

(c) the number of farmers in Punjab and Haryana who were benefited under the loan waiver scheme of Government of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) As per the information made available by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and Reserve Bank of India (RBI) total outstanding agricultural loan as on 31.03.2009 is Rs. 590728 crore.

(b) The information is given below:—

Punjab

Banks	No. of Accounts	Amount outstanding as on 30.09.2009 (Rs. in crore)
Public Sector Banks	908352	17943
Private Sector Banks	42510	3072
Regional Rural Banks	101468	1249
Cooperative Banks	831252	4836
TOTAL:	1883586	27100

Haryana

Public Sector Banks	623221	13824
Private Sector Banks	15628	857
Regional Rural Banks	209113	2126
Cooperative Banks	1584909	5609
TOTAL:	2432871	22416

Source: State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC) figures of Punjab and Haryana.

(c) As per the provisional figures, 421278 farmers in Punjab and 885102 farmers in Haryana are estimated to have been benefited under the Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme, 2008.

Availability of fertilizers

†4638. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH:
SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that there is shortage of fertilizers for agriculture in the country and moreover it is smuggled too;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the number of fertilizers factories in operational State in the country;
- (c) whether Government is making any concrete plan to meet the shortage of fertilizers;
and
- (d) the details of number of closed factories and the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) No, Sir. There is no shortage of fertilizers for agriculture in the country.

There are reports of smuggling of fertilizers from India to neighbouring countries. However, these have not been confirmed by the State Governments. The State Governments have been advised by the Department of Fertilizers to keep a vigil and to check smuggling of fertilizers, if any, from India to other neighbouring countries through land and sea routes.

(b) State-wise and Sector-wise number of major fertilizer units operating in the country is given in Statement (*See below*).

(c) In order to ensure availability of fertilizer *vis-a-vis* requirement and to avoid shortages through out the country, Department of Fertilizer has taken various policy initiatives, some of which are:—

- (i) Each State in consultation with the fertilizer suppliers is required to prepare a monthly supply plan district wise within overall availability at State level for ensuring availability of fertilizers in all parts of the State;
- (ii) The supply of fertilizers by manufacturers/suppliers is being monitored through a web-based Fertilizer Monitoring System which is able to track production, imports, dispatch, arrival and sales up to the district level;
- (iii) The State Governments have been advised (i) that the State Institutional agencies will coordinate with manufacturers and importers of fertilizers for streamlining the supplies (ii) to review the railway rake points in their States and take up the issues with the Railways for improvements, if any, required to ensure availability of fertilizers in every nook and corner of the State.
- (iv) The Government has introduced a Nutrient Based Subsidy Policy in respect of Phosphatic and Potassic fertilizers *w.e.f.* 1.4.2010, which has replaced the outgoing Concession Scheme for P&K fertilizers. Under the NBS, State Governments have to play more proactive role to co-ordinate with the manufacturers/importers to tie up supplies of fertilizers as per the requirement of States.
- (v) The resources available for production of fertilizers like Urea, DAP and NPK are being utilized to the full capacity. The indigenous production of fertilizers is not adequate to meet the increasing demand. There has been a gap between the indigenous production of fertilizer and its demand. The gap between the assessed requirement

and indigenous production is met through imports. Government is always encouraging production of urea in the country to achieve self-sufficiency. The Government has announced a new policy on 4th September, 2008 to attract new investments. The policy is based on Import Parity Price (IPP) benchmark with suitable floor and ceiling prices aiming to revamp, expansion, revival of existing urea units and setting up of Greenfield projects. The policy aims to substantially bridge the gap between consumption and domestic production of urea in next five years subject to adequate availability of gas at reasonable prices. As a result of this the production of urea has increased from 200 LMT in 2008-09 to about 211 LMT in 2009-10. It is expected that the indigenous production of urea is likely to increase further during 2010-11. Government has also taken initiatives to encourage indigenous production in P&K sector by allowing import parity price to the indigenous manufacturers of DAP. Government has also reduced the custom duty on phosphoric acid from 5% to 2% to enable indigenous manufacturers of P&K fertilizers to procure this important input at reasonable price. Government is also encouraging private sector and public sector companies to explore the possibilities for joint ventures abroad to ensure uninterrupted supply of fertilizer inputs to P&K sector.

(d) Five Units of the Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL) and three Units of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFCL) in the public sector are lying closed. Following are the Unit-wise details:—

(i) FCIL

Name of unit	Date of commissioning	Date of shutdown	Date of Government decision to close down
Sindri	1979	March, 2002	5.9.2002
Gorakhpur	1969	1990	18.7.2002
Talcher	1980	1.4.1999	18.7.2002
Ramagundam	1980	1.4.1999	18.7.2002
Korba	Never commissioned	Not applicable	30.7.2002

(ii) HFCL

Barauni	1976	1999	5.9.2002
Durgapur	1974	1997	5.9.2002
Haldia	Never commission	Not applicable	18.7.2002

The closed units of HFCL and FCIL had been consistently incurring losses due to a variety of reasons including obsolete technology, design and equipment deficiencies, power shortages, problems in industrial relations, surplus manpower and resource constraints. The non-availability of natural gas further limited the ability of the units to undergo modernization and improve energy efficiencies which were low at 15 to 21 Goal/MT of Urea. The above factors combined with sharp increase in price of naphtha and FO/LSHS made the cost of production of urea from these units economically unviable, resulting in closure of the units.

In addition, two urea units in the private sector viz. Duncan Industries Ltd. (DIL) Kanpur and Southern Petrochemical Industries Corporation Limited (SPIC), Tuticorin are currently closed due to financial constraints as reported by the companies. Further, the urea unit of Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore (FACT), Cochin is also not in operation as it is uneconomical to operate under the urea subsidy regime.

Statement

*State-wise and Sector-wise no. of major Fertilizer units
operating in the Country*

Sl. No.	Name of States	No of Units operating	Sector			Total
			Public	Co-operative	Private	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4			4	4
2.	Assam	2	2			2
3.	Bihar					
4.	Chhattisgarh					
5.	Goa	1			1	1
6.	Gujarat	8		3	5	8
7.	Haryana	1	1			1
8.	Jharkhand					
9.	Karnataka	1			1	1
10.	Kerala	2	2			2
11.	Madhya Pradesh	2	2			2
12.	Maharashtra	5	4		1	5
13.	Orissa	2		1	1	2
14.	Punjab	2	2			2
15.	Rajasthan	3			3	3

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
16.	Tamil Nadu	4	1		3	4
17.	Uttar Pradesh	7		5	2	7
18.	West Bengal	1			1	1
TOTAL:		45	14	9	22	45

Consumption and smuggling of fertilizers

4639. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to drought the consumption of fertilizers in the country would be more when compared to bumper crops that we had last year;

(b) whether it means that Government has to earmark more subsidy for fertilizers for 2009-10;

(c) whether smuggling of fertilizers to our neighbouring countries has come to the notice of his Ministry; and

(d) if so, the steps taken under Fertilizer Monitoring System to prevent smuggling so as to make available more and more fertilizers to our farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) Consumption (Sales) of major fertilizers like Urea, DAP, MOP and NPK fertilizers during the year 2009-10 and the year prior to it *i.e.* 2008-09 is as under:—

(Sales in LMT)

Year	Urea	DAP	MOP	NPK
2008-09	266.51	99.03	40.95	71.22
2009-10	264.48	103.92	46.74	82.03

It may be observed that the sales of DAP, MOP and NPK fertilizers during 2009-10 were higher than those compared with the sales during 2008-09, whereas in the case of Urea, the sales during 2009-10 have been lower than that compared with the sales during 2008-09.

(b) An amount of 64032.30 crores was spent by the Government on subsidy during the year 2009-10 whereas the payments of 99494.71 crores (79494.71 crores in cash and 20,000 crores in the form of Bonds) were made during the year 2008-09. The subsidy outgo in the year 2008-09 was more because of higher prices of finished fertilizers, raw material in the international market.

(c) and (d) There are reports of smuggling of fertilizers from India to neighbouring countries. However, these have not been confirmed by the State Governments. The State