

Since the country is dependent on imports of P&K fertilizers either in the form of finished fertilizers or its raw materials, the delivered prices of P&K fertilizers are dependent on international prices of P&K fertilizers and its raw materials and exchange rate of Indian Rupees against US\$. Subsidy being fixed on each grade of P&K fertilizers, any increase/decrease in the prices of fertilizers and its raw materials in the international market and exchange rate variation affect the MRPs of P&K fertilizers.

The prices of P&K fertilizers have increased mainly due to increase in international prices of these fertilizers which is not under control of the Government and due to depreciation of Indian Rupees.

The price of Urea is fixed by the Government and is available to the farmers at the MRP of Rs. 5310/- PMT.

(c) to (e) Steps are continuously taken by the Department for improvement in the system of delivery of fertilizers to the farmers. The following steps have been taken in the interest of ensuring adequate availability of fertilizers at affordable prices 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 as Fertilizer Monitoring System (FMS);
- (ii) The State Governments have been advised to instruct the State institutional agencies to coordinate with manufacturers and importers of fertilizers for streamlining the supplies;
- (iii) The regular weekly Video Conference is being conducted jointly by Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Department of Fertilizers, Ministry of Railways and Department of Shipping with State Agriculture officials and corrective actions are taken to despatch fertilizer as indicated by the State Governments.
- (iv) Fertilizer companies are required to print Maximum Retail Price (MRP) on the fertilizer bags clearly. Any sale above the printed MRP is punishable under the Essential Commodities Act.
- (v) State Governments as enforcement agencies are adequately empowered to check the irregularities.

As seen from the above steps, at present, there is no need to make changes in the policy of the distribution of fertilizers by the Department of Fertilizers.

#### **Allocation of gas to fertilizer sector**

813. SHRI KANWAR DEEP SINGH:  
SHRI N.K. SINGH:

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

- (a) whether Government plans to change the criteria of gas allocation to fertilizer sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether fertilizer sector is likely to be affected adversely by this move; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by Government to prevent a rise in prices of fertilizers due to this move?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) No, Sir. At present there is no plan to the Government to change the criteria of gas allocation to fertilizers sector.

(b) to (d) In view of (a) above, question do not arise.

#### **Irregularities in distribution of fertilizers**

814. DR. NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received complaints from various State Governments including Madhya Pradesh regarding irregularities in the distribution of fertilizers in the recent past;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps being taken by Government to check such irregularities and make fertilizers available to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. No such complaints of any irregularities in distribution of fertilizers have been received from the State Governments including Madhya Pradesh.

(c) Further, the following steps are being taken to check the irregularities and provide fertilizers to the farmers:—

- (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 as Fertilizer Monitoring System (FMS);
- (ii) The State Governments have been advised to instruct the State Institutional agencies to coordinate with manufacturers and importers of fertilizers for streamlining the supplies;
- (iii) Department of Fertilizers and Department of Agriculture and Cooperation are jointly reviewing fertilizer availability with State Agriculture department through Video Conferences every week. The corrective actions, if required, are taken immediately to avoid any hardships to farmers;