

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 1347  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.02.2021**

**Gap in the Demand and Production of Chemicals**

**1347: SHRI PATEL HASMUKHBHAI SOMABHAI:**

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

- (a) whether there is a huge time gap between demand and actual production or excess production of basic chemicals like Caustic Soda, soda ash, Sulfuric Acid, Sulfur etc in the country ;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the quantum of demand and excess production of the above chemicals during the year 2018-19 and 2019-20 along with the estimated quantum of demand and supply for the current year, State-wise ?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (c) Many basic chemicals are produced in the country. D/o Chemicals & Petrochemicals monitors major basic chemicals such as caustic soda and soda ash. For caustic soda, adequate domestic installed capacity is available and demand is met mostly through domestic production. For soda ash, there is adequate domestic installed capacity. However, there is some gap between demand and actual production of soda ash.

The quantum of installed capacity, demand and production of caustic soda and soda ash during the year 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 (estimated) is as under:

(Value in MT)

Product		2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 (Estimated)
Caustic Soda	Demand	2961454	3258788	3376000
	Production	2925352	3136937	3256000
	Installed capacity	3397340	3700340	4544000
Soda Ash	Demand	3826321	3779386	3875000
	Production	3048187	3069431	3125000
	Installed capacity	3489000	3614000	4240000

Sulfuric Acid and Sulfur installed capacity, demand and production are not monitored in the Department. Import and Export of Sulfuric Acid & Sulfur is as under:

	Export Quantity (MT)		Import Quantity (MT)	
	2018-19	2019-20	2018-19	2019-20
Sulfuric Acid	124740	51383	1477940	1986614
Sulfur	477583	798307	1316724	1194887

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