CCI promises to procure all fair-grade cotton from farmers in Telangana

Our Bureau
Hyderabad

The Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) has appealed to cotton farmers in Telangana to bring their *kapas* (raw or unprocessed cotton) to their nearest market yards for sale. The appeal followed soon after cotton millers and traders called off the proposed strike on Monday.

"We assure you that we will continue to procure all fair-grade cotton from farmers at the minimum support price (MSP) without any interruption," LK Gupta, Chairman and Managing Director of CCI, said in a statement here on Monday.

The millers threatened to stall operations beginning Monday over concerns regarding the selection process of ginning and pressing factories for processing MSP cotton stocks.

SWIFT RELIEF

The Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) addressed the issue in discussions with State authorities and the ginners' association, leading to the swift resolution of the dispute. "We decided to stop operations from today but have decided to call of the strike following the assurances," a miller said wishing anonymity.

Sources said the CCI had graded ginning mills taking quality into consideration which meant it would procure cotton first from the mill whose processing was better. However, following protests and intervention of CCI officials and Telangana government, the issue was settled amicably.