

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:15

ANSWERED ON:19.11.2009

IMPORT OF FERTILIZERS

Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari;Thol Shri Thirumaavalavan

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

- (a) the quantum and value of different fertilizers imported during each of the last three years and the current year, fertilizer-wise;
- (b) the name of the companies which imported the fertilizers alongwith the names of the countries from which the fertilizers have been imported;
- (c) whether fertilizers were imported recently due to shortage of such fertilizers in the country:
- (d) if so, whether any checking is done at any level relating to the standard of fertilizers being imported; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT KUMAR JENA)

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

Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 15 to be answered on 19.11.2009 regarding 'Import of Fertilizers'.

(a) & (b) Urea is the only fertilizer under statutory price control and it is imported for direct agriculture use on Government account through State Trading Enterprises (STEs) i.e. MMTC, STC and IPL to bridge the gap between assessed demand and indigenous production. Government is also importing approximately 19 LMT urea from Oman India Fertiliser Company (OMIFCO) under Long Term Urea Off Take Agreement (UOTA) between GOI & OMIFCO. The year wise import of urea on Government account during the last three years and during the current financial year (upto 31.10.2009) along with weighted average C&F price and value in US \$ is given below: -

Year	Imports from OMIFCO (Oman)	Imports through STEs	Total
	Qty. In lakh MT	Weighted Value	
	Weighted Average	Average	in million US\$
	In Average	MMTC	STC
	lakh MT	C&F price	IPL
	in US\$	US\$ per MT	TOTAL
	per MT		C&F price
2006-07	18.37	168.66	12.47
2007-08	18.91	180.10	27.76
2008-09	19.06	232.79	11.58
2009-10	12.26	177.91	10.27
(till 31.10.2009)			0.22
			10.01
			20.50
			277.41
			786.81

STEs have already contracted for nearly 32 lakh tonnes of urea for the current year till date. Out of which, 20.50 LMT has already arrived upto October 09 and the balance quantity is expected to reach during November 09 & December 09.

Fertilizers other than Urea are imported under Open General Licence (OGL). Importers import these fertilizers as per their commercial judgment. However, Government is paying subsidy on these fertilizers under Concession Scheme. The details of DAP & MOP imported company wise during last three years and in the current year (upto 31.10.2009) are at Annexure 1 & 2.

The countries from where the fertilizers have been imported during the last three years are Australia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, China, Canada, Chile, CIS, Egypt, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Latvia, Libya, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mexico, Oman, Qatar, Romania, Russia, S. Arabia, S. Africa, Spain, Turkey, Tunisia, Thailand, UAE, USA and UK.

(c):Yes, Sir. Fertilizers are being regularly imported in the country to bridge the gap between assessed requirement projected by Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC) and indigenous production in the country. The quantum of fertilizer imports varies from year to year. Almost entire requirement of phosphatic & potassic fertilizers is met through imports either by way of import of raw material or finished fertilizers. In case of urea the country was nearly self sufficient from 1998-99 to 2004-05. The import of urea was either nil or very nominal during these years. The import of fertilizers has been increased during the last three years due to good monsoon and sudden spurt in demand.

(d) & (e) Yes, Sir. At the time of discharging of fertilizers at Indian ports, fertilizer inspectors of Central Government inspect and collect samples of the material for checking its quality at the Central Fertilizer Quality Control Laboratory & Training Institute (CFQC & TI) Faridabad and its 3 Regional Laboratories situated in Mumbai, Vizag and Kalyani (West Bengal). As per information given by Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Government of India the total number of samples collected by the CFQC & TI for the three major imported fertilizers i.e. Urea, DAP & MOP were 344 in 2006-07, 504 in 2007-08, 660 in 2008-09 and 314 in 2009-10 (upto 31.10.2009). As per report one sample of DAP shipments was found to be not conforming to particle size specification during the year 2008-09. On the request of M/s IPL who was importer in this case, the second sample was analysed which conformed to particle size specification as per FCO but was found non standard in respect of nutrient contents. As the analysis of the samples showed different results, the matter is under consideration by Department of Agriculture & Cooperation for taking a final view. Further action will depend on the decision of Department of Agriculture & Cooperation.