

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:182
ANSWERED ON:19.11.2009
SHORTAGE OF FERTILIZERS
Dashmuni Deepa

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

- (a) whether the small scale tea producers of Assam are facing the problem of shortage of fertilizers;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by Government to address this problem;
- (c) whether such tea producers have to buy fertilisers at higher prices; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefore and the steps taken by Government to ensure the smooth supply of fertilizers to the small scale tea producers at cheaper rates;

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT KUMAR JENA)

(a) to (d): The demand of tea growers in Assam is included in the overall requirement of Assam State and so are the supplies.

Urea is the only fertilizer under partial movement and distribution control of the Government. All other fertilizers (Phosphatic and Potassic) viz., DAP, MOP, SSP and NPK etc. are decontrolled / de-canalized since 1992. The availability of Phosphatic and Potassic fertilizers is decided by the market forces of demand and supply. Union Government ensures availability of fertilizers at State level and the State Governments are responsible for its distribution within the State. State Government was requested time and again to activate/ nominate States` Institutional agency / Marketing Federation to place orders for purchase / procurement of decontrolled fertilizers like DAP alongwith the payment for use by the farmers in the State at the time of need. The State Government of Assam has not been able to nominate States` Institutional Agency for procurement and distribution of the decontrolled fertilizers till date. The cumulative availability of Urea, DAP and MOP during 2009-10 (April`09 to October`09) in Assam has been as under:

(`000 MTs)

Product Requirement Availability Sales

Urea	132.60	136.70	136.04
DAP	16.80	16.29	16.28
MOP	62.30	44.62	37.73