GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS

RAJYA SABHA

STARRED QUESTION **NO.19*** TO BE ANSWERED **ON: 21.07.2026**

Shortage of Urea

19*: SHRI I.S. INBADURAI:

Will the Minister of **Chemicals and Fertilizers** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of shortage of Urea reported in certain parts of the country, if so, the details thereof, the reasons behind the shortage and the steps taken to ensure adequate availability;

(b) whether Government has assessed demand-supply gap of Urea during current agricultural season, if so, details of production, imports, distribution mechanism and measures taken to prevent black marketing and diversion; and

(c) whether Government has introduced reforms to improve fertilizer availability and reduce dependence on imports, if so, the details of initiatives, subsidies provided and steps taken to promote balanced and efficient use of fertilizers?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER FOR CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS AND HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE

(SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 19* FOR 21.07.2026 REGARDING "SHORTAGE OF UREA" TABLED BY SHRI I.S. INBADURAI.

(a) & (b) Following measures are taken by the Government every season for ensuring adequate and timely availability of fertilizers to the farmers 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. The requirement of fertilizers is assessed taking into account the projected gross cropped area, irrigated area, last three seasons' consumption pattern and crop wise recommended dose of fertilizers as per soil Health fertility status etc.

ii. On the basis of requirement projected by DA&FW, D/o 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 Management 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.

v. The gap between demand and indigenous production of fertilizers is met through timely imports which are done well in advance to ensure adequate and timely availability of fertilizers in the country.

vi. The distribution of fertilizers within the State at district/ block level is done by the concerned State Government.

In view of above, the availability of Urea has remained adequate in the country during the ongoing Kharif 2026 season. The information regarding requirement, availability, sales and closing stock of Urea in the Sates/UTs from the period 01.04.2026 to 15.07.2026 is placed at **Annexure**.

Moreover, the availability of all the fertilizers viz. Urea, DAP, MOP and NPKS, in the country, has remained adequate during the ongoing Kharif 2026 season i.e. from 01.04.2026 to 15.07.2026. The information regarding requirement, availability, sales and closing stock of these fertilizers during the said period is as under:

ALL INDIA					
FERTILIZER AVAILABILITY POSITION DURING ONGOING KHARIF 2026 (FROM 01.04.26 TO 15.07.26)					
					Fig. in LMT
S.No	**Product**	**Requirement**	**Availability**	**DBT Sales**	**CLOSING STOCK AS ON 15.07.26**
1	**UREA**	104.03	159.21	89.62	69.59
2	**DAP**	30.02	38.16	21.71	16.45
3	**MOP**	9.60	13.67	5.00	8.67
4	**NPKS**	46.28	83.02	37.77	45.24

Further, there is also a closing stock of 22.13 LMT of indigenously produced SSP in the country which is used as a substitute of DAP for providing Phosphatic or 'P' nutrient to the soil.

However, production and imports of Urea in the country in FY 2026-27 i.e. from April to June 2026 are 71.55 LMT and 25.08 LMT respectively.

In order to address the issues of hoarding, diversion and black-marketing, fertilizers are declared as an essential commodity under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and notified under Fertilizer Control Order, 1985. State Governments are adequately empowered to take action against persons involved in said malpractices, as per provisions of EC Act. Any complaints received at Department of Fertilizers level regarding these malpractices are sent to concerned State Government to take appropriate action under Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and Fertilizer Control Order, 1985. However, Department of Agriculture & Farmer’s Welfare, in consultation with the State Governments, is regularly monitoring the enforcement action taken by

States against the cases of Black marketing, Hoarding, Sub-standard and Diversion on weekly basis. In the country, Since April 2026, 1,43,095 raids have been conducted with 8,060 show cause notices issued, 2,636 licenses suspended/cancelled and 214 FIRs registered against defaulters.

(c) With regard to Urea, the Government had announced New Investment Policy (NIP) – 2012 on 2nd January, 2013 and its amendment on 7thOctober, 2014 to facilitate fresh investment in the urea sector and to make India self-sufficient in the urea sector. Total 6 new urea units have been set up under NIP-2012 which includes 4 urea units set up through Joint Venture Companies (JVC) of nominated PSUs and 2 urea units set up by the private companies. The units set up through JVC are Ramagundam urea unit of Ramagundam Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd (RFCL) in Telangana and 3 urea units namely Gorakhpur, Sindri and Barauni of Hindustan Urvarak & Rasayan Limited (HURL) in Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand and Bihar, respectively. The units set up by private companies are Panagarh urea unit of Matix Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd. (Matix) in West Bengal; and Gadepan-III urea unit of Chambal Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd. (CFCL) in Rajasthan. Each of these units has installed capacity of 12.7 Lakh Metric Tonne per annum (LMTPA). These units are highly energy efficient as they are based on latest technology. Therefore, these units have together added urea production capacity of 76.2 LMTPA, thereby total indigenous urea production capacity (Reassessed Capacity, RAC) has increased from 207.54 LMTPA during 2014-15 to 269.42 LMTPA during 2026-27. Further, an exclusive policy for the revival of Talcher unit of FCIL through JVC of nominated PSUs namely Talcher Fertilizers Limited (TFL) by setting up a new Greenfield Urea plant of 12.7 LMTPA at coal gasification route has also been approved. Recently, the Union Cabinet has approved the proposal for setting up of a new Brownfield Ammonia-Urea Complex of 12.7 Lakh Metric Tonnes (LMT) annual capacity of Urea production within the existing premises of Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Limited (BVFCL), Namrup, Assam through JVC of nominated PSUs namely Assam Valley Fertilizer and Chemical Company Ltd. (AVFCCL). These two projects are under execution phase.

Moreover, the Government has also notified the New Urea Policy (NUP) – 2015 on 25th May, 2015 for the existing 25 gas-based urea units with one of the objectives of maximizing indigenous urea production beyond RAC. The NUP-2015 has led to additional production of urea by 20-25 LMT as compared to the production during 2014-15 annually.

Above steps together have facilitated increase of Urea production from level of 225 LMT per annum during 2014-15 to a record Urea Production at 314.07 LMT during 2023-24. During 2025-26, 293.30 LMT of Urea was produced in the country.

In addition to this, on 15 .07.2026, CCEA approved National Investment Policy for Urea-2026 for Aatmanirbhar Bharat (NIPU-2026) for making fresh investments in Urea Sector.

Further, Under the Urea Subsidy Scheme, 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. Accordingly, all farmers are being supplied urea at the subsidized rate.

Further, the Government has implemented Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Scheme w.e.f. 01.04.2010 for Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) Fertilizers. Under the Scheme, P&K fertilizers are covered under Open General License (OGL) and companies are free to import/manufacture these fertilizers as per their business dynamics.

To reduce dependence on imported Phosphatic fertilizers and make country self-reliant the following measures have been taken by the Government:

(i) D/o Fertilizers has issued guidelines 18.01.2024 to ensure reasonableness of MRP and encourage domestic production.

(ii) Based on the requests, the new manufacturing units or increase in manufacturing capacity of existing units have been recognized / taken on record under the NBS Scheme.

(iii) The number of P&K fertilizers covered under NBS Scheme has increased from 22 grades in 2021 to 28 grades.

(iv) Freight Subsidy on SSP, which is an indigenously manufactured fertilizer, has been approved since Kharif, 2022 to promote SSP usage for providing Phosphatic or 'P' nutrient to the soil.

Besides, Under Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Scheme for Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers, an additional subsidy of Rs. 500/MT and Rs. 300/MT is being provided for fortification of any notified P&K fertilizers with Zinc micro-nutrient & Boron micro-nutrient respectively to promote balanced nutrient use.

The details of the subsidy provided for the fertilizers during the last 2 years i.e. in FY 2024-25 and FY 2025-26 is as under:

Financial Year	**Urea Subsidy (Rs. Crore)**	**P&K Subsidy (Rs. Crore)**	**Promotion of Organic Fertilizers (Rs. Crore)**	**Total Fertilizer Subsidy (Rs. Crore)**
2024-25 (Actual on Net basis)	1,24,319.50	52,810.00	32.56	1,77,162.06
2025-26 (Actual on Net basis)	1,42,175.74	74,999.99	105.37	2,17,281.10

Furthermore, following steps are taken by the Government of India to promote balanced and efficient use of fertilizers:

The Government is promoting Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), which advocates the judicious and scientific integration of organic sources, chemical fertilizers, and biological inputs for efficient and sustainable nutrient management. INM aims to meet the nutrient requirements of crops in an economical and environmentally sustainable manner while maintaining long-term soil fertility. It also

promotes crop rotation, crop residue management, and diversified farming systems to improve nutrient use efficiency and enhance soil health. To promote balanced nutrient management and sustainable agriculture, the Government is implementing the following major initiatives:

• Soil Health & Fertility Scheme: Balanced use of fertilizer is promoted under the Soil Health & Fertility Scheme, being implemented since 2014-15. Under the scheme, Soil Health Cards (SHCs) are generated which provide nutrient status of soil based on laboratory analysis of 12 parameters–pH, Electrical Conductivity (EC), Organic Carbon (OC), available Nitrogen (N), Phosphorus (P), Potassium (K), Sulphur (S), and the micronutrients Zinc (Zn), Iron (Fe), Copper (Cu), Manganese (Mn), and Boron (B). Based on the test results, the SHC provides crop-wise fertilizer recommendations, thereby promoting balanced and efficient nutrient management. The card is issued once every three years, enabling farmers to use fertilizers judiciously, maintain soil fertility, enhance crop productivity, reduce cultivation costs, and promote sustainable agriculture. So far, 26.07 crore Soil Health Cards have been generated and issued to farmers.

• Per Drop More Crop (PDMC): Implemented since 2015-16, the scheme promotes water-use efficiency through micro-irrigation technologies such as drip and sprinkler irrigation systems. Under the scheme, about 110 lakh hectares have been brought under micro-irrigation.

• Rainfed Area Development (RAD): Implemented since 2014-15, the scheme promotes Integrated Farming System (IFS) models developed by ICAR, integrating agriculture with horticulture, livestock, fisheries, apiculture, and other allied activities. Since inception, 9.32 lakh hectares have been brought under Integrated Farming Systems, benefiting 15.28 lakh farmers.

• Agroforestry: Under the motto "Har Medh Par Ped", the Government promotes tree plantation on farm boundaries to enhance farmers' income and ecological sustainability. Since the launch of the scheme in 2016, 1,725 nurseries have been established and 1,594.48 lakh saplings have been raised.

• National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF): Approved by the Union Cabinet on 25 November 2024, NMNF is a standalone Centrally Sponsored Scheme aimed at promoting chemical-free, nature-based farming practices using on-farm inputs. 20.93 lakh farmers registered, 10.32 lakh hectares covered,

• Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY): Implemented since 2015-16, PKVY promotes organic farming by providing end-to-end support covering production, processing, certification, and marketing. So far, 18.84 lakh hectares have been brought under organic farming, 33.94 lakh farmers have been benefited.

• Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER): Since 2015-16, the scheme has been promoting organic farming and value chain development in the North Eastern States with 100% Central assistance. So far, 2.36 lakh hectares have been brought under organic farming, 2.70 lakh farmers have benefited,

• Promotion of Nano Fertilizers: To improve nutrient use efficiency and reduce nutrient losses, the Government is promoting the use of nano-fertilizers through awareness campaigns, drone-based spraying, battery-operated sprayers, and trained village-level entrepreneurs.

Further, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), on June 28, 2023, approved the "PM Programme for Restoration, Awareness Generation, Nourishment, and Amelioration of Mother-Earth (PM-PRANAM) for the period 2023-24 to 2025-26. The initiative aims to support the mass movement initiated by States and Union Territories (UTs) to preserve the health of Mother Earth through the promotion of sustainable and balanced fertilizer use, adoption of alternative fertilizers, promotion of organic farming, and implementation of resource conservation technologies. All States/UTs are covered under the PM-PRANAM scheme. Under the PM-PRANAM scheme, there is a provision to provide incentives to States/UTs for reduction of consumption of chemical fertilizers (Urea, DAP, NPK, MOP) in a given financial year, compared to the average consumption over the previous three years, equivalent to 50% of the fertilizer subsidy saved.

Also, Organic farming is being promoted through Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) in the States/UTs and Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER) for the North Eastern States since 2015-16. Both schemes stress on end-to-end support to farmers engaged in organic farming i.e. from production to processing, certification and marketing. Primary focus of the schemes is to form organic clusters, with preference to small and marginal farmers, to create a supply chain. Both the schemes are implemented through States /UT Governments. Under PKVY, assistance of Rs. 31,500 per ha is provided over 3 years for promotion of organic farming. Out of this, assistance of Rs. 15,000 per ha is provided to farmers through Direct Benefit Transfer for on- farm /off –farm organic inputs. Under MOVCDNER, assistance of Rs. 46,500/ha is provided over 3 years for creation of Farmers Producer Organization, support to farmers for organic inputs etc. Out of this, assistance @ Rs. 32,500/ ha is provided to farmers for off -farm /on –farm organic inputs under the scheme including Rs. 15,000 as Direct Benefit Transfer to the farmers. Under PKVY Scheme since its inception (as on 30.06.2026), 18.93 lakh hectares area has been covered benefitting 33.63 lakh farmers and a total of ₹2811.36 crore (central share) has been released. Under MOVCDNER Scheme since its inception (as on 30.06.2026), 2.36 lakh hectares brought under organic farming benefitting 2.74 lakh farmers and a total of ₹1548.62 crore (central share) has been released.

The Government of India has also launched the National Mission on Natural Farming in the country on 25th November 2024. Natural Farming is a chemical free farming, involving livestock (preferably local breed of cow) integrated natural farming methods and diversified crop systems rooted in the Indian traditional knowledge. Natural Farming is an important step towards improving soil health and restoring ecosystems and reducing input cost to the farmer to achieve greater climate resilience. Natural Farming recognizes the interdependence of the natural ecosystem amongst soil, water, microbiome, plants, animals, climate and human requirements. The overall financial outlay is ₹2481 crore (Central share of ₹1584 crore & States' share ₹897 crore) till 15th Finance Commission period (March 2026).

During the FY 2025-26, 18,893 clusters have been formed covering an area of 10.32 lakh hectares and involving 20.93 lakh farmers under the Mission. To support technology dissemination and on-ground implementation, 33,295 Krishi Sakhis/Community Resource Persons (CRPs) have been trained and 7,601 Bio-Input Resource Centres (BRCs) have been established for ensuring availability of natural farming inputs at the local level. Further, 33.89 lakh farmers have been made aware about natural farming and 18.13 lakh Soil samples have been collected under the mission. Against a budget allocation of ₹725.00 crore for the financial year 2025-26, a total of ₹705.34 crore has been released and Rs.599.68 crore has been utilized / expenditure. More than 22.31 lakh farmers have been registered under the Natural

Farming Certification System (NFCS), out of which more than 14.05 lakh farmers have been certified.

The Government has also approved Market Development Assistance (MDA) Scheme FY 2023-24 to 2025-26) under which assistance @ Rs. 1500/MT is being provided to CBG plants/Fertilizer Marketing Companies for promotion of organic carbon enhancers viz. Fermented Organic Manure (FOM)/Liquid Fermented Organic Manure (LFOM) and organic fertilizer, viz. Phosphate Rich Organic Manure (PROM) produced at plants under GOBARdhan initiative. Under the scheme since inception so far as on 15.07.2026, for sale of 36.43 LMT of FOM/ LFOM/ PROM Rs. 202.17 crore of MDA has been released so far.

Further, in order to reduce dependence on imported fertilizers and promote balanced and efficient fertilizer use, ICAR has developed technologies for producing organic manures such as phosphocompost, vermicompost, bio-enriched compost, municipal solid waste compost, and biomineral fertilizers from organic wastes as alternative nutrient sources. ICAR recommends soil test-based balanced and integrated nutrient management (INM) through the combined use of organic and inorganic nutrient sources to improve fertilizer use efficiency and soil health. The Council has also developed Soil Test Crop Response (STCR)-based district fertilizer recommendations, decision-support tools for site-specific nutrient management, and crop- and soil-specific biofertilizer strains, including liquid biofertilizers with enhanced shelf life, to reduce dependence on chemical fertilizers. These technologies are promoted through farmer training, frontline demonstrations, awareness programmes, and extension activities.

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ANNEXURE

STATE WISE AVAILABILITY OF UREA DURING ONGOING KHARIF 2026 (FROM 01.04.26 TO 15.07.26)					
					fig. in LMT
		UREA			
S.No	State	Requirement	Availability	DBT Sales	CLOSING STOCK AS ON 15.07.26
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
2	Andhra Pradesh	3.07	6.25	2.24	4.00
3	Arunachal Pradesh	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.00
4	Assam	1.24	2.04	1.50	0.54
5	Bihar	3.68	7.06	2.62	4.44
6	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	Chhattisgarh	5.42	7.15	4.68	2.47
8	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Delhi	0.01	0.09	0.08	0.01
11	Goa	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
12	Gujarat	5.31	7.73	4.82	2.92
13	Haryana	5.67	9.15	6.92	2.23
14	Himachal Pradesh	0.14	0.36	0.22	0.14
15	Jammu and kashmir	0.55	1.12	0.74	0.38
16	Jharkhand	1.29	1.99	0.82	1.16
17	Karnataka	5.73	8.02	4.17	3.85
18	Kerala	0.30	0.62	0.36	0.26
19	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
20	Madhya Pradesh	9.15	13.90	8.21	5.69
21	Maharashtra	9.03	13.38	8.01	5.37
22	Manipur	0.10	0.16	0.10	0.06
23	Meghalaya	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.00
24	Mizoram	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.01
25	Nagaland	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
26	Odisha	2.45	3.98	1.39	2.59
27	Puducherry	0.03	0.05	0.04	0.01
28	Punjab	11.21	14.48	11.14	3.35
29	Rajasthan	5.35	10.14	6.03	4.11
30	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
31	**Tamil Nadu**	**2.40**	**4.31**	**2.76**	**1.55**
32	Telangana	6.73	7.28	3.51	3.76
33	Tripura	0.04	0.13	0.05	0.08
34	Uttarakhand	0.64	0.88	0.65	0.23
35	Uttar Pradesh	21.38	31.77	15.49	16.28
36	West Bengal	3.04	7.09	3.02	4.06
	All India	**104.03**	**159.20**	**89.62**	**69.59**

1. Primary Indicator of comfortable availability: Availability > Requirement
2. Secondary Indicator of comfortable availability: Availability > Sales