

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1619 TO BE ANSWERED ON : 10.12.2024

Import dependency ratio for key fertilizers

1619. SHRI KARTIKEYA SHARMA:

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

- (a) the current import dependency ratio for key fertilizers (Urea, DAP, MOP, and NPK complexes) and whether any time-bound targets have been set up by the Ministry to reduce this dependency, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the specific measures taken by the Ministry to enhance fertilizer supply chain resilience of the country, amidst the global supply chain disruptions, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Ministry is planning to expedite the establishment of more fertilizer production facilities in Haryana to tap its unrealised potential, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS

(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a): Based on production and import figures for 2023-24, the import dependency for Urea, DAP, MOP, and NPK complexes is approximately 18.31%, 56.46%, 100% and 13.15% respectively.

Under New Investment Policy (NIP), to facilitate fresh investment in the urea sector and to make India self-sufficient, 6 new urea units have been set up with a production capacity of 12.7 Lakh MT each. Further, an exclusive policy for the revival of Talcher unit of FCIL through JVC of nominated PSUs namely Talcher Fertilizers Limited (TFL) by setting up a new Greenfield urea plant of 12.7 LMTPA at coal gasification route has also been approved. In addition, the Government also notified the New Urea Policy (NUP) – 2015 on 25th May, 2015 for the existing 25 gas-based urea units with one of the objectives of maximizing indigenous urea production. These steps together have facilitated increase of Urea production from level of 225 LMT per annum during 2014-15 to a record Urea Production at 314.09 LMT during 2023-24.

In case of Phosphatic & Potassic fertilizers (P&K), the companies are free to import /produce fertilizer raw materials, intermediaries and finished fertilizers as per their business dynamics. Based on the requests, the new manufacturing units or

increase in manufacturing capacity of existing units have been recognized / taken on record under the NBS subsidy scheme, with a view to boost manufacturing and make country self-reliant in fertilizer production. Further, to promote Potash derived from Molasses (PDM) which is 100% indigenously manufactured fertilizer, it has been notified under Nutrient based subsidy (NBS) regime w.e.f 13.10.2021. Also, freight Subsidy on SSP, which is an indigenously manufactured fertilizer, has been made applicable since Kharif 2022 to help in promotion of SSP usage for providing Phosphatic or “P” nutrient to the soil. These steps have facilitated increase in production of P&K fertilizers from 159.54 LMT in 2014-15 to 182.85 LMT in 2023-24.

(b): To ensure timely and adequate supply of fertilizers in the country, 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. 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. 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). Regular Weekly Video Conference is conducted jointly by DA&FW and D/o Fertilizers with State Agriculture Officials and corrective actions are taken to dispatch fertilizers as indicated by the State Governments. The gap between demand (requirement) and production of fertilizers is met through imports. The import for the season is also finalized well in advance to ensure timely availability.

However, distribution of fertilizers within the state at district level is the mandate of the State Government.

(c): Based on the request, M/s MD Biocoals Pvt Ltd, Sirsa, Haryana has recently been recognized under Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Scheme as manufacturer of Potash Derived from Molasses (PDM).
