCO.