

(b) whether such cases have occurred in Chhattisgarh and any action has been taken against the manufacturing companies;

(c) whether it is a fact that 'Bhuramaho' and 'Katua' had adverse impact on paddy crop in Chhattisgarh, on which no insecticide was effective; and

(d) whether Government is paying special attention to ensure that farmers may adopt bio-pesticide measures instead of chemical pesticides?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) No such case has been reported by any State including Chhattisgarh.

(c) No Sir, there is no such report from the State Government of Chhattisgarh about adverse impact on paddy crop due to ineffectiveness of insecticides against these pests.

(d) Government is promoting use of bio-pesticides under the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach which employs cultural, mechanical and biological methods of pest control along with judicious use of chemical pesticides through Farmers Field Schools (FFSs) and various training programmes. Package of Practices for control of pests and diseases in 57 crops have been revised to include techniques to reduce dependence on chemical pesticides and encourage use of bio-pesticides. The procedure for registration of bio-pesticides under the insecticides Act 1968 has been simplified to facilitate introduction and availability of the bio-pesticides.

Impact of deregulation on price of urea

516. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any decision to deregulate urea, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government has studied the likely impact on the price of urea, if deregulate, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to ensure easy availability of urea at affordable price to farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) No, Sir. Department of Fertilizers (DoF) has no proposal to deregulate urea.

(b) In view of (a) above, the question does not arise.

(c) On the basis of Month-wise and State-wise projection given by Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC), Department of Fertilizer allocates sufficient/adequate quantities of fertilizers to States by issuing monthly supply plan and continuously monitors the availability through following system:

- (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) also called as Fertilizer Monitoring System (FMS).
- (ii) The State Governments are regularly advised to coordinate with manufacturers and importers of fertilizers for streamlining the supplies through timely placement of indents for railway rakes through their State institutional agencies like Markfed etc.
- (iii) Regular Weekly Video Conference is conducted jointly by DAC, DoF and Ministry of Railways with State Agriculture Officials and corrective actions are taken to dispatch fertilizer as indicated by the State Governments.
- (iv) The gap in the demand and domestic production of fertilizer is met through import.

Import of bulk drugs and API from China

517. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that during the past four years India has imported bulk drugs and Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (API) worth ₹ 38,186 crore from China;

(b) whether Government is also aware that this constitutes 80 per cent to 90 per cent of essential drugs;

(c) whether over dependence on China is causing huge drain on foreign exchange reserve at the cost of Indian pharmaceutical industries; and

(d) if so, by when India is expected to be self sufficient in production of bulk drugs and the steps taken by Government in this regard to reduce dependence on China?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) Yes, Sir.