GOVERNMENT OF INDIA CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1120 ANSWERED ON:16.08.2012 SHORTAGE OF FERTILIZERS Ponnam Shri Prabhakar

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

(a) whether the Union Government has convened any meeting recently to discuss with the State Governments about the shortage of fertilizers;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the outcome thereof; and

(c) the implementation status thereof?

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 (c): The regular weekly Video Conference is being conducted jointly by Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC), Department of Fertilizers (DOF), Ministry of Railways and Department of Shipping with State Agriculture Officials and corrective actions are taken to dispatch fertilizer as indicated by the State Governments. The State-wise Requirement and Availability of major fertilizers namely Urea, MOP & Phosphatic fertilizers (DAP+NPK) in the country during the current year 2012-13 (April`12 to July`12) is at Annexure `A`.

As can be seen from the Annexure-`A` the availability of Urea during the current year 2012-13 (April`12 to July`12) was comfortable. There were some instances of local shortage of urea in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Bihar, Orissa etc. because of lower off-take in the beginning of the season due to less rainfall. However, the supplies of urea and other fertilizers have been speeded up now. The availability of Phosphatic fertilizers (DAP & NPK) together with pre-positioning stock was also adequate.

Further, the following steps/ implementation status to provide fertilizers to the farmers:

i) The movement of ali major subsidized fertilizers is being monitored throughout the country by an on-line web based monitoring system (www.urvarak.co.in) also called as Fertiliser Monitoring System (FMS);

ii) The state governments have been advised to instruct the State Institutional agencies to coordinate with manufacturers and importers of fertilizers for streamlining the supplies;

iii) The regular weekly Video Conference is being conducted jointly by Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC), Department of Fertilizers (DOF), Ministry of Railways and Department of Shipping with State Agriculture Officials and corrective actions are taken to dispatch fertilizer as indicated by the State Governments.

vi) Fertilizer companies are required to print Maximum Retail Price (MRP) on the fertilizer bags clearly. Any sale above the printed MRP is punishable under the EC Act.;

v) State Governments as enforcement agencies are adequately empowered to check the irregularities.