

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:559
ANSWERED ON:25.02.2010
CURBS IN IMPORT OF FERTILIZERS
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Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has curbed imports of fertilizers to keep fertilizers subsidy within reasonable limits as the international prices of fertilizers have gone up by a factor of 2 to 3 times, resulting in a steep increase in the quantum of fertilizer subsidy;
- (b) if so, whether this has resulted in a shortage of fertilizers in the country and led to violent agitation by farmers;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether fertilizer is being distributed in some places from police stations; and
- (e) if so, the step being taken by the Government to ease farmers' problems in this regards?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT KUMAR JENA)

(a) Urea is imported for direct agricultural use on Government account to bridge the gap between assessed demand and the indigenous production. Government of India closely monitor the demand supply scenario and arrange adequate imports to ensure comfortable availability of urea throughout the year. Other fertilizers are decontrolled and imported by the importers as per their commercial considerations and market demand. The imports of major fertilizers during the year 2008-09 and 2009-10 (upto January 10) is as under:-

(Qty. In Lakh MT)

Product	2008-09	2009-10 (upto January 10)
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Urea	56.67	48.66
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DAP (including TSP& MAP)	66.31	56.88
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MOP	43.46	35.65
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(b) to (e) No Madam, Urea is the only fertilizer which is under partial movement and distribution control of the Government. Department of Fertilizers ensures availability of fertilizers at state level. The distribution of fertilizers within the states is the responsibility of the State Governments. All other fertilizers viz., DAP, MOP, NPK etc. are de-controlled and de-canalized since August 1992. The requirement, availability and sales of Urea, DAP, MOP and complex fertilizers during current year i.e.2009-10 (April 09 to January 10) is as per Annexure- A. As can be seen, the availability of these fertilizers has been adequate.