

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 658 TO BE ANSWERED ON: 13.12.2022

Shortage of fertilizers

658: SHRI HARBHAJAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of **CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of shortage of fertilizers in the country affecting agriculture;
- (b) whether Government is also aware that fertilizers shortage is leading to price hike and black marketing of fertilizers, creating crisis for the farmers; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to improve the supply of fertilizers?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
(SHRI BHAGWANTH KHUBA)

(a) to (c): The availability of fertilizers for the ongoing Rabi 2022-23 season have remained comfortable in the country. Further, Urea is provided to the farmers at a statutorily notified Maximum Retail Price (MRP). The MRP of 45 kg bag of Urea is Rs 242 per bag (exclusive of charges towards neem coating and taxes as applicable). The difference between the delivered cost of Urea at farm gate and net market realization by the Urea units is given as subsidy to the Urea manufacturer/importer by the Government of India.

There has been increase in the international prices of finished P&K fertilizers as well as its raw materials. As India is 100% import dependent on Potassic fertilizer and upto 90% on Phosphatic fertilizer and its raw materials, the increase in international price may have affected the prices of P&K fertilizers. However, Gol has analyzed the situation and notified the subsidy rates under the Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) scheme in such a way that the international price rise does not affect farming community of India and these fertilizers could be available at the affordable rates to Indian farmers. The subsidy rates under NBS scheme during FY 2021-22 and FY 2022-23 are as under:

S. No.	Nutrient	NBS (Rs. Per Kg of Nutrient) (from 01.04.2021 to 19.05.2021)	NBS (Rs. Per Kg of Nutrient) (from 20.05.2021 to 31.03.2022)	NBS (Rs. Per Kg of Nutrient) (from 1.04.2022 to 30.9.2022)	NBS (Rs. Per Kg of Nutrient) (from 1.10.2022 to 31.3.2023)
1.	N	18.789	18.789	91.96	98.02
2.	P	14.888	45.323	72.74	66.93
3.	K	10.116	10.116	25.31	23.65
4.	S	2.374	2.374	6.94	6.12

A special one-time package with additional subsidy has been provided (effective from 01.10.2021 to 31.3.2022) for DAP at Rs.8769/MT and 3 most consumed NPK fertilizers (10:26:26, 20:20:0:13 and 12:32:16) at Rs. 2000/MT for each grade in order to make P&K fertilizers available at affordable prices to the farmers.
