

FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) Since the inception of Scheme (2008), only 176 Jan Aushadhi stores are opened across the country against which only 96 are functional as on date. Under the circumstances the scheme is being revisited to expand its reach out across the country.

Shortage of urea in Haryana and Punjab

527. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of urea in Haryana and Punjab and it is being sold on priority to influential farmers;

(b) whether private dealers force farmers to buy miscellaneous products along with urea;

(c) whether Government has conducted any study to ascertain the quantum of urea required to the farmers of Haryana and Punjab, and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to make available requisite quantity of urea to farmers of Haryana and Punjab?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The details of requirement, availability and sales of urea for the current year 2014-15 (upto January, 2015) for Haryana and Punjab are as follows:

(Figures in LMT)

Name of State	Requirement	Availability	Sales
Haryana	17.70	17.46	17.45
Punjab	23.65	23.59	23.58

As can be seen from the above table, the availability of urea in Haryana as well as in Punjab is adequate.

Regarding sales of urea to influential farmers on priority and forced selling of miscellaneous products along with urea, no such report has been received in this Department. It is also pertinent to mention here that Department of Fertilizers makes available fertilizers at State level and distribution within the State through cooperative sector or private sector or marketing federation is the responsibility of the concerned State Government.

(c) The assessment of the demand of fertilizers for any State, for each season, is finalized by Department of Agriculture and Cooperation in consultation with Department of Fertilizers, States, Railways, Fertilizer Association of India, and representatives of the fertilizer companies through biannual Zonal Conferences before start of each cropping season *i.e.* Kharif & Rabi. Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has already assessed the requirement of urea for the ensuing Kharif Season. The assessed requirements of urea for Kharif 2015, for Haryana and Punjab, are 8.10 LMT and 12.50 LMT respectively.

(d) On the basis of month-wise and State-wise projection given by DAC, Department of Fertilizers allocates sufficient/adequate quantities of fertilizers to all the States including Haryana and Punjab 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 Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC), Department of Fertilizers (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 imports.

Protection of data of individuals

528. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any steps to protect the data pertaining to individuals and their privacy in the country in view of the increasing data thefts using malware, if so, details thereof; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?