

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS

RAJYA SABHA

UN-STAR RED QUESTION NO. 3547 TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.03.2026

Streamlining fertilizer regulations

3547. Shri Jaggesh:

Will the **Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is drafting changes to streamline approvals and reduce compliance bottlenecks in the fertilizer industry;
- (b) whether Government proposes to decriminalize minor violations and rationalize penalties under the existing fertilizer regulatory framework;
- (c) whether Government has held consultations with industry stakeholders regarding legal hurdles and inspection-related challenges in the sector;
- (d) whether Government is considering measures to reduce routine inspections and promote third-party accreditation to improve ease of doing business in the fertilizer sector; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a) to (e) In order to ensure timely availability of good quality of fertilizer at a reasonable rate, the Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Government of India promulgated the Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985 (FCO) under Essential Commodities Act. FCO regulates the quality, distribution, Price etc. States are adequately empowered to enforce the provision of FCO. Specifications of chemical fertilizers, bio fertilizers, organic fertilizers, de-oiled cakes and bio-stimulants are prescribed in Schedule I, III, IV, V and VI respectively. The method of analysis of chemical fertilizers is prescribed in schedule II.). Clause 19 of Fertilizer Control Order, 1985 strictly prohibits the sale of fertilizer, which are not of prescribed standards.

Any violation of the provision of FCO invokes both penal action under Essential Commodities Act, 1955 of punishment for a period from 3 months to 7 years and administrative action under FCO, 1985. Under FCO there are 84 fertilizer testing laboratories with annual analyzing capacity of 1.86 lakh samples. Further, no proposal for the change in FCO is under consideration in this regard by Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare.
