

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2243
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2015
SHORTAGE OF FERTILIZERS
Sonker Smt. Neelam

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

- (a) whether the agriculture production of the country has been adversely affected due to acute short production of fertilizers in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Fertilizers Corporation of India is facing shortage of Chemicals due to which production of urea and other agricultural fertilizers is being affected;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Pharmaceutical Companies are also facing shortage of chemicals due to which common men are being deprived of life saving drugs due to exorbitant prices;
- (e) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (f) whether the external interference is also responsible for the supply of chemicals and if so, the details thereof 7

Answer

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

(a) : Madam, the data on agriculture production shows that the agriculture production in the country increased in 2013-14 as compared to 2012-13. The break up of figures of agriculture production during 2012-13 and 2013-14 are as under :-

(Lakh Tonnes)

Agriculture Product	2012-13	2013-14
Foodgrains	2571.3	2655.7
Oil Seeds	309.4	327.5
Cotton #	342.2	359.0
Jute##	103.4	110.8
Mesta##	5.9	6.1
Sugarcane (Cane)	3412.0	3521.4
# Lakh bales of 170 kgs. each		
# # lakh bases of 180 kgs . each		

As regards availability of fertilizers throughout the country upto state level, it is stated that the month-wise demand is assessed and projected by the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC) in consultation with the State Governments before commencement of each cropping season. On the basis of month-wise & state-wise projection given by DAC, Department of Fertilizers allocates sufficient/adequate quantities of fertilizers to States by issuing monthly supply plan and continuously monitors the availability through following system :

- i) The movement of all major subsidized fertilizers is being monitored throughout the country by an on -line web based monitoring system {www.urvarak.co.in} also called as Fertilizer Monitoring System { FMS}
- ii) The State Governments are regularly advised to coordinate with manufactures and importers of fertilizer for streamlining the supplies through timely placement of indents for railway rakes through their state institutional agencies like Markfed etc.
- iii) Regular Weekly Video Conference is conducted jointly by Department of Agriculture & Co-operation (DAC), Department of Fertilizers (DoF) and Ministry of Railways with state Agriculture Officials and corrective action are taken to dispatch fertilizers as indicated by the State Government.
- iv) The gap in the demand and domestic production of fertilizers is met through imports.

(b)& (c) : It is stated that all units of Fertilizers Corporation of India are closed and no production activity at any of the unit of FCIL is taking place .

(d) to (f) : Department of Pharmaceuticals is not aware of any report of shortage of API/Build drugs in the sector. The requirement of APIs are met through domestic production and imports based on economic considerations. As per the Boston Consulting Group report of 2013, the estimated production of bulk drugs by indigenous drugs manufacturing companies in 2013 was US \$ 10.4 billion and import for the period was US \$ 3.5 billion. Thus there is no shortage of chemicals due to which common man is facing shortage of life-saving drugs. Further, National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA), monitors the prices and availability of drugs and it has not reported any shortage.