

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:247  
ANSWERED ON:21.11.2000  
IMBALANCE IN THE PRODUCTION OF UREA  
GUNIPATI RAMAIAH

**Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Eastern zone has fallen victim of gross regional imbalance in the production of urea;
- (b) if so, the reason therefor and the steps proposed to be taken to remove this regional imbalance; and
- (c) if not, the production and consumption figures of urea in four zones of the country for 1998-99 and 1999-2000?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE)

(a) to (c): Following Table gives production and consumption zone-wise:

(In Lakh MT)

Name of Zone	1998-1999		1999-2000	
	Production	Consumption	Production	Consumption
Southern	27.63	38.69	29.32	39.87
Western	80.52	52.45	85.67	52.05
Eastern (including North-East)	4.32	28.4	4.28	30.41
Northern	80.44	84.39	79.03	80.46

The country has achieved nearly 97.8% of self-sufficiency in urea production in 1999-2000. The new gas based plants have come up in 1990's along the Hazira- Bijaipur-Jagdishpur(HBJ) pipeline consequent to which urea production has become concentrated in the Western and Northern States. However, it has not affected supply of urea to other States including States in Eastern Zone. Urea demand of the Eastern States has been met from supply from indigenous plants as well as imports.

As per the Industrial Policy of 24th July, 1991, no industrial licence is required for setting up of fertilizer projects except that in case of fertilizer Public Sector Undertakings/Co-operative Societies, approval of the Government is required for incurring capital expenditure beyond the delegated powers. At present, one revamp project of Namrup plant of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFC) in Namrup, Assam is under implementation for additional capacity of 3.28 LMT of urea at an estimated cost of Rs. 350 crore.