

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS

LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO.189* TO BE ANSWERED ON: 12.12.2025

SHORTAGE OF FERTILIZER IN KERALA

189*: SHRI K SUDHAKARAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the frequent and acute localized shortages of non-urea fertilizers, specifically Muriate of Potash (MOP) and NPK Complex Fertilizers, reported by farmers and plantation sectors in Kerala during peak application seasons, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the reasons for the observed price spikes in non-urea fertilizers, despite the existing subsidy mechanisms and the steps taken to stabilize the market prices of MOP and NPK Complex Fertilizers to ensure affordability for the sensitive plantation economy of Kerala;
- (c) whether the Government has received reports concerning the alleged diversion of highly-subsidized Urea for non-agricultural or industrial purposes within Kerala, thereby exacerbating the shortages for legitimate farmers; and
- (d) if so, the measures proposed to be implemented by the Government to address supply chain bottlenecks, prevent diversion of subsidized fertilizers and to ensure timely and adequate supply to the agricultural retail points across the State, district-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS AND HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE

(SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 189* FOR 12.12.2025 REGARDING “SHORTAGE OF FERTILIZER IN KERALA” TABLED BY SHRI K SUDHAKARAN.

(a) The availability of non-urea fertilizers viz. DAP, MOP and NPKS has remained adequate in the State of Kerala during the ongoing Rabi 2025-26 season and in Kharif 2025 season. The information regarding requirement, availability, sales and closing stock of these fertilizers in Kerala during these 2 seasons is shown in the table given below:

I. RABI 2025-26 (TILL 08.12.25)

<ALL FIG. IN MT>

S.NO	PRODUCT GROUP	PRO- RATA REQUIREMENT TILL 08.12.2025	AVAILABILITY TILL 08.12.2025	DBT SALES TILL 08.12.2025	CLOSING STOCK AS ON 08.12.2025
1	DAP	3,367	7,410	5,590	1,820
2	MOP	26,011	34,610	19,790	14,820
3	NPKS	31,387	56,310	32,260	24,050

II. KHARIF 2025

S.NO	PRODUCT GROUP	SEASONAL REQUIREMENT	AVAILABILITY	DBT SALES	CLOSING STOCK
1	DAP	12,000	17,500	11,130	6,370
2	MOP	40,020	57,360	46,910	10,450
3	NPKS	69,000	89,280	64,230	25,050

Further, following steps are taken by the Government every season for ensuring timely and adequate availability of fertilizers in the country, including the State of Kerala:

- (i) Before the commencement of each cropping season, Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (DA&FW), in consultation with all the State Governments, assesses the State-wise & month-wise requirement of fertilizers.
- (ii) On the basis of requirement projected by DA&FW, D/o Fertilizers allocates adequate quantities of fertilizers to States by issuing monthly supply plan and continuously monitors the availability.
- (iii) The movement of all major subsidized fertilizers is monitored throughout the country by an on-line web-based monitoring system called integrated Fertilizer Management System (iFMS).

(iv) The State Governments are regularly advised to coordinate with manufacturers and importers for streamlining the supplies through timely placement of indents.

(v) Regular coordination meetings are held with Ministry of Railways for giving sufficient rakes, priority to fertilizers and for timely evacuation of rakes for States.

However, the assessment and distribution of fertilizers within the State at district level is done by the concerned State government.

(b) The Government has implemented Nutrient Based Subsidy Scheme w.e.f. 01.04.2010 for Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) Fertilizers. Under NBS Scheme, MRP of P&K fertilizers are decontrolled and companies are free to fix MRP as per their business dynamics at a reasonable level. The Reasonability Guidelines dated 15.11.2019 and 18.01.2024 have been issued to ensure reasonableness of MRPs of P&K fertilizers fixed by the companies. The NBS subsidy is provided to manufacturer/importer on notified P&K fertilizers on its PoS sale during the season, depending on their nutrient content to ensure availability of fertilizers to farmers. The volatility in international prices of key fertilizers and raw materials is considered while fixing NBS rates for P&K fertilizers so that fertilizers remain affordable to the farmers. NBS scheme is implemented on pan-India basis including the State of Kerala and no regional differentiation is made.

(c) & (d) In order to address the issues such as diversion, hoarding, black-marketing and over-pricing, fertilizers are declared as an essential commodity under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and notified under Fertilizer Control Order, 1985. State Governments are empowered to take action against persons involved in said malpractices, as per provisions of EC Act. Any complaints received at Department of Fertilizers level regarding these malpractices is sent to concerned State Government to take appropriate action under Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and Fertilizer Control Order, 1985. Accordingly, the details regarding enforcement measures taken by the State of Kerala, as informed by them, from 01.04.2025 to 28.11.2025, to curb these malpractices, including diversion of subsidized fertilizers, is placed at **Annexure.**

Annexure

Annexure referred to in reply to part (c) & (d) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No 189 for answering on 12.12.2025

Cumulative Statement from April 25 to November 25 (as on 28.11.2025)																	
Action taken by the State Government of Kerala to check black marketing, hoarding, quality check, diversion etc from 01.04.2025 to 28.11.2025																	
		Black Marketing			Hoarding			Sub Standard Quality			Diversion			Conviction with details*	Toatal		
States	No. of Inspections /raids	Show cause notice issued	No. of licenses cancelled/ su -spended	FIR registered	Show cause notice issued	No. of licenses cancelled/ su -spended	FIR registered	Show cause notice issued	No. of licenses cancelled/ su -spended	FIR registered	Show cause notice issued	No. of licenses cancelled/ su -spended	FIR Registered		Show cause notice issued	No. of licenses cancelled/ suspended	FIR registered
Kerala	1299	0	0	0	0	0	0	48	0	0	4	0	3	NIL	52	0	3