

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2916
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2013
USE OF NPK FERTILIZERS
Jindal Shri Naveen

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

- (a) whether Nitrogen, Phosphate and Potash (NPK) use ratio in the country has deteriorated after the introduction of Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) regime for Phosphate (P) and Potash (K) fertilizers in 2010:
- (b) if so, the NPK use ratio in the country during each of the last three years and the current year and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the corresponding per tonne subsidy against the P and K fertilizers has remained static while the prices of P and K fertilizers have risen many-fold since the introduction of NBS regime;
- (d) if so, the per tonne subsidy and market prices of P and K fertilizers during the said period, fertilizer-wise;
- (e) whether such steep rise in net per tonne prices of P and K fertilizers have led to less consumption of these fertilizers while increasing the consumption of Urea, the prices of which are still regulated by the Government, thereby providing an incentive to the farmers to use irrational NPK ratio; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor and the steps proposed to be taken thereon?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) The Nitrogen, Phosphate and Potash (NPK) use ratio in the country from 2007-08 to 2011-12 is as under:

Year	Nitrogen (N)	Phosphate (P)	Potash (K)
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2007-08	5.5	2.1	1
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2008-09	4.6	2.0	1
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2009-10	4.3	2.0	1
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2010-11	4.7	2.3	1
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2011-12	6.7	3.1	1
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It is seen that the Nitrogen (N), Phosphate (P) and Potash (K) use ratio has changed during the implementation of Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Policy.

(c) & (d) The subsidy rates on different grades of P&K fertilizers are fixed on annual basis and therefore the rates are different for different years. The subsidy rates for the years 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13 are placed at Annexure-I. The prices of fertilizers have increased during the past three years. The Maximum Retail Prices of Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers from 2010-11 to 2012-13 are given in Annexure-II.

(e)&(f) The current nutrient use ratio is skewed towards N due to high price difference between P&K fertilizers and Urea. Steps are being taken to reduce the prices of P&K fertilizers, to the extent possible.