

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1722 TO BE ANSWERED ON: 11.02.2022

Black Marketing of Fertilizers

**1722: DR. MOHAMMAD JAWED:
SHRI MALOOK NAGAR:
SHRI BALUBHAU ALIAS SURESH:
NARAYAN DHANORKAR:**

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

- (a) whether any protest by the farmers have been reported due to shortage of fertilizer in Bihar and if so, the action taken by the Government to alleviate this crisis at the earliest;
- (b) whether the Government has proposed to procure and provide subsidised or free fertilizer to the affected farmers during the rabi season owing to shortage of fertilizers and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government also proposes to provide financial or material compensation to the farmers injured during the stampede taken place in Araria district, Bihar for getting fertilizer and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government is aware of the black marketing of fertilizers in various districts of Bihar and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether any measures have been taken or specific policy framed to regulate the illegal sale and black-marketing of fertilizers and if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE & CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
(DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)

(a) & (b): No Sir. Adequate quantity of fertilizer are available in the state of Bihar. However, in between the ongoing Rabi 2021-22 season, State Govt. highlighted shortfall of DAP fertilizer, particularly in few districts. Accordingly, based on the request of State Government, DAP rakes were moved to meet the requirement.

(c): As per the report from the State Government of Bihar, the incidence took place in Araria district due to random gathering at retail point. However, there is no case of severe injury reported and all the farmers were reported to be safe.

(d): Yes Sir. As per the report received from the State, Government of Bihar has taken various steps under Zero Tolerance Policy to ensure timely availability of fertilizer at right price. Strict action is being taken against the guilty fertilizer dealers/company/officers and staff. The district wise detail of raids/inspection conducted in Rabi Season 2021-22 & actions taken are as follows:

No. of Raids	FIR lodged	Licence cancelled	License suspended	Show Cause notices issued
5553	133	263	75	246

(e): Government of India has declared fertilizer as an essential commodity under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and notified Fertilizer Control Order, 1985 and Fertilizer (Movement Control) Order, 1973. State Governments have been adequately empowered to ensure selling of fertilizers at MRP besides stopping black marketing/smuggling of fertilizers. State Governments are adequately empowered to conduct search, make seizures and take punitive action against any person violating provisions of Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and Fertilizer Control Order 1985.

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