

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3314
ANSWERED ON:15.04.2010
CARGO MOVEMENT BY WATERWAYS
Sampath Shri Anirudhan

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

- (a) whether the transportation of hazardous cargos of Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd. (FACT) through roads are creating accidents and health problems in thickly populated areas like Kochi;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the steps taken by the FACT to transport these cargos through waterways;
- (d) the details of the cargos moved by the inland water transport of FACT between Ambala- Mugal and Kochi in Kerala during the last three years;
- (e) whether there was any decrease in the said cargo movement; and
- (f) if so, the reasons thereof?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) FACT is transporting the hazardous chemicals/cargos, viz., Ammonia, Sulphuric acid and Benzene through road in closed tankers and the route of transportation is far away from the thickly populated areas of Kochi city. The transportation of hazardous cargos of Fertilisers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd through roads is safe and FACT has been resorting to Ammonia transportation through road since 2004 without causing any health hazards to the public.

Details of accidents occurred during the last 3 years on transportation of hazardous chemicals are given below:

- (i) Road accident involving an Ammonia truck due to mechanical failure of the truck at Ambalamugal near FACT Cochin Division, on 11.12.2009. This did not cause any causality or health problems to the public.
- (ii) One incident of Ammonia leakage from Tanker lorry without causing any injury to public.
- (iii) One incident of Benzene leakage from Tanker lorry without causing any injury to public.
- (iv) Two incidents of spillage of sulphuric acid causing body injury to three individuals.

FACT is transporting its entire requirement of phosphoric acid through water ways to Ambalamedu. FACT is also exploring the possibility of transporting phosphoric acid to Udyogamandal complex through barges/water ways.

(b) Quantity of raw materials (cargos) transported by FACT through inland waterways during the last three years (in MTs) is given below.

Raw material 2007-08 (in MTS) 2008-09 (in MTS) 2009-10 (in MTS)

Sulphur 43890.59 80675.092 68129.52

Rock Phosphate 152579.835 125264.234 30117.021

Phosphoric acid 1951.359 20689.258 28833,343

(c) to (f) Yes, Madam. There was a decrease in the movement of Sulphur and rock phosphate in the year 2009-10 as compared to the

previous year due to lower consumption in plant.