

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS & PETROCHEMICALS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 1856
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.03.2020**

Production and Sale of Acids

**1856. SHRI SUNIL DATTARAY TATKARE:
DR. DNV SENTHILKUMAR S:
SHRI SHIVAKUMAR C. UDASI:
DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE:**

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

- (a) whether Government has assessed the production and sale of acid in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of statistical data of production and sale of acid in the country during each of the last three years;
- (c) the details of private and public sector manufacturers producing acid in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether any modification is being made in the regulation of acid sales to make retailers more responsible for the stocks and sales of acid and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has undertaken any measures to counter the inevitable cropping up of a black market of acid; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken against retailers who indulge in black marketing of acids?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA)

(a) to (b) The chemical sector is de-licensed except a few hazardous chemicals and there are many acids produced in huge quantity mainly for various industrial uses in the country. Since the chemical sector is de-licensed, production of acids is not monitored.

(c) The units in small, medium and large scale sectors are being set up by entrepreneurs based on techno economic feasibility for various chemicals after getting all relevant clearances including environmental clearances from concerned State/ Central authorities.

(d) to (f) The Poisons Act, 1919 is administered by Ministry of Home Affairs. They have circulated the Model Poisons Rules on 30th August 2013 to all States/UTs for notifying the same to regulate the sale of acid in respective State/UT. Necessary advisory along with the Model Poisons Rules, 1919 were also issued to all States and UTs. Clause 7 of the Poisons Act, 1919 provides that “the District Magistrate, the Sub-divisional Magistrate and, in a presidency-town, the Commissioner of Police, may issue a warrant for the search of any place in which he has reason to believe or to suspect that any poison is possessed or sold in contravention of this Act or any rule thereunder, or that any poison liable to confiscation under this Act is kept or concealed.”

Further ‘Police’ and ‘Public Order’ are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The responsibilities to maintain law and order, protection of life and property of the citizens rests with the respective State Governments. The State Governments are competent to deal with such offences under the extant provisions of laws.
