

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS  
DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 838 TO BE ANSWERED ON: 03.12.2024**

**Duplicate and substandard fertilizers**

**838: SHRI DHANANJAY BHIMRAO MAHADIK:**

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

- (a) the measures that are being taken by Government to address the widespread presence of duplicate and substandard fertilizer in the Indian market;
- (b) whether Government is raising awareness among farmers regarding the risks associated with low-quality fertilizers and ways to avoid counterfeit products and if so, the details thereof; and;
- (c) whether there is a system in place for farmers to report suspected low-quality or counterfeit fertilizers and if so, the actions being taken upon receiving such complaints?;

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS

**(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

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(a) to (c): Fertilizer Control Order (FCO)-1985 has laid down fertilizer-wise detailed specifications. Any fertilizer, not meeting the said specifications, cannot be sold in the country for agricultural purpose. Clause 19 of FCO strictly prohibits the sale or manufacture of fertilizers which are not of prescribed standards. Any sale of duplicate/substandard/counterfeit fertilizers is punishable under Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

Moreover, quality control of fertilizers comes under the purview of State Governments. In order to regulate the sale of duplicate fertilizers in the State, there is a District Quality control mechanism for awareness & vigilance at the field level and awareness is spread among the farmers on the regular basis through press note, TV talks, Kishan Gosti, Krushimela, Krushi Mahotsav etc.

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