GOVERNMENT OF INDIA CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2456 ANSWERED ON:19.03.2002 PRODUCTION OF FERTILISERS ANANTA NAYAK

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

- (a) the target set and achievements made in the production of various kinds of fertilizers during the Ninth Plan;
- (b) whether the steps are being taken to achieve self-sufficiency in the fertilizers;
- (c) if so, the efforts made in this direction; and
- (d) the projectives made for the Tenth Plan?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI S. B. MOOKHERJEE)

(a): Year-wise targets and production of nitrogenous and phosphatic fertilizers in nutrient terms during the Ninth Five Year Plan are given below:

(In Lakh MTs)

Year Nitrogen Phosphate Target Actual Target Actual

1997-98 96.11 100.86 28.60 29.76 1998-99 106.83 104.80 30.27 31.41 1999-2000 110.67 108.90 33.45 33.99 2000-2001 112.14 109.62 39.93 37.43 2001-02

(Estimated) 116.59 108.03 49.30 39.45

- (b)&(c):To encourage investment in the fertilizer sector and thus increase fertilizer production, the following facilities/concessions have been made available to the fertilizer industry by the Government at present:-
- (i) As per the Industrial Policy Resolution dated 24th July, 1991, no licence isnormally required for setting up/expansion of fertilizer plants. Entrepreneurs are free to set up fertilizer plants anywhere in the country subject to environmental clearance. However, Public Sector Undertakings/Co-operative Societies under the administrative control of the Department of Fertilizers haveto obtain approval of the Government before undertaking such capital expenditure beyond their delegated power.
- (ii) Deemed Export Benefits to indigenous suppliers of capital goods to fertilizerprojects provided such supplies are made under the procedure of International Competitive Bidding.
- (iii) Reasonable return on investment to the entrepreneurs under the Retention Price-cum-Subsidy Scheme, at present applicable to existing urea capacity.
- (iv) Concession on sale of decontrolled phosphatic and potassic fertilizers.

- (v) Import of capital goods for setting up of new fertilizer plants/modernisation of existing units at a concessional rate of customs duty.
- (d): As per the "Report of the Working Group on Fertilizers for the Tenth Plan", thefollowing projections have been made for production of nitrogenous and phosphatic fertilizers in nutrient terms, assuming 100% capacity utilisation in existing plants:

(In Lakh MTs)

Year Nitrogen Phosphate

 2002-03
 120.58
 52.31

 2003-04
 121.74
 52.31

 2004-05
 121.74
 52.31

 2005-06
 121.74
 52.31

 2006-07
 129.28
 52.31

The entire requirement of potassic fertilizers is met through imports as there are no known commercially viable sources of this fertilizer in the country.