

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 350 TO BE ANSWERED ON: 06.02.2024

Procedure for certifying fertilizers

350 SHRI AYODHYA RAMI REDDY ALLA:

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

- (a) the specific quality standards and parameters for fertilizers and their enforcement;
- (b) the processes and procedures for testing and certifying fertilizers, including the role of Government labs; and
- (c) the measures to handle non-compliance or substandard fertilizers and protect farmers from poor-quality products?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): Fertilizer is declared as an essential commodity and is notified under Fertilizer Control Order, 1985 and Fertilizer (Movement Control) Order, 1973. State Government are adequately empowered under FCO to stop diversion of fertilizers for non-agriculture purposes and to take punitive action against any person / Fertilizer company involved in black marketing/smuggling of fertilizers violating the provisions of Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and Fertilizer Control Order, 1985(FCO).

The specifications of Chemical fertilizer, Bio-Fertilizer, Organic fertilizers, Non-edible Deoiled cake fertilizers and Nano fertilizer are prescribed in Schedule I, III, IV, V and VII of FCO respectively. The Method of analysis/testing of fertilizers has also been prescribed in various Schedules of FCO, 1985. The Inclusion of new fertilizers, their specifications and their method of testing are prescribed on the recommendation of Committee –“Central Fertiliser Committee”, constituted under the provision of FCO. The Committee examines the proposal by taking into consideration the Agronomic efficacy data etc of newly proposed fertilizer products and accordingly makes their recommendation.

Further, there are 83 fertilizer-testing laboratories in the country including four laboratories of Central Government with annual analyzing capacity of 186600 for 2022-23. These laboratories test the Fertilizer samples drawn by the Fertiliser Inspectors.

Fertilizer Flying Squad of Department of Fertilizers along with State Governments carries out regular joint inspections of fertilizer and related plants and based on the inspection reports, the appropriate State Government initiates further necessary action in terms of provisions contained in the Fertilizer Control Order, 1985 and Fertilizer (Movement Control) Order, 1973 read with the Essential Commodities Act 1955.
