

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2879
ANSWERED ON:27.08.2013
NATIONAL POLICY ON FERTILIZERS
Shanavas Shri M. I.

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

- (a) the steps taken by the Government to control imports of fertilizers in the country;
- (b) whether the national policy on fertilizers in terms of production and distribution has been amended in order to increase domestic production autonomy and creation of autonomous production facilities;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;

Answer

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

(a) to (c) Urea is the only fertilizer under statutory price control and its import to bridge the gap between assessed demand and estimated indigenous production is made on Government account. The Government has notified the New Investment Policy 2012 on 2nd January, 2013 to facilitate fresh investment in urea sector and to reduce India's import dependency. In response to New Investment Policy, 2012 the Department of Fertilizers have received 14 proposals, the details of which is annexed.

The P&K fertilizers like DAP, various grades of complex fertilisers and SSP etc. are being produced in the country, however country is almost dependent on imports by way of imports of raw materials/intermediates or by way of imports of finished Phosphatic fertilizers. Government has taken initiatives to encourage indigenous production in P&K sector by reducing the custom duty on phosphoric acid to enable indigenous manufacturers of P&K fertilizers to procure this important input at reasonable price. Government is also encouraging private sector and public sector companies to explore the possibilities for joint ventures abroad to ensure uninterrupted supply of fertilizer inputs to P&K sector. There are no exploitable reserves of potash in the country and the country is fully dependent on its import to meet the demand of potassic fertilizers.