

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION AND FARMERS WELFARE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 309**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 15<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2020

**ADULTERATED FERTILIZERS & PESTICIDES**

309. SHRI UTTAM KUMAR REDDY NALAMADA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a): the number of cases of fake or adulterated fertilizers and pesticides being sold to farmers every year in the last five years;
- (b): the number of convictions for such cases;
- (c): the details of the quantum of punishment for such crimes;
- (d): the details of the kind of testing undertaken by the Government to ensure the quality of pesticides and fertilizers, including the number of samples of fertilizers as well as pesticides tested every year for the last five years; and
- (e): the number of factories in the country that produce fertilisers and the number of factories that produce pesticides?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (e): **Fertilisers:**

Under the Fertiliser (Control) Order, 1985 (FCO), the State Governments are empowered to appoint Fertiliser Inspectors for enforcement of the provisions of FCO. The Fertiliser Inspectors are empowered to draw the samples and send the same for testing to the laboratories notified/specified under FCO, 1985. There are 83 Fertiliser testing laboratories in the country. These labs are carrying out analysis as per the procedure prescribed in Schedule II of the FCO.

Violation of the provision of the FCO invokes both administrative action under the FCO and penal action under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 (ECA). The punishment prescribed for violation of the provision of the Order issued under the ECA is for a term which shall not be less than 3 months but which may extend to seven years and shall also be liable to fine.

Contd....2/-

As per the information made available by the State Governments, the details of the number of fertilizer samples declared non-standard during the last five years are as under:

S.No.	Year	No. of sample analysed	No. of sample found non-standard	Percentage of sample of non standard
1.	2015-16	131785	6486	4.9
2.	2016-17	137080	7265	5.3
3.	2017-18	138602	7102	5.1
4.	2018-19	138700	7150	5.1
5.	2019-20	145194	7466	5.1

Out of the above cases, prosecution has been launched in 1096 cases and conviction has been awarded in 5 cases. (as exported by states).

There are around 45 major fertiliser manufacturing units in the country.

**Pesticides:**

As per the Insecticides Act, 1968, for monitoring of quality of pesticides, 191 and 10303 Insecticides Inspectors have been notified by the Central & State Governments respectively. Samples are collected by these Insecticides Inspectors and tested in 70 State Pesticide Testing laboratories and 2 Regional Pesticide Testing Laboratories. Action is initiated under the provisions of the Insecticides Act, 1968 against those samples which are found misbranded.

During the last 05 years, 3,38,182 samples were analyzed, 3971 prosecutions have been launched against firms and dealers whose samples were found sub-standard.

Hon'ble Court has convicted the firms and imposed fines ranging from Rs.3000 to Rs. 1,40,000 in 189 cases.

As per the information received from 21 State Governments and 2 UTs, there are 2403 pesticides manufacturing units in the country.

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