

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4948

ANSWERED ON:26.08.2010

IRREGULARITIES IN DISTRIBUTION OF FERTILIZERS

Singh Shri Dhananjay

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

- (a) whether the Union Government has received reports regarding irregularities in the distribution of fertilizers in the recent past;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Union Government to check such irregularities and make fertilizers available to the farmers?

Answer

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

(a) to (b): No, Sir. No such reports of any irregularities in distribution of fertilizers have been received from the State Governments.

(c): The State Governments, as the enforcement agencies, are adequately empowered under Fertilizer Control Order, 1985 to take appropriate action against any offender who indulges in any kind of malpractices including black marketing. State Government can also initiate action under para 3 of the Fertilizer (Movement Control) Order, 1973 – against smuggling/illegal export of fertilizers.

Further, the following steps are being taken to make fertilizers available to the farmers:

(i) Each state in consultation with the fertilizer suppliers is required to prepare monthly supply plan district wise within overall availability at state level for ensuring availability of fertilizers in all parts of the state;

(ii) The movement of fertilizers is being monitored throughout the country by an on-line web based monitoring system (www.urvarak.co.in) also called as Fertiliser Monitoring System (FMS);

(iii) As per provisions contained in para 4 of FCO, 1985 - Every dealer, who makes or offers to make a retail sale of any fertilizer, shall prominently display in his place of business - a list of price or rates of such fertilizers fixed under Clause 3 of FCO and for the time being in force;

(iv) The state governments have been advised

(i) to instruct the State Institutional agencies to coordinate with manufacturers and importers of fertilizers for streamlining the supplies

(ii) to review the railway rake points in their states and take up the issues with the Railways for improvements, if any, required to ensure availability of fertilizers in every nook and corner of the State;

(v) The Government has introduced a Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Policy in respect of Phosphatic & Potassic fertilizers w.e.f. 1.4.2010. Under the NBS, State Governments have to play more proactive role to co-ordinate with the manufacturers/importers to tie up supplies of fertilizers as per the requirement of states;

(vi) Under NBS, Fertilizer companies are required to print Maximum Retail Price (MRP) along with applicable subsidy on the fertilizer bags clearly. Any sale above the printed net retail price will be punishable under the EC Act.;

(vii) All possible steps are taken by the Department of Fertilisers to match the availability of fertilizers with the assessed requirement.