In continuation of the Government action against hoarding and black marketing of DAP by the companies, stockists, wholesalers and retail dealers, 23 wholesale outlets and 578 retail outlets have been raided by the Collectors by forming special teams in the districts of Thanjavur, Thiruvarur, Nagapattinam, Tiruchirappalli, Madurai, Theni, Tirunelveli, Coimbatore and Erode. The Collectors associated the farmers also with these raids. Huge stocks of DAP have been unearthed. In Theni, a company was transporting 150 tonnes of DAP to Kerala unauthorizedly and clandestinely. The Collector seized the stock. 8 sales licenses have been suspended and stop sale orders have been issued in 3 cases. Hoarding in 12 unauthorized places has been unearthed. 1,334 M.T. of DAP stock has been frozen. Show cause notices for cancellation of license have been issued in 112 cases. Further necessary action will continue.

 The situation has been further reviewed with Coromandel Fertilizers Limited and Zuari Industries Limited, Mangalore Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited, IFFCO and India Potash Limited along with the officers of TANFED and Agriculture Department. After taking stock of the situation and detailed discussion, further directions have been issued to the Collectors of other districts also to take similar action against companies and dealers indulging in hoarding, black marketing and profiteering of DAP at the cost of the farmers interest. 34,940 M.T. of DAP is found available with the wholesalers and retailers in the market which is more than the current requirement of 30,000 M.T. Furthermore, following decisions have been taken and directions thereon issued for now.:-

- i) The TANFED will sell DAP through all their PACBs with effect from 01.07.2008 for which TANFED is organizing the logistics. Once that is done, the Collectors will be in position to monitor and control the distribution of DAP. Therefore, they are requested to be in touch with the concerned local offices of TANFED and Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies of their district.
- ii) The list of dealers of fertilizer companies with their postal addresses and stock issued to them for the month of June, 2008 by the respective companies is sent to the Collectors for

their ready reference. As requested by them, companies have been advised to liquidate all the stock before 4th July, 2008. The unsold stock which is meant for the month of June, 2008 not made available to the farmers will be seized by the Collectors from 5th July, 2008 forenoon and handed over to TANFED for distribution to the farmers. The disposed stock by the dealers should be explained in terms of sales to the farmers. The stock not so explained may be taken as misused or illegally diverted etc. and suitable action including arrest under hoarding and black marketing rule regime may be taken. The fertilizer companies have promised to extend full co-operation in this regard.

iii) The Collectors are advised to constitute a Vigilance Cell which should work round the clock. It's contact numbers, both mobile numbers and land line, should be widely publicized in the local media. The Cell should have officers drawn from Agriculture, Revenue and Police Departments.

Collectors should make use of the services of

PA (Agriculture) for this purpose. Leading farmers of the district should be associated.

- iv) In the meantime, if any complaint of black marketing and profiteering is received against any dealer, his available stock may be seized and handed over to TANFED for distribution, action under hoarding and black marketing rule regime to be taken and his license to sell fertilizers to be cancelled by the Joint Director of Agriculture.
- v) The Collectors of the districts bordering neighbouring states are further advised to keep road vigilance by forming special teams to avoid unauthorized transfer of stocks to the neighbouring states through clandestine means by the dealers.
- The situation is under watch. Appropriate and timely action will be taken as and when required.

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வெளியிடு, இயக்குநா. செய்தி, மக்கள் தொடர்புத் துறை. தலைமைச் செயலகம், சென்னை-9.