

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:287
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2012
SUPPLY OF COUNTERFEIT FERTILIZERS PESTICIDES
Patel Shri Devji

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

(a) Whether the attention of the Government has been drawn towards supply of counterfeit fertilizers and pesticides and black marketing of fertilizers:and

(b) If so, the reaction of the Government alongwith the concrete action taken in this regard?

Answer

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

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

The number of sample analysed and found non-standard during last three years are as under:-

S.N. Year Sample analyzed Found Non- Overall Percentage of
Standard Non-Standard Fertilizers.

1. 2008-09 104792 5745 5.5

2. 2009-10 119417 6203 5.2

3. 2010-11 121868 6205 5.1

The quality of the fertilizers 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 standards.

The State Governments are primarily enforcement agencies who appoint Fertilizer Inspectors to inspect and draw the fertilizer samples from manufacturers and dealers. The Central Government also appoints Fertilizer Inspectors who mainly inspect the imported Fertilizer undergoing discharge 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.

As far as pesticides are concerned, based on specific information, raids were conducted in January, 2011 by Central Insecticide Inspectors of Directorate of Plant Protection Quarantine and Storage in the premises of few companies. Four Samples of M/s Crystal Phosphates Limited were found misbranded in terms of the provision of the Insecticide Act, 1968.

(b) The State Government is empowered to take follow up action for sale of non-standard fertilizers. All the offences committed under FCO are punishable by 3 months to 7 year imprisonment and fines.

The process of launching prosecution against the manufacturing firm viz M/s/ Crystal Phosphates Limited as per the provisions of Insecticides Act, 1968 has already been initiated.