

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:504  
ANSWERED ON:08.09.2011  
SUBSIDY ON AMMONIUM SULPHATE  
Biswal Shri Hemanand

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

- (a) whether the cost of imported Ammonium Sulphate is lower than the indigenously produced Ammonium Sulphate;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Ammonium Sulphate is outside the ambit of Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) policy;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for therefore;
- (e) whether the World Trade Organization (WTO) has sought the details and reasons for exclusion of Ammonium Sulphate from NBS regime; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT KUMAR JENA)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 504 TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.09.2011 REGARDING SUBSIDY ON AMMONIUM SULPHATE ASKED BY SHRI HEMANAND BISWAL.

(a) & (b): Yes Madam. The cost of Ammonium Sulphate (Caprolactum Grade) produced by M/s Gujarat State Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd (GSFC) and The Fertilizers & Chemicals Travancore Ltd. (FACT) is higher than that of imported Ammonium Sulphate. Being Naphtha based company, the cost of Ammonium Sulphate in case of FACT is still higher than that of GSFC, which is a gas based company.

(c) & (d): No Madam. Indigenously produced Ammonium Sulphate is covered under the Nutrient Based Subsidy Policy.

(e) & (f) : Yes Madam. The World Trade Organization (WTO) has sought reasons for exclusion of imported Ammonium Sulphate from NBS regime. On 11.05.2011 during a meeting in the Department of Commerce, representatives from WTO raised questions as to why only indigenously produced Ammonium Sulphate is being given subsidy by the Government of India keeping the imported Ammonium Sulphate out of subsidy regime. Given the adverse environmental impact of overuse of Ammonium Sulphate, the Government is averse to increasing its use in Agriculture.