

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1

ANSWERED ON:02.07.2009

INCREASE IN PRICES OF FERTILIZERS IN WEST BENGAL

Mahato Shri Narahari

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

(a) whether the prices of fertilizers in West Bengal are increasing at an alarming rate;

(b) If so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Union Government has received any complaint about the black-marketing of fertilizers in the State; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to curb this black-marketing and supply the fertilizer at the subsidized prices to the farmers of West Bengal ?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT KUMAR KJENA)

(a) & (b) : No, Madam.

(c) & (d) : No, Madam. Under clause 21 of the Fertilizer Control Order (FCO), 1985, it is mandatory to print the maximum retail price on the container of all kinds of fertilizers, whether under statutory price control or out of the purview of the statutory price control. No person shall charge higher than the price printed on the bag. Any person violating this mandatory provision of FCO is held liable under the provision of FCO and Essential Commodities Act. The State Government, 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.