

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS
RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2579 TO BE ANSWERED ON: 11.08.2026

Controlling the quality of fertilizers and preventing misuse

2579. SHRI NARESH BANSAL

SHRI BRIJ LAL

SHRI MITHLESH KUMAR:

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

- (a) the details of the initiatives taken by the Government to promote the efficient use of nutrients through the introduction of new fertilizer products;
- (b) the details regarding the production, distribution, and adoption of sulfur-coated urea (Urea Gold) since its launch; and
- (c) the details regarding the implementation of mandatory neem coating of urea and the benefits derived therefrom?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS

(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a): Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) promotes efficient fertilizer use through soil test-based nutrient management, Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), and balanced fertilization to enhance nutrient-use efficiency, sustain crop productivity, and maintain soil health. The Council has developed General Fertilizer Recommendations (GFR) based on the Soil Test Crop Response (STCR) approach and site-specific nutrient management technologies for precise fertilizer application. ICAR also continuously evaluates and validates new fertilizer products under diverse agro-climatic conditions before recommending their use. These include nitrification inhibitors (e.g. Agrotain®/urease inhibitor technologies), nano fertilizers, water-soluble fertilizers, customized fertilizers, fortified fertilizers, liquid fertilizers, biofertilizers, organo-mineral fertilizers, and other alternative nutrient sources, with a focus on improving nutrient-use efficiency, reducing nutrient losses, and enhancing fertilizer-use efficiency.

(b): The details of production and sales of Sulfur-coated urea (Urea Gold) since its launch are placed at **Annexure**.

(c): It is mandatory for all the domestic producers and importers of Urea to supply 100% Neem Coated Urea (NCU) since 2015 onwards. One of the primary benefits of Neem Coating is that due to slow release, the consumption of NCU reduces as compared to normal Urea, improving crop uptake, and reducing environmental losses. Research findings indicated that the average yield enhancement due to use of NCU is 8.25%. Further, application of NCU, significantly reduced the nitrogen losses by about 10%-15%.

Neem-Coated Urea (NCU) acts as an effective nitrification inhibitors, leading to higher soil $\text{NH}_4^+\text{-N}$ and lower $\text{NO}_2\text{-N}$ compared to prilled Urea, though their performance varies with soil type, crop, and region. Several studies have shown that NCU increases nitrogen availability, reduces NO_3 leaching, and minimizes NH_3 volatilization losses. Research across different soils consistently reports higher nitrogen recovery, improved yield at lower N application rates, and reduced nitrogen losses.

Annexure

Annexure referred to in reply to part (b) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question no. 2579 for answering on 11.08.2026

Sl. No.	Name of the company	Year wise production (in MT)				Total production till date (in MT)	Year wise sale (in MT)				Total sale till date (in MT)
		2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27 (till July, 2026)		2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27 (till July, 2026)	
1.	RCF	3791.720	26115.102	10104.560	7122	47133.382	3288	25595	11087.72	3045.52	43016.24
2.	NFL-Panipat	NIL	24	463	NIL	487	NIL	10	380	NIL	390
3.	NFL-Nangal	NIL	NIL	201	NIL	201	NIL	NIL	108	NIL	108