

M-11022/36/2026-OMB/CRCS
Office of Cooperative Ombudsman
Ministry of Cooperation
Government of India

9th Floor, Tower-E, World Trade Centre,
Nauroji Nagar, Delhi-110029
Dated: 12th June, 2026

Hearing in the matter of Appeal filed by Shri Nakul Vilasrao Kadu Vs. Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Ltd. (IFFCO), Delhi before the Cooperative Ombudsman

Shri Nakul Vilasrao Kadu

Appellant

Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Ltd. (IFFCO),
Delhi

Respondent

ORDER

1. Shri Nakul Vilasrao Kadu, in his appeal dated 05th March, 2026 against Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Ltd. (IFFCO), Delhi has stated that he vide his notice dated 30th January, 2026, under section 106 (2) of the MSCS Act, 2002, has sought information regarding notices, agenda and minutes of 37th, 38th and 39th Annual General Meetings along with attendance sheet of delegates from Maharashtra. The Cooperative Information Officer of the society, vide his letter dated 20th February, 2026, refused to provide requested information stating that under bye-law 54B of the society, only specific categories of information enumerated therein are permitted to be furnished to members and information sought by the appellant does not fall within the scope of information admissible under the bye laws of the society.
2. Notice dated 07th April, 2026 was issued to the society seeking its response to the appeal. The society vide its reply dated 17th April, 2026 justified the decision of the Cooperative Information Officer denying the information to the appellant.
3. As bye-law 54 B is subject to bye-law 54 C, the society was further asked to clarify, vide notice dated 18th May, 2026, as to how the information sought by the appellant would prejudicially affect the security, strategic, scientific or economic interest of IFFCO.
4. The society vide letter dated 28th May, 2026 submitted that request of the appellant was declined under bye-law 54 B. The bye-law 54 C, which relates to information likely to prejudicially affect the interests of IFFCO, was not mentioned in any communication. The society also contended that proceedings concerning related issues are already pending before an arbitrator and as per provisions of Rule 30 G (2) (a) & (b) of the MSCS Rules, 2002, no appeal shall be made where the issue has been or is the subject matter of arbitral proceedings under section 84 of the Act. The society requested for consideration of the appeal accordingly.



5. On perusal of facts and available records, following aspects emerge:
- (i) Providing of information is governed by section 106 (1) of MSCS Act, which states that every multi state cooperative society shall provide the information relating to affairs and management of the society to the members of the society and such information shall be confined to the information falling under the disclosure norms specified by the society in its bye-laws.
 - (ii) The society refused to furnish the information to the appellant on grounds that the same does not fall within the ambit of its bye law 54-B.
 - (iii) Section 54 B is subject to bye- law 54 C, wherein 54 C (a) relates to information, disclosure of which would prejudicially affect the security, strategic, scientific or economic interests of IFFCO, besides other situations mentioned in bye-law 54 C. The information sought does not in any way prejudicially affect any of the above interests of the society resulting in denial of information.
 - (iv) The society has also attempted to justify its refusal to furnish information to the appellant by referring to some ongoing arbitration proceedings concerning related issues, without providing any details of the arbitration proceedings and elaborating as to how the same is related to information sought by appellant.
6. After due consideration of the representations made, documents submitted and the relevant provisions of law, the matter is hereby disposed off as follows:
- (i) Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Ltd. (IFFCO), Delhi is hereby directed to furnish to Shri Nakul Vilasrao Kadu – appellant, information as sought by him, within 30 days from the date of issue of this order.
 - (ii) Compliance report to be submitted immediately thereafter.


(Alok Agarwal)
Cooperative Ombudsman



Appellant:

Shri Nakul Vilasrao Kadu
A/p: Tisgaon Pravara, Tal: Rahata, Dist.: Ahilyanagar, Maharashtra -413 712

Respondent:

Chairman, India Farmers Fertilizer
Cooperative Ltd. (IFFCO)
IFFCO Sadan, C-1, District Centre, Saket Place, New Delhi – 110 017

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IT Cell with a request to upload on CRCS website