

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Usage of fertilizers

*227. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of fertilizer usage during last six financial years in both Kharif and Rabi seasons;

(b) whether it is a fact that the drought years saw decline of fertilizer usage compared to the years that saw good monsoon; and

(c) if so, the details of the subsidy provided on account of fertilizers during the last six financial years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS (SHRI SRIKANT JAINA): (a) Season-wise (Kharif and Rabi) details of fertilizer usage (sales) of major fertilizers like Urea, Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP), Muriate of Potash (MOP) & NPK (Complexes) fertilizers during the last six financial years are as under:

('Qty. in 'LMT)

Product	Season	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
		Sales	Sales	Sales	Sales	Sales	Sales	Sales
Urea	Kharif	93.20	97.81	107.67	113.65	124.58	127.92	122.78
	Rabi	102.59	107.66	114.24	131.20	137.09	138.55	121.75
DAP	Kharif	22.07	23.65	25.17	32.06	36.14	52.85	61.34
	Rabi	33.13	37.14	42.34	37.18	39.41	46.19	35.94
MOP	Kharif	7.21	11.00	13.25	9.99	14.17	21.61	18.51
	Rabi	9.26	12.14	14.76	13.94	13.65	19.28	24.81
Complex	Kharif						*36.31	34.81
	Rabi						34.91	38.48

* DOF started monitoring availability of complex fertilizer w.e.f. 1.4.2008

(b) As per information available there was no severe drought during the years from 2003-04 to 2008-09. The usage (sales) of fertilizers has continuously risen during the above period. However, there was drought during Kharif '09, where the usage (sales) of Urea, MOP and Complex (NPK) fertilizers were slightly lower; but usage (sales) of DAP increased substantially compared to corresponding figure of Kharif '08.

(c) The details of subsidy provided for all fertilizers during the last six financial years are as under:

(Rs. in Crore)

Year	Total amount of subsidy disbursed for all fertilizers (Gross)
2003-04	11847.82
2004-05	16127.70
2005-06	19389.64
2006-07	28019.55
2007-08	43319.16
2008-09	99494.71

Conversion of FSNL into subsidiary of SAIL

*228. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Committee formed by his Ministry in March, 2008 had recommended conversion of Ferro Scrap Nigam Limited (FSNL), Bhilai into a subsidiary of SAIL; and

(b) if so, the action taken, so far, for implementing the same?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No final decision has been taken in the matter.

Bogus educational institutions

*229. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to introduce a special Act to crack down upon bogus educational institutions operating in the country, particularly in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not; the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) A legislative proposal to prohibit and punish adoption of unfair practices, including the making of false claims on being recognized when it is not so recognized, by technical and medical educational institutions and universities is under consideration. Similarly, another legislative proposal for mandatory accreditation of higher educational institutions is also under consideration. However, no definite time limit can be given at present.