

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4197
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07th JANUARY, 2019

EXPORT OF FERTILIZERS

4197. SHRI RAGHAV LAKHANPAL:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री)** be pleased to state:

- whether there have been reports of clandestine export of fertilizers to neighbouring countries;
- if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and
- the mechanism being devised by the Government to prevent such incidents in future?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सी. आर. चौधरी)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (c) Government of India has declared fertilizer as an essential commodity under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955(ECA) and notified Fertilizer (Control) Order (FCO), 1985 & Fertilizer (Movement Control) Order, 1973 under the EC Act. The Department of Fertilizers, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers has informed that the State Governments have been adequately empowered to check smuggling of fertilizers and the State Governments are empowered to conduct search, make seizures and take punitive action against any person violating provisions of FCO, 1985 and Essential Commodities Act, 1955. Details of seizure of fertilizers along Indian Borders during the last three years and current year upto 30.11.2018 by the Border Guarding Forces of all land borders, collected by Ministry of Home Affairs and as reported by the Department of Fertilizers, are as follows:-

India-Pakistan and India-Bangladesh Border:

Particular	Year 2015	2016	2017	Fertilizers seizure (in KG)
				2018 (Up to 30.11.18)
Seized	7749	587	1515	557

Indian-Nepal and Indo China Border:

Particular	Year 2015	2016	2017	Fertilizers seizure (in KG)
				2018 (Up to 30.11.18)
Seized	2,23,250	70,650	64,300	36,987

India-Bhutan Border:- Nil.

India-Myanmar Border:-

Particular	Fertilizers seizure (in KG)			
	Year 2015	2016	2017	2018 (Up to 30.11.18)
Seized	12,000	Nil	Nil	1,100

It has also been informed by the Department of Fertilizers that the Ministry of Home Affairs through the Border Guarding Forces' have taken the following measures to check cross border smuggling along Indian Borders (IB) :-

- (a) Vulnerability mapping of Border Out Posts (BOPs) has been done and being reviewed from time to time from the point of view of cross-border crimes. Strengthening of BOPs is done by deploying additional manpower, special Surveillance, Equipment, vehicles and other infrastructure support.
- (b) Effective domination of the borders by carrying out round the clock surveillance of the border viz patrolling, laying nakas, establishing of observation posts all along the IB and strengthening of existing defences of the BOPs.
- (c) Erection of Border fencing and Installation of Border floodlight on the International Border along Pakistan and Bangladesh Borders.
- (d) Use of Water crafts/boats and floating BOPs for domination of riverine area along India-Pakistan and India-Bangladesh Border.
- (e) Sharing of intelligence and close liaison with sister agencies.
- (f) Conduct of special operations along the border and in-depth areas. Introduction of Force multipliers and Hi-tech Surveillance equipment.
- (g) Random checking and nakabandi to check illegal activities.
