

राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जनजाति आयोग National Commission for Scheduled Tribes

(भारत के संविधान के अनुच्छेद 338क के अंतर्गत एक संवैधानिक निकाय) (A constitutional body under Article 338A of the Constitution of India)

File No. NCST/DEV-4875/TS/42/2025-RU-III

Dated: 11.07.2025

To,

- The Secretary,
 Govt. of Telangana
 Agriculture & Cooperation Department ,
 4F-39, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Secretariat
 Hyderabad, Telangana-500022
- The Director
 Telangana State Seed & Organic Certification Authority, 4F-39, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Secretariat Hyderabad, Telangana-500022

Sub:-Production of fake seeds and selling fake seeds to tribal farmers - representations dated 9.4.2025 of Shri Kalyan Naik, State President, BJP ST Morcha, Telangana

महोदय / महोदया,

I am directed to enclose herewith a copy of the minutes of sitting held on 23.6.2025 under the Chairmanship of Shri Jatothu Hussain, Hon'ble Member, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST), New Delhi on the above mentioned subject.

It is requested that the action taken/ to be taken in the matter may be submitted to NCST within stipulated time for placing it before the Hon'ble Member, NCST.

Yours faithfully,

(P.Kalyan Reddy) Director Tel:- 24641640

Copy to:-

Shri Kalyan Naik,
 State President, BJP ST Morcha,
 Dd Colony Bagh Amber Pet,
 Hyderabad (Telangana) - 500013

2. PS to Hon'ble Member (Shri J.H), NCST.

3. NIC, NCST for uploading on the website of the Commission

National Commission for Scheduled Tribes

Minutes of the Sitting held under the Chairmanship of Shri Jatothu Hussain, Hon'ble Member, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes at Dilkusha Guest House, Hyderabad in the case of Dr. Kalyan Naik, State President, BJP ST Morcha, Telangana regarding fake maize seeds sold to ST farmers

Date of the Sitting: 23/06/2025, 12:40 PM Participants in the Sitting: As per Annexure NCST/DEV-4875/TS/42/2025-RU-III

Dr. Kalyan Naik, State President, BJP ST Morcha, Telangana, vide his representation dated 02.04.2025, has alleged that fake maize seeds were sold to ST farmers in agency areas of Venkatapuram and adjoining mandals of Mulugu district by companies such as Syngenta, Hitech, Bayer, CB Seeds, and CJNT, leading to severe crop failure over 1000 acres. He has named individuals linked to these companies as organisers of this racket, claiming violation of Section 70(1) of the Money Laundering Act. Due to crop loss, several farmers suffered depression, two committed suicide, and some suffered paralysis after allegedly consuming affected maize. He has accused the ITDA Project Officer and District Authorities of negligence in regulating such business activities in agency areas, thereby enabling exploitation of innocent ST farmers. He has demanded strict action against the seed companies and individuals, Rs. 1 lakh per acre as compensation for crop loss, and monetary compensation for the families of the deceased and affected farmers.

- The Commission issued notice to Secretary, Agriculture and Cooperation Dep, Gov of Telangana and the Director, Telangana State Seed and Organic Certification Authority vide NCST letter dated 26.04.2025 seeking facts and comments within 7 days.
- The Director, Telangana State Seed & Organic Certification Authority (TGSOCA) vide his letter dated 08.05.2025 has informed the Commission that the allegations regarding fake maize seeds supplied by companies such as Hy-Tech Seeds, Nuziveedu Seeds, Syngenta, Bayer, and CP Seeds in the ST-dominated agency areas of Venkatapuram Mandal, Mulugu District fall outside the jurisdiction of TGSOCA. It was clarified that only certified seeds registered under the Seed Act, 1966 fall within TGSOCA's scope, whereas the seeds in question were Truthfully Labeled (TL) seeds, for which the responsibility lies entirely with the private seed companies. The Director confirmed that none of the mentioned companies had registered seed production in Mulugu district during the relevant period. Consequently, TGSOCA holds no inspection records, production data, or regulatory authority over such TL seeds. The Authority emphasized that it has no mandate to monitor or regulate TL seed activities, and the matter does not fall under its purview.
- The Commission decided to discuss the issue with the authority and the petitioner on 23.06.2025. Accordingly, a Sitting Notice was sent on 18.06.2025. During the sitting, the petitioner attended. On behalf of the Principal Secretary, Agriculture, the authorities, i.e., Director, Agriculture; District Agricultural Officer, Mulugu District; Director, Telangana State Seed and Organic Certification Authority; and the Seed Certification Officer, were present.
- The authorities informed that the State of Telangana is the seed capital of India as it has a suitable climatic zone for seed production, and hence, many multinational, national, and local companies operate from Telangana. The majority of seed companies in Telangana follow the method of self-certification, and the Government has no role in it. Further, after the incident, 634 affected farmers were identified, and cheques amounting to ₹3.34 crores were distributed. As per the lab testing conducted by the National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, no illegal Bt Cotton was involved in this incident. They further informed that the Seed Act, 1966 is a Central Act and is outdated in the present context. A committee to propose amendments to the Seed Act has been constituted by the Government of Telangana and is expected to submit its report within one month, with consultations ongoing in all districts. As per current provisions, the maximum fine is only ₹500. It was also informed that there are currently no safeguards for farmers under contract farming, and the Government is critically reviewing this aspect.

जाटोतु हुसेन/Jatothu Hussain सदस्य / Member

भारत संस्कार / Government of India राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जनजाति आयोग National Commission for Scheduled Tribes

नई दिल्ली / New Delhi

- 6. The petitioner stated that the seed companies have been systematically violating the norms by entering into agreements with ST farmers in the 5th Scheduled Areas, which is a direct violation, as money lending is prohibited in the agency areas and also violates the single-line administration under the Project Officer of ITDA. He also alleged that agents of the seed companies have been claiming insurance in the names of ST farmers. The petitioner mentioned that although officially 4 ST farmers committed suicide, many more may have been affected; there are instances of paralysis among ST farmers and their family members who consumed the crop, and livestock was also affected.
- 7. After discussion with the petitioner and the authorities, the following recommendations were made and the ATR may be submitted within 30 days of receipt of the minutes of the sitting:

a. The penal provisions feasible to be included in the Act may be proposed for forwarding to the Department of Agriculture, Government of India for necessary action.

b. It may be examined whether a State/District level Authority/Committee/Tribunal may be established and its orders made legally binding.

c. The agreement between company and organizer, and organizer and farmer may be made legally valid.

d. A detailed enquiry may be conducted into the insurance claims of the companies' agents.

e. Accountability of the products sold by the companies may be ensured through proper barcoding, batch numbers, etc.

f. The volume of products sold, turnover, returns accrued, taxes paid, and insurance claims, etc., may be obtained from the companies and submitted to NCST.

g. The action taken against the seed companies, especially where they have admitted that their seeds led to crop failure, and the reasons for allowing them to continue operations, may be intimated to NCST.

(Jatothu Hussain)

जाटोतु हुसेन/Jatothu Hussain सदस्य/Member भारत सरकार/Government of India राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जनजाति आयोग National Commission for Scheduled Tribes नई दिल्ली/New Delhi

F.No. NCST/DEV-4875/TS/42/2025-RU-III

List of participants of the sitting held on 23.06.2025 at 12:40 PM under the Chairmanship of Shri Jatothu, Hussain, Hon'ble Member, NCST at Dilkusha Guest House, Hyderabad

SI. No.	Name and Designation	Address & Phone No.	Signature
1	National Com	mission for Scheduled	Tuibas
1.	Dr. P.K Reddy	masion for Scheduled	Tribes
2.	NCST Officials		
11	Agriculture & Coopera	ation Department, Gove	of Telangana
SI. No.	Name and Designation	Address & Phone No.	Signature
-	Dr. Po Gopi 245	Pirector Agricultures	light
	V. Swieth Kumer	DAO, MULLES 897725/139	Sub 22)
III	Telangana State Seed & Organic Certification		
	Dr.K Keshavuly Director	OH? PUBLIC	Bil
1	Pr. G. Adithys Seed certificamothic		Shuy
V		Petitioner	
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