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Title : Need to release additional stock of fertilizer to the State of Andhra Pradesh to meet its shortage in the State.

DR. M. JAGANNATH (NAGAR KURNOOL): For the first time in many years there was copious rainfall in almost all the district State. Even those in rain-shadow zones like Anantapur received excess rainfall. But the joy of farmers over good monsoons has been cut short by the severe shortage of fertilizer, particularly urea. The prospects of farmers getting bumper yield this year appears bleak with the farming community falling short of five lakh tonnes of fertilizers for the Khariff season.

The State requires about 16 lakh tonnes of urea while only 11 lakh tonnes is available in the market. Urea is used mainly for crops like paddy, sugarcane, cotton and maize. There is also a shortage of single super phosphate fertilizer. However, complex fertilizers are available in sufficient quantity. The prospects of a good crop are quite high this time thanks to the monsoon which has been generous so far. This Khariff the total sown area has also gone up increasing the demand for fertilizers. If the farmers do not get sufficient stocks at this State, there crop will be in real trouble.

Through you, Sir , I request the Hon'ble Minister of Chemical and Fertilizers to release more stocks to the State to overcome the acute shortage and protect the standing crops from withering away.