(c) the reasons for pendency of uncleared proposals; and

(d) by when these pending proposals are likely to be given clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) Government of Andhra Pradesh submitted a proposal for setting up a Petroleum, Chemicals & Petrochemicals Investment Region (PCPIR) in Vishakhapatnam and East Godavari districts of Andhra Pradesh in March, 2008.

(b) to (d) The Government of India approved the proposal of the Government of Andhra Pradesh on 23rd February 2009.

Bottleneck in production, supply and consumption of fertilizers

1536. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the major bottleneck in terms of production, supply and consumption, in Chemicals and Fertilizers in India;

(b) out of the total consumption of manures and fertilizers in India, how much percentage, Chemicals and Fertilizers could satisfy leaving the rest to other categories whose availability may also be outlined; and

(c) what are the ill effects in the use of Chemicals and Fertilizers in agricultural operations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) The major bottleneck in increasing the production of urea is limited availability of natural gas/LNG. Similarly, the DAP production is dependent on availability of imported raw materials/intermediates viz. rock phosphates, phosphoric acid, sulphur etc. Because of limited availability and highly fluctuating prices of these raw materials/intermediates in the international market, the production of DAP and complex fertilizers remains stagnant, Demand and Sales of fertilizers in 2008-09 was at record levels. The consumption of fertilizers during the Ninth Plan period and initial years of Tenth Plan period was stagnant. Good monsoons combined with increased irrigation facilities, increased area under cultivation, better awareness about usage of fertilizers amongst farmers and better purchasing power in the rural areas have contributed to a sharp increase in consumption of fertilizers from 2004-05 onwards.

The per hectare consumption of chemical fertilizers in the country is around 115 kg which is far less than that of many other developing countries. Around 70% of the total fertilizer consumption in India is on foodgrain crops. Most of the fertilizer consumption is in irrigated area.

As per rough estimate, the total removal of plant nutrients (NPK) by foodgrain crops is around 32mt at the present level of production (230mt). The replenishment of nutrients (NPK) through addition of chemical fertilizers is nearly 16mt; assuming 70% of 23mt of fertilizer nutrients is

consumed by foodgrain crops. About 6mt of nutrients may be added through manures, leaving a total nutrient gap of 10mt. The nutrient gap has to be met from bio fertilizers and other nutrient sources.

There is no scientific evidence of declining soil/crop productivity with judicious use of chemical fertilizers. However, imbalanced use of fertilizers (as evident from wide fertilizer NPK consumption ratios of 33.3:6.5:1, 34:8.7:1 and 15.3:4.9:1 against the desirable one of 4:2:1 in 2007-08 in agriculturally progressive states of Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh, respectively) coupled with low addition of organic matter over years has resulted into widespread multinutrient deficiencies and deterioration of soil health in the country. The deterioration is more pronounced in the intensively cultivated Indo-Gangetic plains. The deficiencies are more widespread of sulphur (41%), zinc (49%) and boron (33%). The limiting nutrients, not allowing full expression of other nutrients, lower the overall fertilizer response and crop productivity. The emerging scenario necessitates immediate adoption of soil test based site specific integrated nutrient management envisaging conjunctive use of both inorganic and organic sources of plant nutrient (compost, FYM, biofertilisers etc. and introduction of leguminous crops in the cropping system to sustain good soil health and higher crop productivity.

The demand (requirement), supply (availability) and sales of major Chemical Fertilizers namely Urea, DAP, Muriate of Potash (MOP) and complex fertilizers during the period from April to June, 2009 of current Kharif, 2009 is given at the Statement [Refer to the statement appended to the answer to USQ No. 1533 Part (c) to (e)]

Demand and supply of fertilizers

1537. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the demand and supply position of Chemicals and Fertilizers in the country;

(b) whether there is a shortage or surplus of supply and how long this situation will continue;

(c) out of the total demand, how much of supply is from local manufacturers and how much from other sources with their respective market price to the farmers; and

(d) whether the existing distribution system has been adequate and effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) The demand (requirement) and supply (availability) of major Chemical Fertilizers namely Urea, Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP), Muriate of Potash (MOP) and NPK (complex) during the period from April to June, 2009 of current Kharif, 2009 is given in the enclosed statement (see below). The indigenous production of urea and DAP during this period have been about 45.87 LMT and 11.53 LMT respectively. The, imports of Urea and DAP during the same period