

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI NIHAL CHAND): (a) Yes, Sir. The Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited (RCF) organizes Krishi Melas in various parts of the country for the benefit of farmers. Besides, it also participate in various Agriculture Exhibitions conducted by the State/District Administrations at district/Taluqa level.

(b) In the last one year, RCF participated in 74 Krishi Melas/ Agriculture Exhibitions in various States.

(c) In the last one year, RCF participated in two Agriculture Exhibitions of one day each at Vanwasi (Kurnool) organized by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kurnool and Anakapalle (Vizag) organized by Regional Agriculture Research Station, Anakapalle.

(d) RCF was able to create awareness among farmers about the efficient use of Nitrogen by introducing Neem coated urea and its benefits, increase response to the soil testing facilities offered by RCF and increase enquires about RCF's products, location retail points and product availability by participating in these Agriculture Exhibitions.

Domestic production of urea

†1873. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether domestic production of urea has declined in the country;
- (b) whether to compensate for the shortage in urea production, Government is importing urea from abroad, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is taking any steps to increase the domestic production of urea through the fertilizer companies in the country, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the reasons for declining urea production each year by fertilizer companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI NIHAL CHAND): (a) and (d) No, Sir. The domestic production of urea has not declined in the country as can be seen from the production details of last five years, given in table below:

	(Lakh MT)				
Year	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Urea Production	211.12	218.80	219.84	225.75	227.15

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) Yes, to meet the requirement of urea as projected by DAC, Government is importing urea. The details of urea Import in last five years is as follows:

[LMT]

Year	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Imported Urea	52.09	66.09	77.92	78.66	70.87

(c) Yes, Sir. The Department of Fertilizers had notified the New Investment Policy (NIP)-2012 on 2nd January, 2013 to facilitate fresh investment in urea sector in future and to reduce import dependency in the country. The policy provides for revamp, revival, brownfield projects and Greenfield projects in urea sector.

Apart from above, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) in August, 2011 had approved the Draft Rehabilitation Scheme (DRS) for revival of five Units of Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL) namely Sindri, Talcher, Ramagundum, Gorakhpur and Korba and three units of Hindustan Fertilizers Corporation Limited (HFCL) namely Haldia, Baruni and Durgapur. Three closed units of FCIL namely Sindri, Ramagundam and Talcher are being revived by the Public Sector Undertakings through nomination route. Remaining two closed units namely Gorakhpur and Korba of FCIL and three units of HFCL namely Barauni, Durgapur and Haldia of HFCL are to be revived through bidding route.

CCEA in its meeting held on 9.5.2013, *inter-alia*, approved waiver of Government of India loan and interest of FCIL to facilitate FCIL to arrive at positive net worth. This enabled FCIL to get de-registered from the purview of Board For Industrial and Financial reconstruction. CCEA has also directed that revival of HFCL will be taken up once revival of FCIL is on track. Government contemplates gainful utilization of the land and assets lying idle by setting up a minimum 1.15 million tonnes per annum urea plant at each of closed units of FCIL.

No time schedule has been fixed as yet, however, it takes normally around three years to fully operationalise a urea plant from its zero date. The estimated expenditure is expected to be ₹ 4700 crore for each plant.

There is also a proposal for setting up a new ammonia urea complex of minimum 8.646 Lakh Metric Tonne Per Annum (LMTPA) at a estimated cost of ₹ 4400 crores at Namrup within the existing premises of BVFCL on Public Private Partner (PPP) basis which subsequently replace the existing two uneconomical operating ammonia-

urea plants, Namrup-II and III. The project will be developed by a Joint Venture (JV) consisting of BVFCL, Government of Assam (GoA), Oil India Limited (OIL) and private/public entity. BVFCL (11%), GoA (11%) and OIL(26%) will be awarded equity in the project on nomination basis while private/public parties(52%) will be inducted through competitive bidding. BVFCL's share on equity shall be by way of transferring the useful and equivalent tangible assets to the proposed JV. The remaining Assets of BVFCL shall remain with BVFCL.

Allocation of fertilizers

†1874. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of demand made by Government of Bihar for allocation of urea and other fertilizers during the last three years; and
- (b) the reasons for non-allocation of fertilizers as per the demands of States by the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI NIHAL CHAND): (a) and (b) The month-wise demand is assessed and projected by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC) in consultation with the State Governments before commencement of each cropping season. On the basis of projection given by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Department of Fertilizers allocates sufficient/adequate quantity of fertilizers to the States.

It can be seen from the following table that availability against sales of Urea, DAP, MOP and NPK in the State of Bihar for the last three years had been adequate and comfortable.

(Lakh MT)			
Year	Requirement	Availability	Sales
Urea			
2011-12	20.75	18.17	18.12
2012-13	21.50	21.10	21.01
2013-14	21.50	18.77	18.71

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.