

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3410 TO BE ANSWERED ON: 08.08.2025

Sale of Counterfeit Fertilisers

3410: DR. PRABHA MALLIKARJUN:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of recent incidents of fake or substandard fertilisers being sold to farmers in the State of Karnataka, including Haveri district, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any mechanisms are currently in place to detect and prevent the circulation of counterfeit fertilisers in rural markets, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has issued any guidelines for timely compensation and quality control after such incidents, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether there is any plan to strengthen fertiliser quality testing, shop inspections and digital tracking to prevent such risks in vulnerable districts of Karnataka including Davanagere?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS

(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a) State Government of Karnataka has informed that few instances of fake or substandard fertilizers being sold to farmers has come to the notice of the Government. In the current year, 05 cases/FIRs have been filed in the State. 02 FIRs are filed for sales of fake fertilizers in Bagalkot district (92/2025 and 125/2025) while 01 FIR (114/2025) and 02 cases are booked (CC No. awaited) for sale of substandard fertilizers in Haveri district of the State.

(b) 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 substandard/fake/adulterated fertilizers is punishable under Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

Moreover, in order to regulate the sale of fake/adulterated 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.

Furthermore, the State Government of Karnataka has informed that under the direct supervision of Secretary (Agriculture), Vigilance wing headed by Additional Director of Agriculture is in place and assisted by Joint Directors of Agriculture at four revenue sub divisions (Bengaluru, Mysuru, Belagavi and Kalaburgi) of the State.

(c) and (d) As per the information received from State government of Karnataka, no such guidelines have been issued. However, 7 Fertilizer Control Laboratories are notified for testing fertilizer samples in the State out of which 6 are NABL accredited. Further, notified inspectors of the State and Davanagere district inspect dealers/ manufacturing units/godowns in their jurisdiction on regular basis and take legal actions against the sale of fake/substandard fertilizers as per the provisions of the Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985.
