

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 04.12.2009
ANSWERED ON
OBJECTIVE OF FERTILIZER SUBSIDY .

1678

Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad

Will the Minister of COALCOAL AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether objective of providing subsidy on fertilizers is to promote agricultural production;
- (b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;
- (c) whether agricultural production has increased by 8.37 per cent and there has been growth of 6.92 per cent in production rate during 2001-2002 to 2007-2008;
- (d) if not, the facts in this regard;
- (e) whether it is also a fact that there has been increase of 214 per cent in subsidy amount during the said period; and
- (f) if not, the facts in this regard and whether it is also a fact that the agricultural sector is not getting the advantage of subsidy?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION)

(SHRI K.V. THOMAS)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. Providing subsidy on fertilizers is one of the objectives to promote application of fertilizers to enhance agricultural production.

(c) & (d): Yes, Sir. The foodgrain production during the period from 2001-02 to 2007-08 increased by about 8.42%. The per hectare foodgrain yield also increased from 1734 kg in 2001-02 to 1860 kg in 2007-08, the increase being about 7.27%.

(e) & (f): The increase in fertilizer subsidy has been about 241% during the period. The requirement of fertilizers subsidy during last few years has risen sharply, partially due to increase in consumption of fertilizers and mainly due to sharp increase in price of fertilizer inputs and finished fertilizers.