

Press Release No-466

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Commissionerate of Agriculture, Chepauk, Chennai -5

PRESS News on fertilizers position in Tamil Nadu

PRESS NEWS

The Mettur Reservoir has been opened on the scheduled date of 12th June 2008. The storage position in all the major reservoirs of the State is comfortable. Farmers have started the Kuruvai cultivation vigorously. The Government has taken several initiatives for the distribution of quality inputs like seeds, fertilizers, etc.

In this context, the Agricultural Production Commissioner and Secretary to Government has conducted a special meeting on 14th June 2008 with Fertilizer Manufacturers, district officials and farmers' representatives from delta districts to discuss the fertilizers availability in the State. The Agricultural Production Commissioner and Secretary to Government instructed the manufacturers to hasten up the movement of fertilizers from port to districts and the department officials to monitor the movement of fertilizers on daily basis.

With respect to DAP, adequate quantity to the tune of 50,846 metric tonnes is made available as against June 2008 requirement of 30,000 metric tonnes. So far, 22,456 metric tonnes of DAP has

already been distributed and the stock available is 28,390 metric tonnes. Further, the Agricultural Production Commissioner and Secretary to Government instructed the TANFED to ensure that every Primary Agricultural Co-operative Bank in the district should have adequate stock and the availability of fertilizers should be displayed in a board indicating the MRP.

To monitor the availability of fertilizers throughout the State, a special Fertilizer Monitoring Cell is functioning since 16th June 2008 both at State and Districts level. District level authorities were requested to publish the phone numbers of the Monitoring Cell in the dailies so that the farmers can easily approach and address their grievances. In case of any complaints received from the farmers, the Assistant Director of Agriculture (Quality Control) has been instructed to take corrective steps in a war-footing manner.

Government of India is constantly pursued to obtain the required quantity of fertilizers for the month of July 2008 also. Atlast, the Agricultural Production Commissioner and Secretary to Government requested the officials of the Department of Agriculture to educate the farmers on optimum and balanced use of fertilizers and to promote System of Rice Intensification extensively to get higher yield with minimum cost.

for Commissioner of Agriculture

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