

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1341

ANSWERED ON:13.08.2013

SALE OF FERTILIZERS AT HIGHER PRICES

Chavan Shri Harischandra Deoram

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

- (a) whether dealers of fertilizers/manure in connivance with the officers of the department of agriculture in Maharashtra and other parts of the country are selling are selling DAP at a price higher than the fixed price;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government and the number of such cases registered/complaints received along with the action taken thereon during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether some of the Government officers of the department of agriculture allegedly provide benefits to the dealers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against the officers of the said department involved in such activities; and
- (e) whether the guidelines fixed by the Government on fertilizers and rate list of fertilizers is affixed in the office of each agriculture office and fertilizer dealer agencies respectively and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (d): Urea is being provided to farmers at a statutory price of Rs.5360 per tonne fixed by Government. In respect of Phosphatic & Potassic (P&K) fertilizers, the Government is implementing Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Policy w.e.f. 01.04.2010, under which a fixed amount of subsidy, decided on annual basis, is provided on each grade of subsidized P&K fertilizers depending upon their nutrient content. Under the Policy, Fertilizer companies have been allowed to fix Maximum Retail Price (MRP) of P&K fertilizers at reasonable level.

Under the Fertilizer Control Order (FCO), the fertilizers companies are required to print the Maximum Retail Price (MRP) on each bag of fertilizer. No fertilizer company or dealer is supposed to sell or offer for sale any fertilizers at a price exceeding printed MRP. Violation of this is punishable under Essential Commodities Act. State Governments have not reported to the Central Government any cases of overcharging by the dealers or misconduct of their officers. However, the State Governments are empowered to take preventive/punitive actions in such matters. There are reports of alleged overcharging from some quarters but the same have not been confirmed by the State Governments.

(e): The Maximum Retail Price (MRP) of fertilizers are printed on each of fertilizers. The details of MRP of Urea fixed by the Government and MRPs of other fertilizers fixed by the companies are available with the State Government and their field functionaries also..