GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3921 TO BE ANSWERED ON: 24.03.2023

Supply of Fertilizers

3921: SHRI RAMESH CHAND BIND: SHRI R.K. SINGH PATEL:

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

- (a) the details of initiatives taken by the Government in the last three years to improvise supply of fertilizers to farmers, State-wise including Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) whether the Government has taken any initiative to strengthen the current supply chain and distribution system to ensure hassle-free supply of fertilizers to farmers in the country, particularly in aspirational districts in Uttar Pradesh;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has fixed any target to reduce the utilization of chemicals fertilizers in agricultural sector in Uttar Pradesh; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER MINISTER OF STATE FOR CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI BHAGWANTH KHUBA)

(a) to (c): The following steps are taken by the Government every season to meet the adequate and timely requirement of fertilizers in the country:

i. 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.

ii. 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.

iii. 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); iv. The State Governments are regularly advised to coordinate with manufacturers and importers of fertilizers for streamlining the supplies through timely placement of indents for railway rakes.

v. Regular Weekly Video Conference is conducted jointly by DA&FW and DoF with State Agriculture Officials and corrective actions are taken to dispatch fertilizer as indicated by the State Governments.

vi. The gap between demand (requirement) and production for Urea & other fertilizer is met through imports. The imports are planned well in advance to ensure timely availability.

vii. It is the mandate of the State Government to ensure comfortable availability of fertilizers within the states.

Further, fertilizers are distributed through various dealers/retailers in the State. State Governments are empowered to register the number of dealers/retailers to operate in a state based on the requirement for efficient distribution of fertilizers to farmers. In regards to Uttar Pradesh, the State Government has informed that Fertilizers are being supplied by the Government of India to the State Government as per the demand assessed based on the requirement of the farmers. In order to ensure comfortable availability of UREA, DAP, NPK at the time of peak demand for the year 2023-24, a target has been set for prepositioning of 06.00 lakhs metric ton of UREA and 05.00 lakhs metric ton of DAP/NPK stock through Provincial Cooperative Federation, which will be sold through cooperative societies in UP including aspirational districts.

On the basis of the average daily sales of the districts for a week, the districts with low availability are identified and fertilizers are supplied on priority.

At the district level, a committee has been constituted under the chairmanship of the District Magistrate to review the easy availability/supply of fertilizers according to the regional requirement.

(d) & (e): As informed by the State Government of Uttar Pradesh, no target has been set to reduce the use of chemical fertilizers. However, to promote balanced use of fertilizers, farmers are being made aware through seminars and farmer's schools. Apart from this natural farming and organic farming programs such as Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojna, Mamami Gangey, etc. have been implemented that aims at promotion of organic, bio-fertilizers and reduction in use of chemical fertilizers.
