

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2700  
ANSWERED ON:29.03.2012  
SUB-STANDARD UREA  
Ram Shri Purnmasi

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

- (a) whether sub-standard urea is being provided to the farmers damaging their agricultural produce;
- (b) if so, whether the fertilizer quality testing infrastructure in the country is grossly inadequate;
- (c) if so, the reasons thereof;
- (d) the number of samples of urea fertilizer tested and found sub-standard during the last three years; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to check marketing of sub-standard urea?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION  
AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT KUMAR JENA)

(a)to(c): No large scale cases of sale of sub-standard urea has been reported and also no case of incurring losses by the farmers have been brought to notice. There are 74 notified fertilizer quality control laboratories in the country including 4 laboratories of the Government of India i.e Central Fertilizer Quality Control & Training Institute (CFQC&TI, Faridabad and its regional labs at Kalyani, Mumbai and Chennai with an annual analyzing capacity of 127930 samples per annum.

(d): The number of urea samples analyzed and found non-standard during last three years are as under:

Year Urea samples analyzed Found Non-Standard % Non-Standard (urea)

2008-09 18880 96 0.5

2009-10 18747 83 0.4

2010-11 18215 132 0.7

(e): The quality of the fertilizer manufactured/imported or marketed in India is covered under Fertilizer Control Order, 1985. The order prohibits the manufacture/ import for sale, sell, offer for sale, stock or exhibit for sale or distribute any fertilizer which is not of prescribed standard.

The State Governments are primarily the enforcement agencies to inspect and draw the fertilizer samples. The Central Government also appoint Fertilizer Inspectors who mainly inspect the imported fertilizers arriving at various ports. The Government regularly reviews the various provisions of FCO and make necessary need based amendments as and when required to ensure the effective enforcement in the country.

The State Government are empowered to take follow up action for sale of non-standard fertilizers. All the offences committed under FCO are punishable by a punishment of 3 months to 7 years imprisonment and fine.

