

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3839

ANSWERED ON:16.12.2014

SHORT SUPPLY OF NATURAL GAS

Adsul Shri Anandrao ;Patil Shri Shivaji Adhalrao;Satav Shri Rajeev Shankarrao;Yeddyurappa Shri B. S.

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

(a) whether short supply of natural gas to fertilizer companies set up in various-parts of the country including in Maharashtra is affecting production of Nitrogen Phosphorus and Potassium thereby affecting farmers in Kharif and Rabi seasons;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether it is a fact that large amount of natural gas has been diverted for steel and cement industries;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the remedial steps taken/being taken by the Government for ample supply of natural gas to fertilizer companies; and

(e) the number of Gas and Coal based fertilizer plants operating in the country along with the area in which the produced urea is sold by these plants?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR)

(a) & (b): Domestic Natural Gas is not available as per the requirement of the domestic fertilizer/industry. However, shortfall is met by imported Natural Gas. The gap between the requirement and domestic production of various fertilizers is met through imports.

(c): No, Madam.

(d): The Government has taken several steps to improve the availability of gas which inter-alia include revision in the price of domestic natural gas, intensification of domestic exploration & production activities through New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) rounds, development of shale gas policy framework, research and development of gas hydrate resources in the country, import of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG), exploring possibility of transnational gas pipelines, clearance for exploration and development of some NELP blocks, exploration in the Mining Lease Area with certain conditions and acquisition of overseas oil and gas assets. The additional availability of domestic natural gas shall be allocated keeping in view the demand and the prevailing Gas Utilisation policy of the government.

(e): The Gas and Coal based fertilizer plants along with its location which are operating in the country are as under:-

S. No.	Name of the units	Location
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| 1. | Indian Farmers Fertilizers Cooperative Limited-Phulpur | Uttar Pradesh |
| 2. | Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilizers & Chemical Limited | Gujarat |
| 3. | National Fertilizers Limited - Bhatinda | Punjab |
| 4. | National Fertilizers Limited- Panipat | Punjab |
| 5. | National Fertilizers Limited- Naya Nangal | Punjab |

6. Shriram Rajasthan
Fertilizers &
Chemicals Limited
7. Kanpur Fertilizers Uttar Pradesh
& Cement Limited

The fertilizers are sold as per the requirement of the states in which these plants are situated and in other nearby states as per the movement plan prepared by the Department.