

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:79  
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2005  
SHORTAGE OF PHOSPHORIC ACID  
Mallikarjunaiah Shri S.

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

- (a) whether production of fertilizers in the country is insufficient to meet the indigenous demand resulting in large scale import of the same;
- (b) if so, whether raw materials like phosphoric acid is not sufficiently available for production of fertilizer as a result of which the farmers are not able to meet their requirement; and
- (c) if so, the action taken/ proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (c) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 79 to be answered on 28.11.2005.

(a) to (c) The country has achieved near self-sufficiency in terms of establishment of production capacity in respect of nitrogenous and phosphatic fertilizers. Urea is presently the only fertilizer under statutory price and partial movement control. All other fertilizers have been decontrolled.

As far as urea is concerned the highest ever production was achieved in the last year, which is estimated to be further exceeded in the current year. However, due to sharp increase in demand, imports are also being made to ensure that the demand is adequately met.

The production, in so far as phosphatic fertilizers are concerned, is dependent upon availability of imported raw material and intermediates in adequate quantities and at competitive prices. Although the imports of phosphatic raw material and intermediates are de-canalised and freely allowed, during the current season there have been difficulties in the adequate availability of phosphoric acid which is an essential intermediates for phosphatic fertilizers. This has resulted in lower production of DAP and consequent higher imports. However, it is being ensured that adequate quantities of fertilizers are available and for this purpose, apart from direct import by fertilizer manufacturers the Govt. is also maintaining a buffer stock of imported DAP to off-set any shortfall in production and availability.

The requirement of potassic fertilizers is met entirely through imports and adequate quantities of the same are available.

The Government of India is closely monitoring the demand and supply position of all major fertilizers in close coordination with the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation and State Governments.