

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:234

ANSWERED ON:29.03.2012

AVAILABILITY OF FERTILIZERS

Joshi Dr. Murlī Manohar; Roy Shri Mahendra Kumar

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

(a) whether the Government has taken note of the discontentment amongst farmers on account of large scale black-marketing and unprecedented rise in the price of fertilizers;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon;

(c) the details of the demand and supply and availability/distribution of different fertilizers to the farmers during the current crop season, State-wise; and

(d) the corrective action taken by the Government to contain rise in price and stem out black marketing?

Answer

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

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

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (d) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 234 to be answered on 29.3.2012.

(a)&(b): There are no reports of large scale black marketing of fertilizers. Under the NBS policy, Maximum Retail Prices (MRP) of P&K fertilizers have been left open and fertilizer manufacturers/marketers/importers are allowed to fix their MRPs. Urea is provided to the farmers at statutory MRP of Rs.5310/- per MT (excluding local taxes).

(c): The State-wise cumulative demand (Requirement) and supply (Availability) of major fertilizers namely Urea, DAP, MOP & Complex fertilizers during current Rabi'11-12 season (October'2011 to February'2012) is at Annexure-'A'.

(d): Maximum Retail Price (MRP) of urea has not been increased by the Government but MRPs of P&K fertilizers have gone up due to rise in the prices of fertilizers/raw materials in the international market. Now the downward trend has started.

Under clause 21 of the Fertilizer Control Order (FCO), 1985, it is mandatory to print the maximum retail price (MRP) on each bag 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 to be proceeded under the provisions of FCO and Essential Commodities Act. The State Governments as enforcement agencies are adequately empowered to take appropriate action against the offenders who indulge in any kind of malpractices viz., hoarding, black marketing etc. Department of Fertilizers (DOF) has been writing to various State Governments regularly to take appropriate measures for preventing black marketing, hoarding etc.