

at Bengaluru in PPP mode. The Government of Karnataka has been requested for allotment of requisite land along with civil infrastructure which is awaited.

(b) and (c) Yes Sir. The e-waste recycling plant will become operational in about 03 months after the land and requisite civil infrastructure is provided by the Government of Karnataka.

Market-linking of fertilizer prices

2126. SHRI MANISH GUPTA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a policy for market-linking of fertilizer prices or whether any reforms in this sector are being considered, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether promoting private capex and encouraging proven private sector players is being thought of, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the role and extent of the private sector in fertilizer production and whether there is any proposal to revamp any existing fertilizer PSU in West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) and (b) Sir, as far as market-linking of urea prices is concerned, the MRP of urea is statutorily fixed by the Government. The MRP of 45 kg bag of urea is ₹242 per bag (exclusive of charges towards neem coating and taxes as applicable) and the MRP of 50 kg bag of urea is ₹268 per bag (exclusive of charges towards neem coating and taxes as applicable).

As far as market-linking of P&K fertilizers is concerned, the Government has implemented Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Policy *w.e.f.* 1.4.2010 for Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) Fertilizers. Under the NBS Policy, the Government announces a fixed rate of subsidy (in ₹ per Kg basis), on each nutrient of subsidized P&K fertilizers, namely Nitrogen (N), Phosphate (P), Potash (K) and Sulphur (S), on annual basis taking into account all relevant factors including international prices, exchange rate, inventory level and prevailing Maximum Retail Prices of P&K fertilizers. The per Kg subsidy rates on the nutrients N, P, K, S is converted into per Tonne subsidy on the various subsidized P&K fertilizers covered under NBS Policy. Under the Policy, MRP of P&K fertilizers has been left open and fertilizer manufacturers/marketers are allowed to fix the MRP at reasonable rates as per market dynamics. At present 21 grades of P&K fertilizers namely DAP, MAP, TSP, MOP, Ammonium Sulphate (produced by M/s FACT

and M/s GSFC), SSP and 15 grades of NPKS complex fertilizers are covered under the NBS Policy.

So far as reforms in fertilizer sector are concerned, the following reforms have been undertaken by the Department of Fertilizers in last 5 years:

- (i) Based on CCEA decision, vide notification dated 25th May, 2015 Department of Fertilizers had made it mandatory for all the domestic producers of urea to produce 100% as Neem Coated Urea, with the objective of promoting the balanced use of fertilizers. Entire quantity of indigenously produced urea and imported urea is being neem coated *w.e.f.* 1st Sept., 2015 and *w.e.f.* 1st Dec, 2015 respectively.
- (ii) Based on CCEA decision, *vide* notification dated 4th Sept., 2017, the Government of India has introduced 45 kg bag of urea in place of 50 kg bag of urea in order to reduce the consumption of urea.
- (iii) The Department of Fertilizers has also implemented Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) System across all States/UTs *w.e.f.* March, 2018. Under DBT system, 100% subsidy on various fertilizer grades is released to the fertilizer companies, on the basis of actual sales made by the retailers to the beneficiaries through Point of Sale (PoS) devices installed at each retailer shop and the beneficiaries are identified through Aadhaar Card, Kisan Credit Card, Voter Identity Card etc.

(c) Sir, As far as the role and extent of the Private Sector in Fertilizer production is concerned, Private Sector is producing 44.46% of total Urea Production; 56.58% of Di Ammonium Phosphate(DAP) of the total DAP production; and 57.49% of Complex Fertilizers of the total Complex Fertilizers produced in 2019-20 (upto Oct., 2019). The details of the same as well as the production of Private Sector 2015-16 onward upto Oct. 2019 is given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below).

As far proposal to revamp any fertilizer PSU in West Bengal is concerned, at present, there is no proposal under consideration of Government of India to revamp any existing fertilizer PSU in West Bengal. However, CCEA in its meeting held on 04.08.2011 approved revival of closed units of FCIL and HFCL. Presently Barauni unit of HFCL and Sindri, Gorakhpur, Ramagundam and Talcher units of FCIL are being revived. Decision on revival of Haldia and Durgapur units of HFCL would be taken after viewing the progress of revival of above mentioned units of FCIL/HFCL, based on the assessment of demand-supply gap of urea in the country.

Statement*Details of extent of the private sector in fertilizer production*

(Production in 'LMT')

Year	Urea			DAP			Complex Fertilizers		
	Total Production	Private Sector Production	%age of Private Sector	Total Production	Private Sector Production	%age of Private Sector	Total Production	Private Sector Production	%age of Private Sector
2015-16	244.75	104.60	42.74	37.87	21.14	55.82	83.01	48.07	57.91
2016-17	242.01	103.79	42.89	43.65	25.78	59.06	79.66	44.44	55.79
2017-18	240.23	106.72	44.42	46.50	27.03	58.13	82.57	52.42	63.49
2018-19	240.00	100.80	42.00	38.99	24.80	63.61	89.98	56.18	62.44
2019-20 (Upto Oct. 19)	138.28	61.48	44.46	25.52	14.44	56.58	51.42	29.56	57.49