

During the first year (2010-11) of implementation of NBS Policy, there was slight increase in MRP of P&K fertilizers. In the year 2011-12, inspite of increase in subsidy, the prices of P&K fertilizers in the country increased as a result of increase in international prices of fertilizers and its raw materials. The depreciation of Indian rupee further added to this increase. However, the prices have stabilized since 3rd quarter of the year 2011-12 and are expected to remain stable during the year 2012-13. Any favourable movement in the international prices or the exchange rate will result in further softening of retail prices in the country..

The NBS policy is applicable to all manufacturers or importers, uniformly. The impact of the policy may vary depending on their individual circumstances, and also the pricing and procurement decisions of various companies.

#### NCERT

\*417. DR. RAM PRAKASH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total budget allocated in current financial year for academic programmes of NCERT Headquarters;

(b) the total salary, TA/DA, etc. and expenditure incurred on academic staff of NCERT Headquarters during 2011-12;

(c) the total number of posts of Assistant Professors, Associate Professors and Professors filled in NCERT Headquarters as on date, category-wise and year-wise and number of vacant posts of these categories; and

(d) the total number of academic programmes finalized by NCERT for current financial year with proposed budget, number of participants and number of resource persons of each programme, department-wise and field-wise and academic programmes organised during the financial year 2011-12?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) The total budget allocated for the current financial year in respect of academic programmes of the NCERT Headquarters is Rs. 10.49 Crores.

(b) The details of salary, TA/DA etc. for the year 2011-12 in respect of academic staff of NCERT Headquarters is as under:

Basic Salary and Allowances	Rs. 14.42 Crores
TA/DA	Rs. 0.62 Crores

(c) The details in respect of posts of Assistant Professors, Associate Professors and Professors in NCERT Headquarters as on 30.04.2012 category-wise is as under:

Sl.No.	Category	Total number of posts	Filled	Vacant
1.	Professor	30	10	20
2.	Associate Professor .	70	43	27
3.	Assistant Professor	116	88	28

(d) 256 programmes are proposed to be conducted by NCERT during 2012-13 at a total cost of about Rs. 27.45 Crores. The numbers of participants and resource persons are decided and finalized at the time when the programme is conducted. 386 Academic Programmes were conducted by NCERT during 2011-12.

#### **Revival of closed units of chemical fertilizers**

†\*418. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether, even as Government is working to revive closed units of chemical fertilizers, there remains a predominant possibility of a major chemical disaster, given the antiquated and deplorable condition of machinery of these old and functional chemical fertilizer units;
- (b) the concrete measures taken by Government in this regard;
- (c) whether Government is going to frame any new policy in this regard; and
- d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA) : (a) to (d) There is no possibility of a major chemical disaster in the closed units of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFCL) and Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL), as the Government has proposed to revive these units by establishing new urea plant at each units. The new plants would be of latest technology and shall meet the international standards of safety. The Draft Rehabilitation Scheme (DRS) of HFCL and FCIL have been submitted to Board for Industrial Financial Restructuring (BIFR) for approval.

#### **R & D in agriculture and allied fields**

\*419. DR. T.N. SEEMA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total amount allocated and spent for Research and Development (R&D) in agriculture and allied fields, under the Centrally funded schemes, during the period from 2007-2012;

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.