GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 534 TO BE ANSWERED ON: 05.02.2021

Authorizing private fertilizer importers

534 DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has authorized any private companies to import fertilizer s from abroad;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has put in place any mechanism to monitor the activities of private fertilizer importers to ensure timely supply to farmers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS

(SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA)

(a) & (b): Urea is the only fertilizer under statutory price control and its import for direct agriculture use is permitted through State Trading Enterprises (STEs) namely MMTC Limited (MMTC), Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers (RCF) and State Trading Corporation Limited (STC) under the Foreign Trade Policy of the Government.

Import of fertilizers (other than Urea) is free, commonly known as Open General Licence (OGL). Various fertilizer companies import these grades of fertilizers as per their commercial judgment.

(c) & (d): Department of Fertilizers (DoF) has developed an IT enabled system viz., Integrated Fertilizer Management System (iFMS), which captures end to end details of Fertilizer in terms of Production, Movement, availability, requirement, Sale, Subsidy Bill Generation to Subsidy payment to fertilizer companies. The iFMS system can be accessed at http://mfms.nic.in/. Concerned stakeholders like DoF, State Agriculture Departments, District Collectors, Fertilizer Companies are all provided with separate user passwords for operating and monitoring purposes. Few features of iFMS portal are as below:

- > Real time, online tracking of fertilizer movement, along the plant/port-rake point-district-wholesaler-retailer chain.
- Real time Fertilizer availability data at State, district, wholesaler & retailer level.
- Real time tracking of sale of fertilizers at subsidized rates to farmers through PoS devices.
- A complete end to end transaction visibility of fertilizers starting from import/production till sales to farmers.

Department has also developed a dashboard which can be accessed at https://urvarak.nic.in. The dashboard is developed to facilitate easy monitoring by various Stake holders viz. State Agriculture Departments, District Collectors and State Marketing Federations. The Dashboards provide various reports viz.,

- > Top 20 buyers (State wise, District wise)
- Frequent buyers (State wise, District wise)
- > The retailers not selling fertilizer through PoS devices
- Stock as on Today
- Stock Availability: at port, plant, in states, product and period-wise (month, year etc.)

The State Governments are also monitoring the availability and supply of fertilizers through these portals.

(e): Question does not arise
