

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1062  
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2012  
SALE OF BOGUS/SPURIOUS FERTILIZERS  
Gaddigoudar Shri P.C.

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

- (a) whether any complaints have been received by the Union Government from farmers regarding the sale of bogus/spurious fertilizers ruining their crops and forcing them to commit suicides;
- (b) if so, the details of such complaints received by the Union Government during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard?

**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 such complaint has been received in this department regarding the sale of bogus/spurious fertilizers. Fertilizers have been declared as essential commodities under the Essential Commodities Act (ECA) 1955. In order to ensure adequate availability of good quality of fertilizers at reasonable price to the farmers, the Government of India under section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act has promulgated the Fertilizer (Control) Order, (FCO), 1985. FCO empowers the Government to regulate the price, distribution and quality of fertilizers. Under clause 19 of FCO sale/manufacture of such fertilizers which are not of prescribed standard is strictly prohibited. Under clause 8 of FCO, it is mandatory to obtain the Authorization Letter from the notified Authority for sale of fertilizers. The State Governments are adequately empowered to take appropriate action against the sale of non-standard fertilizers. Violation of provisions of FCO can invite penal action, including prosecution of offenders. The offender who is convicted may be awarded a sentence up to seven years imprisonment under ECA, besides cancellation of authorization certificate. Moreover, state governments have been sensitized from time to time on the issue of sales, manufacture, distribution and quality of fertilizers conforming to FCO standards.