

1	2	3	4	5
<b>XIX. Trade</b>		500.00	260.31	52.06
1. Capacity Building to Enhance Competitiveness of Indian Agriculture		500.00	260.31	52.06
<b>XX. Additional Central Assistance for State Plan (RKVY)</b>		2500000.00	2242254.93	89.69
1. RKVY		2500000.00	2242254.93	89.69
<b>TOTAL :</b>		6657700.00	6160007.13	92.52

#Actual expenditure for the years 2007-08 to 2010-11 and BE for 2011-12.

#### Import and availability of fertilizers

\*70. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that cash crunch has hit fertilizer imports;
- (b) whether it is a fact that Government held back subsidy commitments to importers;
- (c) whether shortage of fertilizers could further stoke runaway food inflation and pose risk to winter crop operations commencing next month;
- (d) whether assured availability of key fertilizers is critical to food security; and
- (e) if so, the steps Government is taking to make fertilizers available to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) No, Sir. As on date, there is no cash crunch that has hit fertilizer imports

(b) No, Sir. The Government has not held back any subsidy commitments to importers of fertilizers. Rather all the subsidy payments are being made to the importers on time.

(c) and (d) Urea is under 50% and P&K fertilizers are under 20% movement and distribution control of the Government. The availability of decontrolled 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 its tie-up with the manufacturers and importers and further distribution within the State. The State-wise demand (Requirement) and supply (Availability) of major fertilizers during Kharif, 2011 (April'11 to September'11) are given in the Annexure 2 [See Appendix 214 Annexure No. 2]. The requirement and availability of fertilizers during October, 2011 and November, 2011 are given in Annexure 3 and 4 [See

Appendix 224 Annexure 3 and 4] respectively. Since there is no major fertilizer shortage, it is envisaged that neither will runaway food inflation be stoked nor winter crop operations be under risk.

(e) The following steps are being taken to make adequate availability of fertilizers in the country:—

- (i) The movement of all major subsidized 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 Fertilizer Monitoring System (FMS);
- (ii) The gap between requirement and indigenous production of Urea is met through imports;
- (iii) The State Governments are advised from time to time to instruct the State Institutional Agencies to coordinate with manufacturers and importers of fertilizers for streamlining the supplies;
- (iv) The Government has introduced Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Policy in respect of Phosphatic and Potassic fertilizers *w.e.f.* 1.4.2010.
- (v) Department of Fertilizers and Department of Agriculture and Cooperation jointly review the fertilizer availability with Agriculture departments of various States through Video Conference every week. The corrective actions, if required, are taken immediately to avoid any hardships to the farmers;
- (vi) Under NBS, Fertilizer companies are required to print Maximum Retail Price (MRP) alongwith applicable subsidy on each of the fertilizer bags clearly. Any sale above the printed MRP is punishable;
- (vii) Department of Fertilizers is having constant interaction with Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, GAIL and other suppliers of Natural Gas/Liquefied Natural Gas so that gas requirement of the fertilizers industry is met; and
- (viii) All possible steps are taken by the Department of Fertilizers to match the availability of fertilizers with the assessed requirement.

#### **Agriculture becoming a non-profitable occupation**

†\*71. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cost of production of agricultural products is constantly decreasing due to their increasing production in the last few years in the country;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.