

Department of Fertilizers will ensure availability of Urea as per projected demand made by the State Government of Tamil Nadu for the Rabi Season.

Damage to crop due to spurious fungicides, etc.

977. SHRI G.N. RATANPURI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether use of spurious fungicides and substandard fertilizers has caused enormous damage to orchards of fruit crop in J and K this year;

(b) whether such instances of large scale circulation of substandard agricultural inputs and damage to crops has been reported from any other State; and

(c) the steps envisaged to eradicate menace of spurious fertilizers, fungicides and other inputs and punish the guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA) : (a) There is neither any report of spurious fungicides and substandard fertilizers in the State nor any damage to orchards of fruits crops in the State of Jammu and Kashmir due to such fungicides/fertilizer.

(b) For other States, information is being collected

(c) State Governments under extant rules and regulations like FCO, ECA etc. are adequately empowered to take necessary action against the people found indulging in such kind of activity.

Revival of fertilizer unit at Barauni

†978. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had decided to revive the closed fertilizer unit in Barauni and had started work after discussing with GAIL in this regard;

(b) whether it is a fact that no action has been taken so far to revive the closed fertilizer unit in Barauni; and

(c) by when Government would revive the closed fertilizer unit in Barauni?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.