

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:52

ANSWERED ON:25.07.2005

PROMOTION OF NEEM COATED UREA

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

(a) Whether National Fertilizer Limited (NFL) and Fertilizer Association of India (FAI) have urged the Union Government to promote neem coated urea in a big way that can substantially raise farm income through increase in crop yield and reduction in pesticides as reported in the Tribune of May 30, 2005; and

(b) If so, the action taken, if any, by the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL(SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a)&(b): Neem Coated Urea is not yet included in Schedule I Part A of Fertilizer Control Order (FCO), 1985 as a regular fertilizer. The Ministry of Agriculture in July, 2004 have notified Neem Coated Urea under clause 20 A of FCO, 1985 as provisional fertilizer for its commercial trials for a period of two years for manufacturing by M/s NFL, M/s Sri Ram Fertiliser & M/s Indo Gulf Fertilisers.

These companies have been producing Neem Coated Urea at their respective manufacturing units and marketing product in the States of Punjab, Haryana, UP, Uttaranchal, Rajasthan, J&K, M.P., Chhatisgarh &

Maharashtra. M/s NFL & M/s Indo Gulf have reported that the results of the commercial trials of the season (Rabi & Kharif 2004) indicate encouraging results. However, the efficacy of Neem Coated Urea is yet to be established. For this purpose Indian Council of Agriculture Research has sanctioned an adhoc project titled as `Standardization of Nitrification inhibitory principles in Neem & Neem Coated Urea` to IARI. The outcome of the project is expected by 2006. The expansion programme for production and marketing of Neem Coated Urea will depend upon the outcome of this ICAR project and subject to its inclusion as regular fertilizer in Schedule I Part A of FCO, 1985.