

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3304

ANSWERED ON:15.04.2010

IFFCO FORAY INTO POTASH, OIL AND GAS

Balram Shri P.;Ponnam Shri Prabhakar;Reddy Shri Anantha Venkatarami;Saroj Shri Tufani;Shetkar Shri Suresh Kumar;Siricilla Shri Rajaiah

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

- (a) whether the Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Ltd. (IFFCO) foray into potash, oil and gas abroad and domestically;
- (b) if so, whether the IFFCO has chalked out an ambitious plan to create cost effective production facilities abroad;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the Memoranda of Understandings signed with the foreign companies in this regard so far;
- (e) the manner in which it is likely to be beneficial for the country; and
- (f) the future action plan of the IFFCO for the Twelfth Five Year Plan ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI SHRIKANT KUMAR JENA)

- (a) : IFFCO has planned to foray into Potash Sector abroad. IFFCO has subscribed 0.5 million shares of Grow Max Agri. Corp., Canada. Grow Max would be setting up a Muriate of Potash (MOP) production facility in Peru;
- (b) & (c): Yes Madam. The production facilities at Peru are planned to be cost-effective with the use of solar evaporation. The production is likely to commence from 2013;
- (d): IFFCO has signed Share Subscription Agreement with the Grow Max Agri Corp., Canada.
- (e): Because of non availability of known deposits of Potash in India and 100% import dependence of the Country for meeting Potash requirement, participation in the overseas Potash (MOP) manufacturing project would be beneficial for the Country which would ensure secured source of supply of Potash.
- (f) As if biw, IFFCO is in the process of finalizing agreement of Off-take of MOP and other related matters with Grow Max Agri Corp., Canada.