

Production of urea

1636. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that closure of various fertilizer units in the Public Sector has made serious dent in the production of Urea, which is at present 22 million tonnes whereas the domestic requirement of urea is 30 million tonnes; and

(b) if so, the step taken by Government to restart the closed urea manufacturing PSUs in order to fill up the gap of 8 million tonnes so that import of Urea can be reduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) As against the requirement of around 31.33 MMT during the year 2015-16, 22.47 MMT (upto February, 2016) of urea has been produced by urea manufacturing units and the gap is being met through imports.

A detailed note on the steps taken by Government to restart the closed units of the fertilizer PSUs given in the Statement [*Refer to the Statement appended to the U.S.Q. No. 1635 (part a to c)*].

Over-utilization of subsidized fertilizers

1637 SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of fertilizer subsidy disbursed during the last five years, year-wise, fertilizer-wise;

(b) the amount saved by Government in subsidy in recent years due to fall in prices of naphtha and gas;

(c) the steps being taken by Government to check over utilization of subsidized fertilizers and maintain soil quality along with money allocated for this;

(d) the steps taken by Government to improve domestic production of fertilizer;

(e) the steps taken by Government to move towards deregulation of price of urea?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) The amount of fertilizers subsidy provided by Government during the last five years, year-wise, fertilizer-wise, is as under: