

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:95

ANSWERED ON:16.08.2012

SCARCITY OF FERTILIZERS

Deshmukh Shri K. D.;Dhanaplan Shri K. P.

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

- (a) the production, demand and supply of various fertilizers in the country during each of the last three years and the current year fertilizer-wise and State-wise;
- (b) the details of the additional supply of fertilizers demanded by the States along with the steps taken by the Union Government, State-wise;
- (c) the number of cases of hoarding, black-marketing and artificial scarcity of fertilizers in various parts of the country that have come into light during the said period and the action taken by the Union Government in this regard, State-wise;
- (d) whether the farmers are made to suffer due to scarcity and delay in supply of fertilizers in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State-wise?

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 (e); A statement laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (e) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 95 to be answered on 16.8.2012.

(a) to (b): The State-wise production of Urea, DAP & NPK fertilizers in the country during the last three years i.e. 2009-10 to 2011-12 and current year 2012-13 (April 12 to July 12) are at Annexure 'A', 'B' & 'C' respectively. The State-wise demand (Requirement) and supply (Availability) of major fertilizers namely Urea, DAP, MOP & NPK fertilizers in the country during the last three years i.e. 2009-10 to 2011-12 are at Annexure 'D' and current year 2012-13 (April 12 to July 12) of Urea, MOP 8, Phosphatic fertilizers (DAP+NPK) is at Annexure 'E'.

As can be seen from the Annexure-'E' the availability of Urea during Kharif, 2012 was comfortable. There were some instances of little 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 were speeded up now. The availability of Phosphatic fertilizers (DAP & NPK) together with pre-positioning stock was also adequate. The availability of potassic (MOP) fertilizers is also adequate.

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 action are taken to dispatch fertilizer as indicated by the State Government.

(c) to (e): 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 to gear the enforcement agencies under their jurisdiction for appropriate action against the offenders, if any. As can be seen from the positioned annexed that there is no major shortage of any fertilizers in the country.