

system. The subsidy on urea will be paid only when the urea reaches the district. Further, the Department will operate a buffer stock through the State institutional agencies/fertilizer companies in major consuming states up to a limit of 5% of the seasonal requirement. To ensure availability of urea in remotest corners of the country, the freight reimbursement to urea units will now be on actual rail and road leads.

(c)

	<i>Karif 2006</i>	<i>Qty. (Mts.)</i>
Availability (1st April., 2006 to 30th Sept., 2006)		Sales (1st April, 2006 to 30th Sept., 2006)
Andhra Pradesh All	1181630	1157000
India	11839370	11331350
<i>Rabi 2006</i>		<i>Qty (Mts)</i>
Availability (1st October, 2006 to 31st January, 2007)		Sales (1st October, 2006 to 31st January, 2007)
Andhra Pradesh All	902560	740750
India	10330060	9506550

Subsidy on fertilizers

†1221. Dr. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the subsidy given by Government on various fertilizers useful for agriculture is still continued and if so, the percentage of this subsidy;

(b) whether the farmers or the manufacturing industries of these fertilizers are directly benefited with this subsidy; and

(c) whether fertilizers are also being imported and if so, whether the cost of these imported fertilizers are more or less than the fertilizers getting subsidy and the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

[9 March, 2007]

RAJYA SABHA

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B. K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The subsidy on various fertilizers is being continued. The subsidy on fertilizers is paid to manufactures/importers to bridge the gap between the delivered cost of fertilizers at the farm gate level and the notified Maximum Retail Price (MRP) on which it is sold to the farmers. The farmers are benefited with this subsidy in the form of notified MRP, which is much lower than the delivered cost at the farm gate level.

(c) Urea and DAP are partly imported in the country to bridge the gap between demand and indigenous production of these fertilizers. The requirement of Muriate of Potash (MOP) is completely met through import, as there is no indigenous production in the country.

In urea, the indigenous cost of production varies from approximately Rs. 5078.00 to Rs. 20,573.00 per Metric Tonne depending upon the type of feedstock used and the vintage of the plant. The weighted average cost of indigenous production in 2005-06 was Rs. 9844 per MT. Correspondingly, the cost of imported urea depends upon the prevailing international prices. The approximate import parity price of urea for 2005-2006, was Rs. 11231.56 per MT.

The cost of imported DAP depends upon the prevailing International prices. The weighted average delivered price of imported DAP in the year 2005-2006 was Rs. 15075.00 per MT whereas the average delivered price of indigenous DAP in the corresponding period was Rs. 15316.00 per MT.

The average delivered price of imported MOP in 2005-2006 was Rs. 11049.00 per MT.

Problems of sugarcane growers

1222. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to make any short-term and long-term measures to address the problems faced by sugarcane growers and sugar industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;