

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5199

ANSWERED ON:05.09.2011

AMMONIUM NITRATE

Aaron Rashid Shri J.M.;Agarwal Shri Rajendra;Meena Shri Raghuvir Singh

**Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the fertilizer grade Ammonium Nitrate is being imported in loose form;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the instances of pilferages from the ports; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to import Ammonium Nitrate in sealed bags for safety and security reasons?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a): Yes, Madam. It is a fact that Fertilizer grade Ammonium Nitrate is imported in loose form under open general licence.

(b): No report has been received in this Ministry regarding pilferages from the port of Visakhapatnam.

(c): In exercise of the power conferred by Section 17 of the Explosives Act, 1884 (IV of 1884), Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion has published a Notification in the Gazette of India vide S.O. No.1678 (E) dated 21st July, 2011, bringing Ammonium Nitrate within the purview of Explosives Act, 1884.

Draft Ammonium Nitrate Rules are being formulated with a view to regulate its use for bonafide purposes by incorporating provisions relating to the safe transport, storage, sale, use, import/export etc.