

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1939 TO BE ANSWERED ON: 18.03.2025

Fertilizer Shortage in Punjab

1939: SHRI HARBHAJAN SINGH:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry is aware that for the Rabi season, Punjab was allocated just 4.68 lakh MT of fertilizer, falling short of the total requirement of 5.5 lakh MT which led to shortage of fertilizers for farmers;
- (b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken so that such incidents of shortage are not faced by the farmers of Punjab; and
- (c) the steps taken, if any, for awareness of farmers to use fertilizers as per expert-recommended quantities?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS

(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a) : The availability of fertilizers in the State of Punjab has remained adequate during the ongoing Rabi 2024-25 season. The information regarding requirement, availability and sales of these fertilizers – Urea, DAP, MOP and NPKS – in the State of Punjab during Rabi 2024-25 season (From 01.10.2024 to 11.03.2025) is given as per the table below:

| PUNJAB POSITION FOR RABI 2024-25 (UPTO 11/03/2025) | | | | | | |
|---|----------------|------------------------------------|---|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| | | | | | | Fig. in LMT |
| S. NO | Product | Requirement of Rabi 2024-25 | Pro rata Requirement From 01/10/2024 to 11/03/2025 | Availability From 01/10/2024 to 11/03/2025 | Cumulative DBT Sales From 01/10/2024 to 11/03/2025 | Closing Stock as on 11/03/2025 |
| 1 | UREA | 15.00 | 14.35 | 18.25 | 14.78 | 3.47 |
| 2 | DAP | 4.50 | 4.47 | 4.22 | 3.80 | 0.42 |
| 3 | MOP | 0.50 | 0.47 | 0.72 | 0.35 | 0.37 |
| 4 | NPKS | 1.50 | 1.47 | 1.25 | 0.94 | 0.31 |
| (i) Primary Indicator of comfortable availability: Availability > Requirement | | | | | | |
| (ii) Secondary Indicator of comfortable availability: Availability > Sales | | | | | | |

(b): The following steps are taken by the Government every season for ensuring timely and adequate availability of fertilizers in the country:

i. Before the commencement of each cropping season, Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (DA&FW), in consultation with all the State Governments, assesses the state-wise & month-wise requirement of fertilizers viz. Urea, DAP, MOP and NPKS.

ii. On the basis of requirement projected, Department of Fertilizers allocates adequate quantities of fertilizers to States by issuing monthly supply plan and continuously monitors the availability.

iii. The movement of all major subsidized fertilizers is monitored throughout the country by an on-line web based monitoring system called integrated Fertilizer Monitoring System (iFMS);

iv. Regular Weekly Video Conference is conducted jointly by DA&FW and D/o Fertilizers with State Agriculture Officials and corrective actions are taken to dispatch fertilizers as indicated by the State Governments.

(c): Soil Health & Fertility Scheme assists states in promoting Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) through judicious use of chemical fertilizers including secondary and micro nutrients, in conjunction with organic manures & bio-fertilizers for improving soil health and its productivity. Soil samples are processed following standard procedures and analyzed for various parameters viz, pH, electrical conductivity (EC), Organic Carbon, available Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Potassium, Sulphur and micronutrients (Zinc, Copper, Iron, Manganese & Boron). Soil Health Card (SHC) provides information to farmers on soil nutrient status (low, medium & high) and recommendation on appropriate dosage of nutrients to be applied for improving soil health to increase agricultural production.

So far 24.84 crore SHCs have been issued to farmers. Around 7 Lakh demonstrations, 93,781 farmer's training and 7,425 farmer's mela have been organized on the balanced use of fertilizers to improve soil quality. Advisories are issued to farmers through Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA) and Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs). In addition, 70,002 Krishi Sakhis are trained to support farmers in understanding SHCs among other issues.
