

### **Neem Coating of Urea: -**

Based on CCEA decision, vide notification dated 25.05.2015, Department of Fertilizers has made it mandatory for all the domestic producers of urea to produce 100% as Neem Coated Urea with an extra MRP of 5% to be charged by the fertilizer manufacturing entities from farmers.

- Entire quantity of indigenously produced urea is being neem coated w.e.f. 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2015.
- Entire Imported urea is being neem coated w.e.f. 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2015.
- Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) was entrusted to conduct a study to determine the impact of Neem Coated Urea. The interim report prepared by Agricultural Development and Rural Transformation Centre (ADRTC), Bengaluru has been submitted by DAC&FW. The brief findings of study conducted are as follows:
  - ✓ Improvement in soil health.
  - ✓ Reduction in costs with respect to plant protection chemicals
  - ✓ Reduction in pest and disease attack
  - ✓ An increase in yield of paddy to an extent of 5.79 per cent.
  - ✓ An increase in yield of sugarcane to extent of 17.5 per cent
  - ✓ An increase in yield of maize to the extent of 7.14 per cent
  - ✓ An increase in yield of Soybean to the extent of 7.4 per cent
  - ✓ An increase in yield of Tur/Red Gram to the extent of 16.88 percent.
  - ✓ Diversion of highly subsidized urea towards non-agricultural purposes negligible among farmers after the introduction of the mandatory policy of production and distribution of only neem coated urea.