

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS & PETROCHEMICALS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 2489
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.08.2021**

Import of Chemicals and Petrochemicals

2489: SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH SOLANKY:

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

- (a) whether the import of chemicals and petrochemicals has increased during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether there is a decline in domestic production of chemicals and petrochemicals during the said period; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor along with the details of the remedial measures taken to meet the growing domestic demand; and
- (e) the details about the Covid impact on import of chemicals thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)

(a) & (b) The import of chemicals and petrochemicals during the last three years is as under:

Year	Import (Rs in Crore)
2018-19	394834
2019-20	359660
2020-21 #	373708

*(Source: DGCIS, M/o Commerce and Industry)
Data for the year 2020-21 is provisional*

The import of Chemicals and Petrochemicals increased in the year 2020-21 compared to 2019-20 due to insufficient domestic production capacity and comparatively higher cost of production, COVID-19. However, import in 2020-21 is less compared to 2018-19.

(c) & (d) Based on the data for domestic production of major chemicals and petrochemicals monitored by the Department, production of major chemicals and petrochemicals in last three years is as under:

Production (in 000' MT)			
	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 #
Chemicals and Petrochemicals	49108	55467	53348

Data for the year 2020-21 is provisional

The domestic production of major chemicals and petrochemicals in 2020-21 has increased compared to 2018-19. However, the marginal decline in domestic production in the year 2020-21 compared to 2019-20 is due to prevalent Covid-19 pandemic. In this regard, steps have been taken to increase production by rationalization of customs duty on the feedstock/building blocks/Intermediates as well as certain chemicals and petrochemicals. In addition, various conferences/webinar such as "India Chem 2021" have been organized in hybrid model (physical & virtual) with stakeholders and overseas manufacturers for boosting investment in chemical sector.

(e) Due to Covid-19 pandemic, import of chemicals has increased from Rs.359660 crore in 2019-20 to Rs.373708 crore in 2020-21. However, import of chemicals in 2020-21 has not increased compared to 2018-19.