

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS & PETROCHEMICALS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3502
ANSWERED ON 13/03/2026

ESTABLISHMENT OF QUALITY TESTING FACILITIES

3502. SHRI MADDILA GURUMOORTHY:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the growing concerns among the farming community regarding the quality and adulteration of pesticides and fertilizers being used for various crops, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is a fact that fertilizers with similar chemical composition are sold under multiple trade names with widely varying prices, leading to confusion and exploitation of farmers, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to regulate such trade practices and ensure uniformity and transparency in branding and pricing of fertilizers and pesticides, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to establish fertilizer quality testing laboratories in the country, State-wise, including a dedicated facility in Tirupati district, Andhra Pradesh; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS

(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a) to (c): The manufacture, import, storage, sale, distribution and use of pesticides are regulated by the Insecticides Act, 1968 and the Insecticides Rules, 1971 made thereunder, which are being administered by the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare through Central Insecticide Board and Registration Committee (CIB&RC). The CIB&RC registers pesticides for use in the country only after ensuring their safety and efficacy. This ensures safe and effective pesticides are available to farmers under the provision of the said Act. CIB&RC, while registering the pesticides stipulates that details of doses, crops, precautionary measures, antidotes etc. may be given on label and leaflets. The existing regulatory framework under Insecticides Act provides a systematic mechanism for evaluation and registration of pesticides in the country. Further, the Act also includes enforcement provisions.

In order to ensure supply of quality fertilizers, the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare under Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare is administering the Fertilizer (Inorganic, Organic or Mixed) Control Order (FCO), 1985 under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. The FCO strictly prohibits the manufacture/sale of fertilizer which are not of prescribed standards. The FCO also regulates pricing of fertilizers to

ensure equitable distribution and availability at fair prices to farmers. In addition, the FCO also includes enforcement provisions.

Further, the Government of India has implemented One Nation One Fertilizers (ONOF) scheme vide notification dated 24th August, 2022 by introducing Single Bharat brand and logo for fertilizers. The scheme is a part of “Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janurvarak Pariyojna” which is an umbrella scheme for fertilizers subsidy. The objective of ONOF is to ensure that there is no confusion amongst farmers with respect to different brands for the same fertilizer. Presently, all the fertilizers such as Urea, Diammonium Phosphate, Muriate of Potash & NPK, are dispatched under the Bharat brand.

(d) to (e): To ensure quality of fertilizers in the country, at present, there are 84 Fertilizer Quality Control Laboratories notified by Central and State governments, under the FCO. Out of these, 4 laboratories are under control of Central Government. These are Central Fertilizer Quality Control & Training Institute, located at Faridabad, Haryana; Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra; Chennai, Tamil Nadu and Kalyani, West Bengal. The remaining 80 laboratories are under the control of different State Governments. In case of Andhra Pradesh, the State Government has notified Fertilizer Quality Control Laboratories at Anantpur, Bapatla and Tadepalligudam.
