

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2456

ANSWERED ON:30.08.2007

ARTIFICIAL PRICE HIKE OF FERTILIZERS

Khaira Shri Chandrakant Bhaurao; Mehta Shri Bhubneshwar Prasad; Shiwankar Shri Maha Deo Rao

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the prices of the fertilizers are hiked by the traders artificially during the peak season;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure supply of fertilizers to the farmers at fair prices;
- (d) whether the cases of black marketing of fertilizers have come to the notice of the Government;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE)

(a) to (f): Under clause 21 of the Fertilizer Control Order (FCO), 1985, it is mandatory to print the maximum retail price on the container of all kinds of fertilizers, whether under statutory price control or out of the purview of the statutory price control. No person shall charge higher than the price printed on the bag. Any person violating this mandatory provision of FCO is held liable to be proceeded against for administrative/punitive measures under the provisions of FCO and Essential Commodities Act. The State Governments are the enforcement agencies and are adequately empowered to take appropriate action against the offender who indulge in any kind of malpractices.