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Title: Regarding giving permit to MCF plant to start the Urea production using naphtha

*SHRI NALIN KUMAR KATEEL (DAKSHINA KANNADA): Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Union Government towards the need to permit MCF to start Urea production. Mangaluru Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited is the only Urea production plant in Karnataka. It is a Naphtha based Urea production plant. The previous UPA Government had issued a notification to switch over from Naphtha based Urea production to LNG based one to reduce subsidy burden of the government. The MCF has invested over RS. 305 crores to convert it into gas based plant. Now the MCF plant is fully equipped to receive the Gas and start manufacturing urea using gas. But LNG (Liquified Natural Gas) is not made available to the plant due non-completion of pipeline connection work. Now MCF is forced to produce urea using Naphtha as there is no gas connectivity till date. Otherwise MCF is to be closed down from April 16th 2015 as per the deadline given by the Union Government. If the MCF is closed down the livelihood of more than 2000 employees would be affected. It would lead to shortage of Urea for farmers as the khariff sowing season is approaching and it would also affect the agriculture production of the state and the country as well. Therefore I humbly request the Union minister for Fertilizer and Chemicals and also the Union Government to take immediate step to permit the MCF plant to start the Urea production using naphtha. Thank you.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: *m02 Shrimati Shobha Karandlaje is permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Nalin Kumar Kateel.