

Fertiliser Policy for Sustainable Agriculture and Fertiliser (Control) Order



The Fertiliser Association of India (FAI-SR), Chennai, organised a National Workshop on **Fertiliser Policy for Sustainable Agriculture and Fertiliser Control Order** at ICAR-National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning (NBSS&LUP), Regional Centre, Bengaluru on 25 September 2026. It was inaugurated virtually by Mr. S. Sakthimani, Chairman, FAI-SR and CMD, The Fertilisers and Chemicals Travancore Limited, Cochin. Dr. Suresh Kumar Chaudhari, DG, FAI gave the Keynote address on a virtual mode. Fifty-seven delegates participated in the workshop.

Dr. S. Sakthimani, in his inaugural address, informed that the West Asia war has created a dangerous and unpredictable global crisis by severely disrupting energy supplies and maritime trade and has triggered an asymmetric global economic shock that has hit developing nations and energy importers, and India is not an exception. The fertiliser industry in India is experiencing severe economic and logistical strain due to the ongoing West Asia war. Proactive government interventions play a critical role in preventing domestic supply shortages on the ground. The crisis has severely disrupted global supply chains and triggered a massive fiscal burden for the country. The price of urea and DAP in the international markets reached a peak of USD 850 and USD 802 per MT, respectively and slowly came down to current price of USD 446 per MT in case of urea. The prices of DAP still continue to hover around USD 802 per MT. On the other side, adverse effect of El Niño may impact the agricultural production due to weakening the southwest monsoon and driving severe heatwaves. Sharp reduction in production of complexes (other than DAP) was noticed during April to August 2026 (- 33.6%) period compared to corresponding period of previous year. The producers of NPs/NPKs are unable to compete with the DAP due to low fixed MRP. He stated that deliberations on the provisions of Fertiliser (Control) Order and latest amendments will enlighten the participants about the quality assurance, price regulation, equitable distribution, preventing malpractices, mandatory standards & registration procedures, etc.

Dr. Suresh Kumar Chaudhari, in his address, stated that fertiliser sector in India is highly regulated compared to other countries. As per stated policy, fertilisers are made available to the farmers at highly subsidized and affordable rates to ensure food security of our country. He briefed about the evolution of fertiliser policy in India, such as implementation of retention price scheme for urea in 1977, and P&K fertilisers in 1979; decontrol of P&K fertilisers in 1992, new pricing scheme for urea units in 2003, nutrient based subsidy policy for P&K fertilisers; new investment policy in 2012 and recently national investment policy for urea, new urea policy 2026 etc. In view of

decline in soil health, he underlined the need for bringing reforms in the fertiliser pricing policy to encourage balanced use of nutrients, innovative products and usage of more bio-, -organic and nano- fertilisers for improving the soil health. He also explained about the importance of Fertiliser (Control) Order and regulatory pathways for registration of fertiliser products in India.

Dr. Adarsha, T.S, Joint General Manager (AS-R&D), Zuari Farmhub Limited, Bengaluru; Dr. Pushpalata Singh, Director and Senior Fellow Centre for Nano Research and Agricultural Bio Technology, TERI, New Delhi; Dr. S. Dharumarajan, Regional Director of NBSS&LUP, Bengaluru centre; Dr. H. Kempe Gowda, Joint Director of Agriculture (Fertilisers), Karnataka State Department of Agriculture KSDA, Bengaluru; and Dr. Prabhu Deva, Assistant Director, Regional Fertiliser Control Laboratory, Chennai and Mr. T.P. Kiran Kumar, Former Agriculture Officer, KSDA gave valuable inputs through their presentations during the workshop. Mr. Y.V.N. Murthy, Regional Head, FAI-SR, Chennai welcomed the dignitaries and participants to the workshop and proposed vote of thanks at the end of the workshop.
