

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1389
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 28TH JULY, 2026

DISCREPANCY IN FERTILIZER QUALITY TESTING

1389. DR. BACHHAV SHOBHA DINESH:

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

(a) whether the Government is aware of cases where State-level Fertilizer Control Laboratories and Central testing facilities such as the National Test House have given contradictory findings on the same fertilizer sample, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the procedure and prescribed timeline under the Fertilizer Control Order, 1985, for third-party re-verification when such a discrepancy arises;

(c) whether any data is maintained on cases where an initial "non-standard" finding was later overturned on re-verification during the last three years and if so, the number of such cases, year-wise; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to reduce delays in re-verification, particularly where farmer compensation claims are contingent on the outcome?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) to (c): As per existing provision of Fertilizer Control Order (FCO), 1985 which was amended on 13-12-2024, out of the three samples collected by the Fertiliser Inspectors, one sample is given to the dealer or importer or manufacturer or pool handling agency or marketer as the case may be and the second sample is sent to the in-charge of the laboratory and the third sample is kept in the custody of designated authority appointed by the State Government.

In case the sample is reported as non-standard then within a period of fifteen days from the receipt of the report, the dealer or manufacturer or importer or pool handling agency or marketer, as the case may be, will have to apply to the designated authority appointed by the State Government for re-testing along with the prescribed fee and the sample provided to him by the Fertiliser Inspector. The designated authority of the State Government shall immediately send any of the two samples that is one submitted by the dealer or manufacturer or pool handling agency or importer or marketer and other lying in its custody to the National Test House (NTH), Ghaziabad Coding centre for testing at any of its Centre at Kolkata, Mumbai, Chennai, Jaipur and Ghaziabad for second analysis.

The report of National Test House shall be treated as final and in case there is variance in first and second analysis report that is the sample reported as non-standard in different parameters, then the designated authority of state Government shall *suo motto* send the sample lying in their possession for third analysis at Central Fertiliser Quality Control and Training Institute, (CFQCTI), Faridabad and the analysis report of the Institute shall be treated as final:

However, if the dealer or manufacturer or pool handing agency, as the case may be, does not apply within the stipulated period of fifteen days then the report of first analysis shall be final. In case where the sample reports that is first analysis report and second analysis report are declared as non-standard in a common parameter, in such case, there shall not any third analysis and the report of the second analysis shall be treated as final.

The detail of samples received and test results for 2nd analysis by NTH and 3rd analysis by CFQC&TI are as under-

	Details of 2nd analysis by NTH			Details of 3rd analysis by CFQCTI		
Year	No. of Samples received	No. of Samples found standard	No. of Samples found non standard	No. of Samples received	No. of Samples found standard	No. of Samples found non standard
2025-26	3906	2128	1778	1078	215	863
2026-27 (Upto June 2026)	578	321	257	223	51	172

(d): Under clause 30 of FCO, 1985, the time limit is prescribed for analysis and communication of results. As per this clause, for 2nd testing, the designated officer of State Government shall send the sample for analysis at NTH, within a period of three working days from the date when the concerned manufacturer, dealer, importer, pool handling agency or marketer applied for referee analysis. NTH shall analyse the sample within a period of fifteen days from the date of receipt of sample in the laboratory and also communicate the results. In case samples failed in different parameters, the designated officer of State Government within three working days shall send the sample to Central Fertiliser Quality Control and Training Institute, Faridabad for third analysis. The laboratory shall analyse the sample within a period of fifteen days from date of receipt and communicate the results to concern designated authority of State Government, within a period of three working days from the generation of report. The designated officer of State Government shall communicate the result to the concerned party within the period of three working days from the date of receipt of report.
