

Indiramma scam probe stuck on age of houses even after 4 years

No Action Taken Against Erring Officials, Politicos

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Hyderabad: Even after four years, the Indiramma housing scam probe didn't make any headway despite court orders and no action has been initiated against erring officials and politicians involved in the scam. Crime Investigation Department (CID) is not able to determine the age of houses due to which the investigation got stuck.

So far, neither recoveries were made nor any action taken against politicians allegedly involved in the scam. About 33.4 lakh houses were sanctioned between 2006-07 and 2013-2014. Of them, 20.49 lakh houses were completed by spending ₹7,168 crore. During initial investigation, it was found that in 593 villages, irregularities pertaining to

CASE HISTORY

Housing Corporation appointed 3rd party verification in 2,111 houses in 625 villages

- Irregularities in 593 villages pertaining to 26,100 houses
- In '09, govt made teams to conduct door-to-door survey
- Govt ordered to recover ₹235.9 crore under Revenue Recovery Act, but no records show recovery

➤ Survey revealed 1.95L ineligible beneficiaries allotted houses, violating rules & ₹235.90 crore was paid to them

➤ Inquiry further revealed that all 508 employees were involved. Of them, 150 employees were suspended and 68 dismissed



26,100 houses were noticed. Forum for Good Governance claims it received an RTI reply stating CID was seeking help of engineers for further action.

CID additional director-general (DG) Govind Singh told TOI, "We are still investigating the Indiramma housing fraud case. We have written to the vigilance seeking assistance on how to go about determining the age of the houses built. This is an engineering subject."

Forum for Good Governance secretary and retired IFS officer M Padmanabha Reddy said, "After the formation of Telangana, the government wanted in-depth analysis of Indiramma housing scam and wanted to plug loopholes. In view of several allegations of misuse of Indiramma housing programme by certain unscrupulous persons and misuse of funds it was decided to entrust the case to CID for detailed inquiry, prosecution of culprits and

recommend departmental action against erring officials. While the agency was conducting its investigation, suddenly something happened, they put brakes on their inquiry and reported to the government that they need the assistance of engineers to assess the age of the building as many old structures were shown as Indiramma houses."

"Neither CID has completed the inquiry nor V&E wing took up investigation. In spite of clear orders of the High Court, the CID has not complete its inquiry yet nor any action taken against the officials and others. Also, some amount was released to complete the incomplete houses. After four years, no recoveries were made nor any action taken against politicians involved. An inquiry into Indiramma housing scam, running into thousands of crores and started with big publicity, has now been swept under the carpet to protect politicians. Even the High Court orders have been ignored."