

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:356
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2012
BLACK MARKETING OF CHEMICAL FERTILIZERS
Pandey Shri Ravindra Kumar

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

- (a) whether in order to protect the interest of farmers, the Government is taking any measures to check the black marketing of chemical fertilizers in Jharkhand alongwith other States;
- (b) the number of cases of fertilizer black marketing that have come to light so far alongwith the action taken against the guilty in this regard; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to check the black marketing of urea at present and to sell it at a fixed price?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): 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 to be proceeded against for administrative/punitive measures under the provisions of FCO and Essential Commodities Act. The State Governments as enforcement agencies are adequately empowered to take appropriate action against the offender who indulges in any kind of malpractices including hoarding/black marketing etc. Department of Fertilizers has from, time to time, been sensitizing all the State Governments including Jharkhand to gear the enforcement agencies under their jurisdiction for appropriate action against the offenders, if any.