

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:376

ANSWERED ON:19.08.2010

SEIZURE OF NON-STANDARD FERTILIZERS

Pratap Narayanrao Shri Sonawane;Singh Smt. Meena

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

- (a) whether some factories producing non-standard fertilizers were caught in the country recently including in Malegaon and Dhule in Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the estimated market value of the non-standard fertilizers seized from those factories;
- (d) the action taken by the authorities against such factories; and
- (e) the steps being taken by the Union Government to check sale of non-standard fertilizers in the country ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZER (SHRI SRIKANT KUMAR JENA)

(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (e) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 376 to be answered on 19-08-2010.

(a): No, Madam. There are no licenced fertilizer factories located at Malegaon and Dhule in Maharashtra as informed by the Government of Maharashtra.

(b) to (d): Does not arise.

(e): To ensure adequate availability of right quality of fertilizers to the farmers at reasonable prices, the Government of India has declared fertilizer as an essential commodity under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and notified Fertilizer Control Order, 1985.

The quality of fertilizers is regulated under the Fertilizer Control Order, 1985. The State Governments are adequately empowered to take appropriate action against the sale of non-standard fertilizers.

As per the provision of the Fertilizer Control Order, 1985, Fertilizers, which meet the standards of quality laid down in the order can only be sold to the farmers. The penal provision include prosecution of offenders with upto seven years imprisonment under the ECA, 1955 besides cancellation of authorization certificate and other administrative action. There are 71 fertilizer testing laboratories including four laboratories of the Government of India at Faridabad, Kalyani, Mumbai and Chennai with an annual analyzing capacity of 1.34 lakh samples. During the year 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09, the percentage of samples of fertilizer declared non-standard at all India level were 6.9%, 6.2% and 5.5% respectively.