

Regarding problems being faced by farmers in Idukki Parliamentary Constituency and other parts of Kerala due to shortage of subsidized Urea and Potash-Laid

ADV. DEAN KURIAKOSE (IDUKKI): There have been concerns raised over the Union Government's handling of agriculture and fertilizer allocations, with Kerala's farmers bearing the burden of systemic failures. Agriculture thrives on reliable government support for such essentials, yet this trust has eroded amid a two-month acute shortage of subsidized urea and potash. Primary cooperatives, key distributors, have exhausted stocks, while private dealers report no supplies from the Centre. This is due to poor planning, delayed imports, and mismanagement not mere oversights. Farmers, desperate for alternatives, face inflated prices for urea, meant to be regulated and affordable, pushing smallholders into high-interest debt. In my Parliamentary Constituency, Idukki particularly, Pineapple, Cocoa, pepper and Rubber plantations have suffered from missed fertilization cycles, slashing productivity, incomes, and export viability. Even available fertilizers have seen steep price hikes, without any proportional subsidies despite volatile global raw material costs. This helps corporate importers and manufacturers at farmers' expense, inflating input costs while incomes lag. I urge the Government to expedite supplies, curb price rise, and prioritize farmers' needs. They cannot wait for the next supplementary demand or the next press conference. Kerala's agrarian distress demands immediate intervention.