

Support price for Paddy

3231. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the support price of paddy as announced;

(b) how Government propose to control prices of rice, which have already gone up very high in the open market, adding to inflationary pressure; and

(c) the steps taken to supply rice under PDS at affordable rates to the intended beneficiaries?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) The Minimum Support Price (MSP) of paddy (common) has been fixed at Rs. 380.00 per quintal for the 1996-97 season. The MSPs for fine and superfine varieties of paddy have been fixed at Rs. 395 and Rs. 415 per quintal respectively.

(b) The annual rise in the wholesale price index of rice is modest at around 7 per cent. However, the Government is undertaking open sale of Rice in different parts of the country to meet local requirements. Allocation of Rice from central pool to various States/UTs for the PDS/RPDS is made on month to month basis, having regard to stocks available, seasonal availability, relevant needs and offtake trends.

(c) Rice is being supplied at subsidised rate under Public Distribution System.

The Central Issue Prices (CIP) of rice for areas covered under Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS) are further specially subsidised and are Rs. 50/- per quintal lower than the CIP for Public Distribution System.

Production, Requirement and Import of Chemical Fertilizers

3232. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of various varieties of chemical fertilizers that was required in the country during the last three years;

(b) how much of these varieties are produced in the country;

(c) how much of the various varieties of chemical fertilizers are imported and foreign out-go therefor during the last three years;

(d) have any measures been taken to minimise dependence on these imports; and

(e) if so, the details thereof including the achievement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SHEESH RAM OLA): (a) The quantity of fertiliser nutrients required for consumption during the last three years was:—

Year	N	P	K
1993-94	81.89	26.69	9.08
1994-95	95.07	29.31	11.25
1995-96*	98.24	28.98	11.56

*Provisional

(b) Quantities of different fertilisers produced in the country during the last three years is given in the Statement annexed. (See below)

(c) Quantities of major fertilisers imported during the last 3 years and their cost and freight (C&F) value was as under:

Name of Fertilisers	1993-94		1994-95		1995-96	
	Qty.	C&F Value	Qty.	C&F Value	Qty.	C&F Value
Urea (on Government Account)	27.80	1030.43	28.70	1603.62	37.82	2840.13
MOP	14.28*	Not Available	18.48*	Not Available	21.92*	Not Available
DAP	15.69	Not Available	8.25	Not Available	14.06	Not Available

*As the quantities of these fertilisers include quantities imported by private parties also, the value is not known. The quantities indicated are also based on the information as available with Department.

(d) and (e) The details of steps taken to increase the fertiliser productions are given below:

- (i) The domestic urea industry is supported through the retention price-cum-subsidy scheme.
- (ii) Assistance is provided to the fertiliser industry for securing linkages of feedstock, fuel and rail movement.
- (iii) Liquid petroleum products used as feedstock and fuel in fertiliser plants are supplied at concessional price.
- (iv) As a part of Governments liberalisation policy, no industrial licence is now required for setting up a fertiliser plant.
- (v) Investment in the fertiliser sector is encouraged, *inter alia*, through concessions on supplies of capital goods for the fertiliser industry in the form of import duty exemption and deemed export benefits, as well as interest rate concession on long term loans raised by fertiliser units.

The Central public/cooperative sector fertiliser units have adopted the following strategy to augment the production and the availability of fertilisers:

- (i) Expansion/retrofitting/re-vamping of existing fertiliser plants;
- (ii) Overcoming the constraints in the availability of natural gas by setting up naphtha-based fertiliser plants and installing dual fuel/feedstock facilities in the existing plants and projects under implementation;
- (iii) Setting up of joint venture projects in countries having abundant and cheap raw material resources.

Budgetary support has also been provided to the sick fertiliser undertakings in the central public sector to enable them to sustain their production.

With the commissioning of projects currently under implementation, annual indigenous production capacity is expected to get augmented by 41.63 lakh metric tonnes (LMTs) in the case of urea and 1.84 LMTs in the case of complex fertilisers.

Statement

Production-wise Production of various Types of fertilisers.

(000 MTs)

Name of Product	Production 1993-94			Production 94-95			Production 1995-96		
	Qty.	N	P	Qty.	N	P	Qty.	N	P
Urea	13148.3	6048.2	0.0	14282.9	6570.1	0.0	15819.7	7277.1	0.0
Ammon. Sulp.	621.9	130.6	0.0	582.5	122.3	0.0	634.6	133.3	0.0
CAN*	666.2	166.6	0.0	571.8	143.0	0.0	491.0	122.8	0.0
Ammon. Chl.	130.7	32.7	0.0	137.1	34.3	0.0	137.5	34.4	0.0
DAP**	1950.6	351.1	897.3	2823.3	508.2	1298.7	2646.8	476.4	1217.5
20:20	882.9	176.6	176.6	1116.3	223.3	223.3	1350.0	270.0	270.0
SSP	1900.0	0.0	304.0	2636.9	0.0	421.9	2984.4	0.0	477.5
15:15:15	303.1	45.5	45.5	240.2	36.0	36.0	313.4	47.0	47.0
20:7:20:7	267.2	55.3	55.3	254.2	52.6	52.6	238.0	49.3	49.3
17:17:17	483.7	54.4	82.2	650.2	110.5	110.5	724.1	123.1	123.1
10:26:26	251.0	25.1	65.3	262.7	26.3	68.3	274.5	27.5	71.4
12:32:16	193.2	23.2	61.8	352.8	42.3	112.9	360.2	43.2	115.3
14:35:14	10.6	1.5	3.7	19.9	2.8	7.0	32.3	4.5	11.3
19:19:19	129.4	24.6	24.6	153.7	29.2	29.2	177.4	33.7	33.7
28:28	284.2	79.6	79.6	326.5	91.4	91.4	262.9	73.6	73.6
16:20	87.8	14.0	17.6	141.9	22.7	28.4	175.5	28.1	35.1
23:23	10.2	2.3	2.3	54.8	12.6	12.6	144.3	33.2	33.2
14:28:14	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

* CALCIUM AMMONIUM NITRATE

**DIAMMONIUM PHOSPHATE