

# Fake fertilisers worth Rs 50 lakh seized from Nallacheruvu area

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*Representative image*

GUNTUR: With agriculture operations gaining pace following the recent spell of rains, merchants involved in sale of spurious fertilisers have also stepped up their marketing activities. The illegal traders are keeping stocks in the narrow alleys and slums in Guntur city and transporting them to remote villages in the district.

District officials have now set their focus on suspicious movement of fertiliser stocks from remote locations in the city and have deputed a department employee, Anjaneyulu, specifically for the purpose. Anjaneyulu, who is known to be an expert in tracing spurious fertiliser stocks, has been roaming around transport offices, unknown godowns and halting points of long distance buses in the city for the past several days.

One such stockpile was found in an abandoned house in Nallacheruvu area of the city on Thursday. Upon being alerted by Anjaneyulu, senior officials rushed to the spot and seized nearly 30 varieties of bio-fertilisers, worth Rs 50 lakh in the open market. None of the products were found to be licensed from the authorities.

Agriculture department joint director M Vijaya Bharathi, who inspected the illegal godown, said the traders might be routing the stocks to remote villages in Palnadu region and Prakasam district and selling the same to gullible farmers. She said they would come down hard on such traders, while appealing to farmers not to purchase stocks without taking receipts from the merchants. Fertiliser dealers normally encourage farmers to purchase spurious stocks by promising good yield and offering huge discounts.

Nearly 30 varieties of bio-fertilisers were found and none of the products were found to be licensed from the authorities. These are usually sold to gullible farmers.

Source: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/vijayawada/fake-fertilisers-worth-rs-50-lakh-seized-from-nallacheruvu-area/articleshow/71529931.cms>