

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2257

ANSWERED ON:10.03.2015

SHORTAGE OF UREA

Anwar Shri Tariq;Gavit Dr. Heena Vijaykumar;Girri Shri Maheish;Jayadevan Shri C. N.;Mahadik Shri Dhananjay Bhimrao;Patil Shri Vijaysinh Mohite;Radhakrishnan Shri T.;Saraswati Shri Sumedhanand;Satav Shri Rajeev Shankarrao;Sule Smt. Supriya Sadanand

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

(a) whether shortage of urea has affected farmers during the current rabi crop season;

(b) if so, the details thereof:

(c) whether 50% of farmers get only two bags of urea against the requirement of three bags per acre for wheat cultivation and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether lack of timely import of urea and cut in import of urea are the main reasons for shortage of urea during the said season; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the remedial steps/ action being taken by the Government in this regard and also to stop illegal export of urea from the country?

Answer

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

(a)to(e): The details of requirement, availability and sales of Urea, for Rabi 2013-14 (from October. 2013 to February, 2014) and Rabi 2014- 15 (from October. 2014 to February, 2015) are given as below:

Year	Requirement	Opening Stock	Receipts	Availability	Sales
2013-14	152 23	4.74	132.65	137.39	133.36
(from Oct to February)					
2014-15	149 90	0.99	145.47	146.46	144.18
(from Oct. to February)					

It can be seen from the above table that availability of Urea in the country was adequate/sufficient and also higher than the year 2013-14(Rabi Season) in the same period. However, some states requested for priority rake movement to certain destinations which were given.

Department of Fertilizers ensures availability of subsidized chemical fertilizers at the State level and the distribution within the State is the responsibility of the concerned State Government.

The gap between the indigenous production of Urea and demand is met through import. For the current Rabi season, Government of India has imported large quantity of Urea in Rabi 2014-15 (October 2014 to March. 2015) in comparison to Rabi 2013-14. (October 2013 to March, 2014). The details of import of Urea for Rabi 2013-14 and Rabi 2014-15 are as under-

Month	Rabi Season Oct.2013 to March, 2014	Rabi Season Oct.2014 to March, 2015
October to February	28.18	51.48
March	1.61	8.20 (estimated)
October to March	29.79	59.68

For curbing of illegal export (smuggling) of Urea, agencies under the jurisdiction of Department of Border Management, Ministry of Home Affairs and Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance are advised from time to time to step up vigilance. It is also stated that Government of India has declared fertilizer as an essential commodity under the Essential Commodities Act. 1955 (ECA) and has notified Fertilizer Control Order, 1985 (FCO) under this Act. Therefore, Department of Fertilizers has issued advisory to these departments as well as to States having international boundary for taking appropriate action as per FCO, 1985.