

A study on procurement of oilseeds by Karnataka co-operative oilseeds grower's federation limited (KOF)

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ABSTRACT

Oilseeds occupy an important position in the Indian economy, as they provide the much needed protein, fat and energy to the human and livestock population. The investigation/research was conducted to study the procurement of oilseeds by Karnataka Co-Operative Oilseeds Grower's Federation Limited (KOF). The primary data were collected by member farmers of KOF, personnel of KOF who were working in the field of procurement and inputs. The secondary data were collected from the audit reports of KOF. The KOF was registered on 26th October 1984 which was inspired by the Anand Model of Milk Co-operatives and designed to create an integrated co-operative system of production, procurement, processing of oilseeds and marketing of edible oil and its by-products. KOF procures oilseeds from the Agricultural Produce Market Committees (APMC's) through commission agents. The quantity of total oilseeds (sunflower and groundnut seeds) procured was highest during the year 2002-03 which accounted for 2797.17 metric tonnes. KOF is acting as an agent of NAFED for procurement of oilseeds under Government of India price support scheme in order to protect the interests of farmers from the distress sales whenever market rates rule below the support price. The quantity of total oilseeds (sunflower, groundnut, safflower and soybean seeds) procured under price support scheme operation was highest during the year 2000-01 which accounted for 26750.765 metric tonnes. During 2008-09, KOF procured 4598.756 metric tonnes of sunflower. Better price, less risky and absence of middlemen were the important factors which influenced the sales of oilseeds by members/farmers to village traders. An illegal deduction of oilseeds by the middlemen to the farmers/members was observed as first important marketing constraint with mean score of 68.87 followed by high commission charges which considered as the second most important constraint with mean score of 61.19.

KEY WORDS : Oilseeds, Procurement, KOF, NAFED, APMC

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