

Express between Puri and Tatanagar *via* Keonjhar; and Bhubaneswar and Manmad (Shirdi) Express train, in Odisha?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MUKUL ROY) : There is no such proposal to introduce new trains between Visakhapatnam and Allahabad, Jajpur Keonjhar Road and Howrah, Bhubaneswar and Rourkela *via* Sambalpur, Puri and Tatanagar *via* Jajpur Keonjhar Road and Bhubaneswar and Manmad (Shirdi).

Extension of 18417/18418 Bhubaneswar-Jharsuguda Rajya Rani Express, (3 days a week), upto Rourkela has been announced in Railway Budget 2012-13.

Introduction of new train services including Superfast, Jan-Shatabdi, Inter-city and Express trains is an ongoing process subject to traffic justification, operational feasibility, availability of resources and competing demands.

Increase in prices of fertilizers

*256. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the steep increase in the prices of essential fertilizers regularly used by farmers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has formulated any action plan to help the farmers by checking the spiralling prices of essential fertilizers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Government has any plan to offer subsidy to farmers for purchasing fertilizers; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Government has implemented Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Policy for P&K fertilizers *w.e.f.* 1.4.2010. Under the NBS policy, a fixed subsidy on decontrolled P&K fertilizers is announced annually for each nutrient namely nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P), potash (K) and sulphur (S) on per kg basis, which is converted into subsidy per tonne depending upon the nutrient content in each grade of the fertilizers. The MRP (Maximum Retail Price) of P&K fertilizers is open and is allowed to be fixed by manufactures/importers at reasonable level, based on demand-supply dynamics.

The country is completely dependent on imports for Potassic Fertilizers and dependence to the extent of 90% in Phosphatic fertilizers. Any rise/fall in the

international prices of these fertilizers and their raw materials has direct bearing on the domestic retail prices. The prices of these fertilizers have registered a sharp increase in the international market and resultantly, fertilizer companies also increased their MRP in order to realize the increased cost of inputs. The depreciation of Indian Rupee against US\$ in the year 2011-12 has further added to this increase. However, the prices of P&K fertilizers have stabilized *w.e.f.* December, 2011. In spite of increase in prices, the farmers are paying only around 50% of the delivered cost of the P&K fertilizers and the rest of the cost is being borne by the Government of India in the form of subsidy. Further, Urea is made available to the farmers at fixed MRP of Rs. 5310 per Metric Tonne, which is much below its actual cost. The details of MRP of fertilizers during the current year are given in Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) The Government has formulated the following action plant to help the farmers by checking the spiralling prices of essential fertilizers:

- (i) The Nutrient Based Subsidy for the year 2011-12 has been increased as compared to that of the year 2010-11 keeping in view the international price trends of DAP, Urea, MOP and Sulphur.
- (ii) The Government also provides freight subsidy on fertilizers covered under the subsidy scheme.
- (iii) The Government announced 5% countervailing duty on all imported goods which was rolled back to 1% in case of fertilizers to reduce its impact on prices of fertilizers in the country.
- (iv) As per the NBS scheme, the market price of subsidized P&K fertilizers are open and fertilizer companies are allowed to fix MRPs at reasonable level. The fertilizer companies are regularly reporting the MRPs of fertilizers fixed by them through web based “Fertilizer Monitoring System”.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. A Task Force on direct subsidy in respect of Kerosene, LPG & Fertilizers has been set up under the chairmanship of Shri Nandan Nilekani, Chairman, Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) to examine and recommend a solution for transfer of subsidy directly to the consumers. The Task Force has given its Interim Report. In respect of fertilizers, the Task Force has recommended a three stage approach with respect to payment of subsidy directly to farmers. Phase-I is to capture the information on availability of fertilizers at the farm gate level, wherein the availability at the retailer level will be captured. In Phase-II, which will be implemented after the Phase-I stabilizes, the subsidy is expected to be transferred to the last point sale and in Phase-III, the subsidy is expected to be transferred directly to the intended beneficiary based on AADHAR Numbers.

Statement

The details of MRP of fertilizers during the current year

#	Finished Goods	MRP (in Rs. Per MT) for the period 2011-12										
		April 2011	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan. 2012	Feb.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1	DAP: 18-46-0-0	10750	12500	12500	12630	14354	18200	18300	18377	20297	20122.5	20100
2	MAP: 11-52-0-0						18200	18200	18200	20000	20000	20000
3	TSP : 0-46-0-0	8057	8057	8057	8057	8057	8057	8057	16000	17000	17000	17000
4	MOP : 0-0-60-0	6000	6006	6064	6300	6064	11300	11300	11300	12040	12080	12040
5	16-20-0-13	8954	6620	9645	10632	10988	14400	14653	14495	15300	15300	15300
6	20-20-0-13	11400	10488	10488	11087	11385	14800	14800	15542	15800	18511.65	15800
7	23-23-0-0	7445	7445	7445	7445	7445	7445	7445			14600	
8	10-26-26-0	10800	10880	10910	12096	12990	16000	16633	16633	16633	17642.61	17633
9	12-32-16	11200	11210	11313	12756	13086	16400	16400	16400	16500	16500	16619
10	14-28-14					13576	14950	14950	17028	17029	17028.71	
11	14-35-14	11337		11622	13365	13860	15148	15148	17424	17424	17424.14	17600
12	15-15-15	7690	5820	8200	8500	5820	11000	11000	15000	11500	12000	11500

Written Answers to

[30 MAR., 2012]

Shared Questions

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
13	AS: 20.6-0-0-23	7600	7600	7600	7600	7600	11300	11300	11300	10306	14100	10306
14	20-20-0-0	7990	9600	9861	10900	11077	14000	14135	14800	15500	15500	14800
15	28-28-0-0	11524		11810	14156	14278	15740	15740	18512	18512	18511.9	18700
16	17-17-17-0											17710
17	19-19-19											18093
18	SSP	3200	3200	3200	4000	4000	4000					
19	16-16-16-0	7100	7100	7100	7100	7100	7100	7100	6010	15200	15200	15200
20	DAP lite (16-44-0-0)			11760	12373	13400	17600	17820	19500	19500	19500	19500
21	15-15-15-09	8000	9300	8000	9700	10663	12900	14851	15000	15750	15600	15000
22	24-24-0-0	7768	9000	9000	10000	10800	11550	12455	14151	14151	14151	14297
23	NPK 13:33:0:6						16200	16200	16200	17400	17400	17400
24	MAPIlite (11-44-0-0)					16000	15700	15700		18000	18000	18000
25	DAPIlite (14-46-0-0)					14900	14900	14900		18690	18512	

The MRP is per records entered in FMS by the companies.

MRP is exclusive of Local taxes.

MRP of SSP during October, 2011 to February, 2012 has been Rs. 4000-6000 PMT.