

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 328 TO BE ANSWERED ON : 21.07.2023

Prices of fertilizers

328. SHRI KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL;

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken any policy measures to control the prices of fertilizers and ensure their easy availability for farmers in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether efforts have been made by the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers in collaboration with other Ministries to make fertilizers easily available to the farmers; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS
(SHRI BHAGWANTH KHUBA)

(a) to (d) : Yes Sir, Urea is provided to the farmers at a statutorily notified Maximum Retail Price (MRP). The MRP of 45 Kg bag of urea is Rs. 242 per bag (exclusive of charges towards neem coating and taxes as applicable). The difference between the delivered cost of urea at farm gate and net market realization by the urea units is given as subsidy to the urea manufacturer/importer by the Government of India. Accordingly, all farmers are being supplied urea at the subsidized rates.

As far as P&K fertilizers are concerned, Government has implemented Nutrient Based Subsidy Policy w.e.f. 1.4.2010 for Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) Fertilizers. Under the policy, a fixed amount of subsidy, decided on annual/semi-annual basis, is provided on subsidised P&K fertilizers depending on their nutrient content. Under this policy, MRP is fixed by fertilizer companies as per market dynamics at reasonable level which is monitored by the Government. Accordingly, the latest subsidy rates for P&K fertilizers under the NBS Scheme are as under:

| S. No | Nutrients | NBS rates for Kharif 2023 (Rs. Per kg of nutrient) (from 1.4.2023 to 30.9.2023) |
|--------------|------------------|--|
| 1. | N | 76.49 |
| 2. | P | 41.03 |
| 3. | K | 15.91 |
| 4. | S | 2.80 |

Following steps are taken by the Government every season to meet the adequate and timely requirement of fertilizers in the country.

- i. Before the commencement of each cropping season, Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (DA&FW), in consultation with all the State Governments, assesses the state-wise & month-wise requirement of fertilizers.
- ii. On the basis of requirement projected, Department of Fertilizers allocates sufficient/ adequate quantities of fertilizers to States by issuing monthly supply plan and continuously monitors the availability.
- iii. The movement of all major subsidized fertilizers is monitored throughout the country by an on-line web based monitoring system called integrated Fertilizer Monitoring System (iFMS);
- iv. 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.
- v. Regular Weekly Video Conference is conducted jointly by DA&FW and DoF with State Agriculture Officials and corrective actions are taken to dispatch fertilizer as indicated by the State Governments.
- vi. The gap between demand (requirement) and production for Urea & other fertilizer is met through imports. The import for the season is also finalized well in advance to ensure timely availability.
