

(a) whether nation-wide 17,368 farmers killed themselves in 2009 *i.e.* seven per cent more than the count in 2008;

(b) if so, how many farmers' suicides happened in 2010 and their percentage increase for the year 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009;

(c) has any apex level study been carried out to find out this increasing trends and the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether the Ministry in coordination with Ministries of Rural Development, Panchayati Raj, etc. has created a policy framework to combat this menace in view of massive funds being spent in rural areas for multi-dimensional development?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (c) As per all-India profile of suicide victims classified according to profession published by National Crime Records Bureau in its report Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India-2010, number of suicidal deaths in farming/agriculture in 2010 was 15964, which decreased by 6.4%, 4.0%, 1.4% and 8.1% in comparison to 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009 respectively. Accordingly, trend of suicide by farmers is not increasing. However, reasons of suicide by farmers, as reported by State Governments, are manifold which, *inter-alia*, include indebtedness, crop failure, drought, socio-economic and personal.

(d) National Policy for Farmers, 2007 envisages coordination with various Ministries/Departments including Ministry of Rural Development, Panchayati Raj, etc., in implementation of various activities regarding irrigation, watershed development, wasteland development, land reclamation, decentralization, etc., which will, *inter-alia*, improve economic viability of farming, develop rural non-farm sector and increase income of farmers.

#### **Shortage of fertilizers**

1892. SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

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

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the fact that acute shortage of fertilizers and sky-rocketing price rise of various fertilizers on the eve of Rabi crop are causing great difficulties for the farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is considering to take measures for enhanced supply of fertilizers and also bringing down their prices; 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. 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. Department of Fertilisers gives State-wise/month-wise supply plan indicated by manufacturers/importers of these fertilizers as per the requirement and ensures availability through the instrument of subsidy. The availability of these P&K fertilizers is decided by the market forces of demand and supply. Union Government monitors availability of fertilizers at State level and State Governments are responsible for further distribution within the State. The State-wise demand (Requirement) and supply (Availability) of major fertilizers namely Urea, DAP, MOP and Complex fertilizer during the current Rabi' 11-12 (October, 2011 to November, 2011) is given in the Statement (See below). Department of Fertilizers is in continuous touch with officials of State Governments through weekly video conference. There is some tightness in availability of DAP during October & November, 2011. However, the railway rakes of DAP were despatched to various destinations, as per requirement of State Government.

(c) and (d) The details of quantum of fertilizer requirement, estimated indigenous production and estimated imports of Urea, DAP, MOP & Complex fertilizers during the winter season i.e. Rabi 2011-12 are as under:

(Figures in lakh metric tonnes)

FG	Requirement	Estimated Indigenous Production	Estimated imports
UREA	162.99	112.00	56.00
DAP	54.78	20.91	38.12
MOP	25.73	-	26.00
COMPLEX	55.30	49.04	21.78

It is in the knowledge of the Government that prices of Phosphatic & Potassic (P&K) fertilizers has increased during the year 2011-12. The subsidy on P&K fertilizers has not been withdrawn. Government of India has introduced Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Policy w.e.f. 1.4.2010 replacing the erstwhile concession scheme for decontrolled P&K fertilizers. Prior to 1.4.2010, the MRPs of the P&K fertilizers were fixed by the Government below the actual delivered costs and the difference between the normative delivered cost and the MRPs was reimbursed by the Government to the manufacturers/importers in the form of subsidy. Under the NBS Policy, the MRPs of the P&K fertilizers has been left open to be fixed by the manufacturers/importers and the amount of subsidy is fixed in terms of the nutrients of Nitrogen 'N', Phosphate 'P', Potash 'K' and Sulphur 'S' on annual basis. Accordingly, any increase/decrease in the prices of P&K fertilizers and its raw materials in the international market has a direct bearing on the MRPs of P&K fertilizers. Recently, the international prices of P&K fertilizers and its raw materials have gone up substantially. Further, rupee has significantly developed against US \$ as a result of these factors the MRPs of P&K fertilizers have almost doubled. However, the MRP of Urea is controlled by Government and is currently fixed at Rs. 5310/- PMT.

#### **Statement**

##### *State-wise details of demand and supply of fertilizers*

Rabi 2011-12		Cumulative requirement & availability of fertilisers during							
Oct' 11 to Nov' 11		Rabi 2011-12 (October' 11 to November' 11)							
		FMS 6.12.11					Qty. in ('000) MTs		
		Urea		DAP		MOP		Complex	
State	Require- ment	Availa- bility	Require- ment	Availa- bility	Require- ment	Availa- bility	Require- ment	Availa- bility	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Andhra Pradesh	520.00	518.30	225.00	212.06	130.00	105.65	425.00	541.04	
Karnatka	260.00	217.32	105.00	139.55	106.00	129.68	245.00	295.15	
Kerala	45.00	30.92	13.00	7.90	45.00	36.92	70.00	58.23	
Tamil Nadu	349.00	241.22	125.00	113.34	145.00	137.79	184.90	179.43	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Gujarat	425.00	369.64	240.00	136.99	51.00	33.26	142.00	169.14
Madhya Pradesh	633.49	424.89	423.75	361.96	60.73	34.18	192.32	177.85
Chhattisgarh	52.50	52.04	22.76	19.20	10.50	6.34	19.07	23.67
Maharashtra	405.00	335.72	230.00	204.91	102.00	87.61	392.00	328.92
Rajasthan	350.00	370.88	252.00	232.08	9.00	11.92	56.00	69.42
Haryana	415.00	297.62	350.00	243.68	17.00	12.93	25.00	19.43
Punjab	550.00	482.40	375.00	273.90	30.00	16.42	40.00	63.59
Uttar Pradesh	1050.00	849.53	655.00	486.42	110.00	34.47	350.00	437.49
Uttarakhand	30.00	24.76	8.50	6.03	3.50	0.20	21.00	16.93
Himachal Pradesh	10.00	5.03	0.00	0.00	2.50	3.93	17.50	7.96
Jammu and Kashmir	38.13	13.32	24.33	12.61	12.77	3.98	0.00	0.00
Bihar	370.00	263.07	165.00	114.26	110.00	24.88	120.00	143.26
Jharkhand	43.75	38.13	28.00	17.47	10.00	0.00	39.30	17.26
Orissa	40.00	43.81	21.58	19.29	21.21	14.57	28.16	26.18
West Bengal	227.50	176.00	120.20	92.93	86.11	68.22	159.55	238.65
Assam	35.20	36.21	8.80	2.50	17.60	5.22	4.40	1.72
All India	5849.57	4790.81	3392.92	2697.08	1079.92	768.17	2531.20	2815.38

**Collection of VAT on fertilizers**

†1893. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

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

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.