

6. Incentive of additional one per cent interest subvention to farmers who repay short-term crop loans as per schedule, increased to 2% for 2010-11.

All the above initiatives are aimed to enhance the prosperity of the farmers and food security of the Nation.

#### **Restarting of closed fertilizer units**

†927. SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN:

SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH:

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

(a) whether Group of Ministers had decided in October, 2008 to restart the eight closed fertilizer units of Barauni, Gorakhpur, Talcher, Korba, Haldia, Ramagundam, Durgapur and Sindri;

(b) if so, whether at present the work has been started in these fertilizer units;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether these closed fertilizer units are a cause for scarcity of manure/fertilizers in the country and imported fertilizers cost more to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) Pursuant to Cabinet decision dated 30.10.2008, it has been decided to explore the feasibility of revival of the closed public sector fertilizer units of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFCL) and Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCIL) subject to assured availability of natural gas, to meet the emerging demand production gap of urea in the country. An Empowered Committee of Secretaries (ECOS) has been constituted with the mandate to evaluate all investment options for revival of the closed units of FCIL/HFCL and to make suitable recommendations for consideration of the Government. ECOS has considered various possible investment options for revival of each of the closed units and have finalized its recommendations regarding the suitable options. The recommendations of ECOS are under consideration of the Government.

(d) The revival of closed plants is likely to reduce the supply and demand gap regarding availability of urea in the country. As regards prices of urea to the farmers, urea is made available to farmers at same maximum retail price irrespective of imported or indigenously produced.

#### **Availability of fertilizers for Kharif season**

928. SHRI N.K. SINGH:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

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

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government is aware of shortage of fertilizers in various parts of the country resulting in direct affect on foodgrain production;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has since taken any steps or directed the fertilizer companies to make available sufficient fertilizers in view of Kharif season ahead; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) Urea is the only fertilizer which is under partial movement and distribution control of the Government. Union Government ensures availability of urea at State level. State Governments are responsible for its distribution within the State. All other fertilizers viz. DAP, MOP, SSP and NPK etc. are decontrolled/de-canalized since 1992. The availability of Phosphatic and Potassic fertilizers is decided by the market forces of demand and supply.

The cumulative State-wise availability of major fertilizer like Urea, DAP, MOP and complex fertilizers (NPK) during the current year 2009-10 (April'09 to January'10) is given in the Statement (See below).

(c) and (d) Steps taken to make available sufficient fertilizers:

(i) The movement of fertilizers is being monitored throughout the country by an on-line web based monitoring system ([www.urvarak.co.in](http://www.urvarak.co.in)) also called as Fertilizer Monitoring System (FMS);

(ii) Department of Fertilizers has been operating buffer stock of Urea, DAP and MOP through State Institutional Agencies/fertilizer companies in major fertilizer consuming States to the tune of 6.25 LMT, 3.50 LMT and 1.00 LMT respectively;

(iii) The gap between requirement and indigenous production of fertilizers is met through imports;

(iv) New pricing policy for attracting investment in urea sector has been announced on 4th September, 2008. Further, fertilizer sector has been given highest priority in allocation of gas, for debottlenecking, expansion and revival projects in the country. As a result, it is expected that urea production may increase to 21.70 million tonnes during 2010-11 against estimated production of 20.00 million tonnes during the current year.

(v) All possible steps are taken by the Department of Fertilizers to match the availability of fertilizers with the assessed requirement.

**Statement**

*Cumulative availability of Fertilizers during the year 2009-10 (April'09 to January'10)*

Qty in ('000) MTs

2009-10 State	Urea			DAP			MOP			Complex		
	Requirement	Availability	Sales	Requirement	Availability	Sales	Requirement	Availability	Sales	Requirement	Availability	Sales
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Andhra Pradesh	2490.00	2163.94	2144.10	925.00	831.95	828.03	560.00	544.82	465.33	1940.00	1604.51	1549.84
Karnataka	1216.00	1203.66	1181.75	730.00	704.82	700.74	452.00	551.00	477.11	995.00	860.79	824.32
Kerala	151.20	144.46	139.15	32.75	27.49	27.46	142.00	146.34	136.54	167.25	185.96	180.01
Tamil Nadu	970.00	867.47	863.72	386.00	263.60	263.48	496.00	458.74	415.22	332.00	529.26	522.30
Gujarat	1705.00	1603.36	1591.39	749.00	688.67	665.49	202.00	219.65	214.43	415.00	360.27	339.46
Madhya Pradesh	1507.41	1497.63	1480.32	848.32	914.14	903.85	119.46	131.03	110.82	354.56	204.88	198.48
Chhattisgarh	495.00	454.92	450.29	169.50	202.63	202.56	78.40	72.40	65.47	129.55	80.78	79.07
Maharashtra	2204.00	2020.21	2005.67	1095.90	1228.04	1210.45	470.70	607.21	517.90	1235.00	867.32	840.65
Rajasthan	1403.00	1222.70	1211.02	628.00	581.72	572.45	32.00	49.65	37.91	130.00	77.16	76.37
Haryana	1810.00	1563.15	1560.69	684.00	647.29	647.17	47.00	73.20	73.18	43.00	36.87	35.72
Punjab	2350.00	2114.69	2108.01	800.00	786.30	785.56	87.00	97.26	87.87	55.00	52.02	48.85
Himachal Pradesh	60.00	48.68	44.96	0.00	2.65	2.65	5.50	5.24	5.24	45.00	30.50	30.39
Jammu and Kashmir	116.86	64.31	62.35	73.79	40.35	39.49	22.84	15.47	15.47	0.00	0.00	0.00

Uttar Pradesh	4740.00	4467.22	4427.60	1580.00	1526.24	1520.42	275.00	303.76	266.87	750.00	688.46	626.13
Uttarakhand	183.00	195.63	194.02	36.00	37.23	36.89	12.50	3.46	3.46	45.00	29.40	26.86
Bihar	1660.00	1446.43	1436.14	430.00	379.75	377.84	195.00	200.10	179.90	300.00	224.62	220.41
Jharkhand	200.00	145.26	141.30	115.00	76.66	76.66	15.00	12.02	12.02	50.00	59.65	56.07
Orissa	485.00	417.60	394.69	188.05	209.88	200.04	150.93	125.01	104.04	258.72	205.49	195.29
West Bengal	1022.77	890.57	851.41	424.50	423.89	416.11	359.00	439.92	416.10	680.80	708.71	698.21
Assam	212.40	189.25	184.24	28.20	22.32	22.31	102.20	83.89	71.20	5.50	6.47	6.47
ALL INDIA:	25102.84	22796.54	22545.33	9962.48	9604.17	9508.22	3852.66	4156.75	3692.05	7972.44	6836.72	6578.44