

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2182 TO BE ANSWERED ON: 29.07.2022

Smuggling of Neem Coated Urea

**2182: SHRIMATI QUEEN OJA:
DR. BHARATIBEN DHIRUBHAI SHIYAL:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Neem Coated Urea was/is being smuggled into the neighboring countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the amount of loss in revenue incurred annually by the Government due to such smuggling;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps to prevent the smuggling of Neem Coated Urea into neighboring countries; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the number of cases which have come to the notice of the Government during the last one year?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): Fertilizers are declared as essential commodity under Essential Commodities Act, 1955 (EC Act) and a strong enforcement mechanism is in place under Fertilizer Control and Movement orders (FCO&FMO) to stop any possible diversion of fertilizers. State Governments are adequately empowered under the act to take punitive action against any person violating its provisions and involved in hoarding, diversion etc.

Special Flying Squads constituted at GoI/ State level conduct surprise inspections/ raids on suspected industries/entities to stop any diversion of urea to non-agriculture purpose and immediate action is initiated against erring companies/individuals as per the provisions of EC Act and Prevention of Black marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act. 1980.

In addition, a robust IT enabled system –Integrated Fertilizer Management System (iFMS) is developed by Department of Fertilizers to capture end to end details of Fertilizers in the supply chain. This system helps all stakeholders such as GoI, States, district level officers and fertilizer companies in continuous monitoring of Production, requirement, availability, Movement, and sale of fertilizers at field level.

Apart from it, regular directions are issued to State Governments to increase the check and vigilance at our borders to prevent diversion of urea and other fertilizers to neighbouring countries.
