

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS  
DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. +3231  
TO BE ANSWERED ON : 01.01.2019

Shortage of Mineral Fertilizer

+3231. SHRI JUGAL KISHORE:

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

- (a) whether there is shortage of all types of mineral fertilizers and the country is dependent on imports of raw material for such major fertilizers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to build a consortium of public and private companies to overcome the said shortage and for import and acquisition of mineral resources from abroad; and
- (d) if so, the details of the steps taken/ being taken by such consortium in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

(a) to (d): Yes, Madam. Due to constraints in the availability of Natural Gas in the country, which is the preferred feed stock for production of nitrogenous fertilizers, a part of Urea requirement of the country is imported by the Government through State Trading Corporations. Similarly, there is a near total dependence on imports for Phosphatic fertilizer and its raw materials and full import dependence for Potash. However, Government does not import any fertilizer raw material required for production of fertilizers. But, almost all P&K fertilizer producing companies are using imported Rock Phosphate, Potash, Phosphoric Acid etc. for production of P&K fertilizers due to non-availability/shortage in the country.

There is no such proposal at present to constitute any such consortium of public and private companies. However, Government has been encouraging Indian Companies to establish Joint Ventures abroad in Countries which are rich in fertilizer resources for production facilities with buy back arrangements and to enter into long term agreement for supply of fertilizers and fertilizer inputs to India. Further, the Department is also working with the goal of having access to acquisition of the fertilizer raw materials abroad. Consortium of Indian Companies (PSUs/Private/Cooperatives) is constituted on project basis based on the requirements of the companies and prospective offerings from the JV partners.

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