

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.811
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07/02/2025

**REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
SECTOR**

811 SHRI DILESHWAR KAMAIT

Will the Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers be pleased to state :-

- a. the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government towards strengthening the regulatory framework for the chemicals and fertilizers sector in the country;
- b. whether there has been an increase in export of chemicals and fertilizers during the last five years; and
- c. if so, the details thereof, year-wise?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS

(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a) The Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare has notified Insecticides Act, 1968 for the regulation of import, manufacture, sale, transport, distribution and use of insecticides with a view to prevent risk to human beings or animals and for matters connected therewith.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has notified that Manufacture, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemicals Rules, 1989 (MSIHC) and subsequent amendments thereof, wherein, hazard criteria, viz. toxicity, flammability and explosiveness has been defined to identify hazardous chemicals used in industrial processes. The Chemical Accident Emergency Planning, preparedness and Response Rules, 1996 (CAEPPR Rules, 1996) have also been notified to complement MSIHC Rules, 1989 and provide statutory backup to crisis management set up in the country with four-tier system at Central, State, District and Local Level. Further, Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) has vide Notification G.S.R 1030(E) dated 1.11.2016 published "Regulation of Lead Contents in Household and Decorative Paints Rules, 2016". India is also a signatory to Stockholm Convention. Consequently, MoEF&CC vide Notification G.S.R. 207(E) dated 5.03.2018 has prohibited

manufacturing, trade, use import and export of the following seven Persistent Organic Chemicals (POPs) listed in Annex A of the Stockholm Convention :

- Chlordecone;
- Hexabromobiphenyl;
- Hexabromodiphenyl ether and heptabromodiphenyl ether (commercial octa- BDE);
- Tetrabromodiphenyl ether and pentabromodiphenyl ether (commercial penta- BDE);
- Pentachlorobenzene;
- Hexabromocyclododecane; • Hexachlorobutadine.

The Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals is enforcing mandatory BIS Standards for selected chemicals and petrochemicals. This measure ensures that both imported and domestically produced chemicals meet stringent quality parameters, preventing the use of hazardous and substandard products. By making these standards compulsory under Section 16 of the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 2016, the initiative aims to protect human, animal and plant health, ensure environmental safety, prevent unfair trade practices, and enhance national security. D/o Chemicals & Petrochemicals has notified 75 Quality Control Orders (QCOs) for Chemicals & Petrochemicals so far.

In respect of fertilizer sector, to ensure the availability of good quality of fertilizer to farmers, the Government of India has declared the fertilizers as an essential commodity and promulgated the Fertilizer Control Order (FCO), 1985. The FCO regulates the supply, distribution and quality of fertilizers. Under the Order, the specification of various fertilizers has been specified in respective schedules. FCO strictly prohibits the sale of fertilizers which are not in conformity with the prescribed standard. Any violation of the provisions of FCO attracts both penal action under Essential Commodity Act as also administrative action under FCO.

(b) & (c) Yes, the exports of chemicals and fertilizers during the course of last five years has increased. The figure of exports for chemicals and fertilizers including organic and inorganic chemicals (Customs Tariff Head 15,26,28,29,32- 38) as well as Fertilizers (CTH code 31) for financial year 2019–20 was US\$ 22172 Millions. This figure has since increased to US\$ 29442 Million in the financial year 2023-24, representing a growth of 32.7%.
