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Manures , Fertilizers and Soil Fertility Management

10. Fertilizer Control Order

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10.1

Government of India has been all along conscious of the need for ensuring the availability of right quality and adequate quantity of fertilizers, at right time and at fair price to the farmers in all parts of the country.

As a result, the Central Government promulgated the following orders in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 3 of the ECA to regulate manufacture, quality, sale, distribution, price movement, etc. of fertilizers:

- 1. Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1957/1985 (FCO.)**
- 2. Fertilizer (Movement Control) Order, 1960/1973/2001 (FMCO)**
- 3. ECA Allocation Orders (issued bi-annually).**



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10.2

- Fertilizer (Control) Order, **1985** which is administered by Deptt. of Agriculture Cooperation, Govt. of India has been **issued under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955**. The FCO lays down as to what substances qualify for use as fertilizers in the soil, product-wise specifications, methods for sampling and analysis of fertilizers, procedure for obtaining license/registration as manufacturer/dealer in fertilizers and conditions to be fulfilled for trading thereof, etc.



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10.3

Fertilizer (Movement Control)

Order:

The objective of FMCO is to ensure the equitable distribution of fertilizers in different states.

The main features of the FCO, 1973, are as under:

- Definition:
- Prohibition on export of fertilizers from one state to another
- Search and seizure
- Punishment



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ECA Allocation Order:

The Central Government issues an order every six months before the onset of each cropping season allocating the total production of a manufacturing unit to different areas/districts/states. These allocation orders are called **ECA Allocation Orders** for respective seasons.



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FAI (Fertilizer Association of India)

FAI provides the catalytic role for improving efficiency and productivity in fertiliser production, distribution and use. The major areas of FAI's multifarious activities may be grouped as follow



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FAI maintains close liaison with international bodies like:

- **Food & Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)**
- **United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)**
- **International Fertilizer Industry Association (IFA)**
- **IFDC (International Center for Soil Fertility and Agricultural Development)**
- **The Fertiliser Institute (TFI)**
- **IMPHOS (World Phosphate Institute)**
- **The Sulphur Institute (TSI)**
- **International Potash Institute (IPI)**
- **International Zinc Association (IZA)**
- **Potash & Phosphate Institute of Canada (PPIC)**
- **Fertilizer Advisory Development and Information Network for Asia and the Pacific (FADINAP)**
- **International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)**
- **National Fertilizer & Environmental Research Center, USA**



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Fertilizer Subsidy Policy for Phosphatic & Potassic (P&K) Fertilizers:

- **Concession Scheme for P&K Fertilizers:**
- **Computation of Subsidy on P&K fertilizers under Concession Scheme:**
- **MRP of P&K fertilizers under Concession Scheme:**
- **Impact of Concession Scheme:**
- **Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Policy:**
- **Concession Scheme/Nutrient Based Subsidy for SSP :**
- **Quality of Fertilizers :**
- **Subsidy outgo on P&K fertilizers and Urea during the last 10 years:**
- **Study on the impact of NBS Policy:**



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Quality of Fertilizers :

- The Government of India has declared fertilizer as an essential commodity under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 (ECA) and has notified Fertilizer Control Order, 1985 (FCO) under this Act. **Accordingly, it is the responsibility of the State Governments to ensure the supply of quality of fertilizers by the manufacturers/importers of fertilizers as prescribed under the FCO under the ECA.** As per the provision of the FCO, the fertilizers, which meet the standard of quality laid down in the order can only be sold to the farmers. 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. The quality of the fertilizers imported in the Country is invariably checked by the fertilizer quality control laboratories of the Government of India.



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Study on the impact of NBS Policy:

- (i) Impact of NBS Policy on prices and availability of fertilizers in India.
- (ii) Impact of NBS Policy on balance fertilization of soil and its impact on agricultural productivity.
- (iii) Mechanism to ascertain 'reasonability' of MRP.
- (iv) Identification of additional mechanism under NBS policy to make it more effective in achieving its objectives.
- (v) Monitoring and regulation of prices.
- (vi) Price Discovery and Fixation of Prices.



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Thank you