

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 229 TO BE ANSWERED ON: 11.12.2018

IMPORT OF UREA

229 DR. C. GOPALAKRISHNAN:

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

- (a) whether the import of Urea on Government Account is channelized through State Trading Enterprises;
- (b) if so, the number of names of State Trading Enterprises and import of Urea through such Enterprises during the last three years, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has taken initiatives to reduce the import of Urea; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS

(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

(a) & (b) : Yes Madam, Urea for direct agriculture use is imported on Government account through State Trading Enterprises (STEs) namely MMTC Limited (MMTC) and State Trading Corporation Limited (STC) under the Foreign Trade Policy of the Government. Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers (RCF) and National Fertilizers Limited (NFL) also imported urea for a limited time period and IPL has been de-listed from the list of STEs by DGFT.

STEs import urea on Government account at various Indian ports from where, it is distributed to the consuming States. STEs do not import State-wise. Import of urea during the last three years by the STEs is as below:

<Figures in Lakh MT>

Year	STC	MMTC	IPL	NFL	RCF
2015-16	19.94	16.76	27.26	N/A	N/A
2016-17	14.06	16.35	4.37	N/A	N/A
2017-18	0.00	13.13	17.31	4.01	4.37

(c) & (d): With the objectives of maximizing indigenous urea production; promoting energy efficiency in urea production; and rationalizing subsidy burden on the Government, vide notification dated 25th May, 2015, Department of Fertilizers has notified New Urea Policy – 2015 (NUP-2015) effective from 1st June, 2015. NUP-2015 has resulted in additional production of 20 LMT during the year 2015-16, without adding any capacity. The production of urea during the year 2015-16 was 244.75 LMT, i.e., the highest ever urea production in the country. The production of urea during the year 2016-17 and 2017-18 was 242.01 LMT and 240.23 LMT respectively. This is significantly higher than the production of urea during 2012-13 (225.75 LMT) and 2013-14 (227.15 LMT).

Further, the Government had announced New Investment Policy – 2012 on 2nd January, 2013 and its amendment on 7th October 2014 to facilitate fresh investment in urea sector and to make India self-sufficient in the urea sector.

Under the provisions of NIP – 2012 and its amendment, Matix Fertilisers & Chemicals Limited (Matix) has set up a Coal Bed Methane (CBM) based Greenfield Ammonia-Urea complex at Panagarh, West Bengal with the installed capacity of 1.3 MMT per annum. Chambal Fertilizers & Chemicals Limited (CFCL) has to set up a brownfield project with capacity of 1.34 MMT at Gadepan, Rajasthan.

Besides this, GoI is reviving 5 closed fertilizer plants of Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCIL) and Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFCL) namely Talcher, Ramagundam, Gorakhpur and Sindri plants of FCIL and Barauni plant of HFCL by setting up new Ammonia Urea plants of 12.7 LMT per annum capacity each using state of the art technology.
