

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:175
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2011
ACQUISITION OF OVERSEAS MINERAL ASSETS
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Yadav Shri Dharmendra

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India is deficient in all fertilizer minerals and is dependent on imports for key fertilizer raw materials;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to make a consortium of public- private companies for acquiring mineral assets including fertilizer minerals from abroad to meet the shortfall; and
- (d) if so, the details of efforts made by such consortium in this direction?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR MINES (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 175 FOR REPLY ON 2.12.2011 REGARDING ACQUISITION OF OVERSEAS MINERAL ASSETS ASKED BY SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI AND SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV.

(a) and (b): Yes, Madam. As per available information, India is largely dependent on imported Rock Phosphate (to the extent of 90% of its domestic requirement), Potash and pyrite (100% of its domestic requirement), and sulphur (95% of its domestic requirement).

(c) and (d): Concerted efforts are being made by the Government to address the issue of acquiring fertilizer mineral assets abroad to meet the shortfall, which includes acquisition of mines and entering into long term off-take agreements for supply of fertilizers/ fertilizer minerals with price preference. However, at present Joint-Venture projects (with no price-preference) to source fertilizer input material and finished fertilizer are in operation in various stages in the countries of Senegal (between ICS Senegal and IFFCO consortium), Jordan (between JPMC Jordan & SPIC India, and between JPMC Jordan & IFFCO), Morocco (between OCP Morocco, Chambal & TCL India), and in Tunisia (between GCT Tunisia, CFL & GSFC India).