

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2820

ANSWERED ON:15.03.2016

JVs in Fertilizer Sector

Rao Shri Konakalla Narayana

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

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

- (a) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to provide fertilizers in sufficient quantity and at reasonable prices to farmers;
- (b) whether fertilizer companies have launched a toll free number for farmers, if so, the names of such companies along with the details of their toll free numbers;
- (c) whether fertilizer companies are organizing farmer fairs in various parts of the country, if so, the details and the purpose thereof; and
- (d) the relaxation provided to the farmers by the banks to purchase fertilizers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS

(SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR)

(a): Following steps are taken for adequate and timely supply of fertilizers to the states:-

1. The month-wise demand is assessed and projected by the Department of Agriculture, Co-operation & Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) in consultation with the State Governments before commencement of each cropping season.

2. 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 manufacturers and importers of fertilizers 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 & Cooperation (DAC), Department of Fertilizers (DoF), and Ministry of Railways with State Agriculture Officials and corrective actions are taken to dispatch fertilizer as indicated by the State Governments.

3. The gap between demand (requirement) and production is met through import.

Further, fertilizers have been declared as essential commodities under the Essential Commodities Act (ECA), 1955. In order to ensure adequate availability of fertilizers at reasonable price to the farmers the Government of India under Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act has promulgated the Fertilizer Control Order (FCO) 1985. FCO empowers the State Governments to take appropriate action to make available fertilizers in their States at reasonable prices.

The Maximum Retail Price (MRP) of Urea is statutorily controlled by the Government. At present it is Rs. 5360/- per MT (exclusive of 1% central excise duty, central sales tax, countervailing duty, the sales tax and other local taxes wherever levied) w.e.f. 1st November, 2012. Further, an extra MRP of 5% (of Rs. 5360/- per MT) is charged by fertilizer manufacturing entities on Neem Coated Urea. Average monthly MRP of subsidized P&K fertilizers(grade-wise) for 2015-16 is annexed.

(b): Some of the fertilizer companies have launched toll-free number for farmers, which are as follows:-

Name of company Toll- free number

Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Ltd. 1800 223044

Gujarat State Fertilizers & Chemicals Ltd. 1800 1235 000

Zuari Agro Chemicals Limited 1800 121233

Tata Chemicals Limited 1800 266 0255

MOSAIC India Limited 1800 103 5684

Nagarjuna Fertilizers & Chemicals Limited 1800 4251128

Coromandal International Limited 1800 4252828

Chambal Fertilizers Limited 1800 1805550

(c): The Krishi Melas/ Farmer Melas are organized by the State Governments and Agriculture Universities. Most of the fertilizer companies in public cooperatives as well as private sectors participate in these melas. Names of some of the companies which participated in these melas are Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Limited, Gujarat State Fertilizers & Chemicals Limited, Zuari Agro Chemicals Limited, Tata Chemicals Limited, MOSAIC India Limited, Nagarjuna Fertilizers & Chemicals Limited Coromandal International Limited and Chambal Fertilizers Limited, NFL, BVFCL, FACT, IFFCO and KRIBHCO.

The objectives for organizing this melas are:

i) to disseminate Agricultural information to farmers on balanced application of fertilizers/plant protection.

ii) to bridge the technology gaps between field and lab.

iii) to educate farmers for soil conservation, water harvesting, usage of high yielding varieties, scientific cropping system and improved agronomic practices.

(d): Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers has no scheme for providing relief through the banks to the farmers to buy fertilizers.
