

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS  
DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS  
**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2590 TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.08.2026**

**Efficiency of fertilizer subsidy**

**2590. Shri G.C. Chandrashekhar:**

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

- (a) the nutrient-wise subsidy released, fertilizer consumption and subsidy per tonne during financial year 2023-24 to financial year 2025-26;
- (b) whether Government has assessed the impact of the subsidy regime on balanced nutrient application and soil health; and
- (c) the recommendations under consideration for reforming the fertilizer subsidy framework?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS  
**(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

**(a):** The details of the total amount of fertilizer subsidy disbursed by the Government during the last three years i.e. 2023-24 to 2025-26 is as given below:

| <i>(Figures in Rs. Crore)</i> |                       |                         |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Financial Year</b>         | <b>Subsidy Scheme</b> | <b>Amount disbursed</b> |
| 2023–24                       | Imported P&K          | 28,929.57               |
|                               | Indigenous P&K        | 36,270.00               |
|                               | Indigenous Urea       | 1,02,027.00             |
|                               | Import of Urea        | 28,193.94               |
|                               | <b>Total</b>          | <b>1,95,420.51</b>      |
| 2024–25                       | Imported P&K          | 18,800.00               |
|                               | Indigenous P&K        | 34,010.00               |
|                               | Indigenous Urea       | 1,03,319.50             |
|                               | Import of Urea        | 21,000.00               |
|                               | <b>Total</b>          | <b>1,77,129.50</b>      |
| 2025-26                       | Imported P&K          | 33,999.99               |
|                               | Indigenous P&K        | 41,000.00               |
|                               | Indigenous Urea       | 94,219.50               |
|                               | Import of Urea        | 47,956.24               |
|                               | <b>Total</b>          | <b>2,17,175.73</b>      |

The information regarding requirement, availability and sales of fertilizers during the said period is placed at **Annexure-I**. Further, the Nutrient wise consumption of fertilizer for the said period is placed at **Annexure-II**.

**(b):** Government promotes judicious use of fertilizer through Soil Health & Fertility scheme. The scheme is being implemented since 2014-15 to provide Soil Health Cards (SHCs) for all farm holdings, to promote balanced and integrated nutrient management for improving productivity and soil fertility.

- Soil samples are processed as per standard procedures and analysed for parameters such as pH, Electrical Conductivity, Organic Carbon, available Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Potassium, Sulphur, and micronutrients (Zinc, Copper, Iron, Manganese & Boron).
- Since 2014-15, 26.09 crore Soil Health Cards have been generated/ distributed as on date across the country.
- In addition to state soil labs above, 1020 school mini soil labs are also established in the country under school soil health programme.
- Under the scheme, Rs. 2153.29 Crore fund has been released so far since inception.
- 93781 farmer's trainings, 6.80 lakh demonstrations, 7425 farmer's melas/ campaigns on soil health card recommendations have been organized across the country.
- 1351166 ha area also covered under Promotion & Distribution of Micronutrients in the scheme.
- National Productivity Council (NPC), New Delhi carried out a study 'Soil Testing Infrastructure for Faster Delivery of SHC in India' in 2017 in 76 districts of 19 States including Madhya Pradesh covering 170 soil testing labs and 1700 farmers. As a result of application of fertilizer and micronutrients as per SHC recommendations, there has been a decrease of use of chemical fertilizer application in the range of 8-10% was found. Overall 5-6% increase in the yield of crops was reported, due to application of fertilizer and micronutrients as per SHC.
- An impact study of Soil Health & Fertility Scheme (November 2017) was conducted by National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad. As per report, about 62.8% of the farmers use fertilizers according to the recommendations on the SHC. The cost per acre reduced by 4 to 10 % due to low fertilizer use. Crop yields increased for majority of the crops, although moderately. Overall, paddy farmers reduced use of urea by 9%, Diammonium Phosphate (DAP)/Single Super Phosphate by 7%, but increased use of Potassium by 20%. There was substantial decline in fertilizer use especially urea and DAP in paddy and cotton resulted in decreased cost of cultivation per unit area.

Further, NITI Aayog has conducted a study on the Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Scheme. The evaluation notes that the Scheme has several conceptual strengths, including the promotion of balanced fertilization through nutrient-linked subsidies, expansion of coverage to 28 fertilizer grades, and comparatively lower subsidy requirements than urea. The study also highlights that there is scope for further strengthening the effectiveness of the Scheme by addressing aspects such as the inclusion of urea within the NBS framework, further streamlining operational processes, reducing import dependence, improving affordability for small and marginal farmers.

**(c):** Department of Fertilizers, Government of India, and Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India have jointly developed and launched a new digital system namely 'Framework for Fertilizer Sale' with consent of the States, presently on Pilot mode in a staggered manner with the objective of making the fertilizer distribution system more transparent, organized, farmer centric, land and crop data integrated and demand driven. Under this arrangement, farmers or their authorized representatives register through a mobile application and enter land and crop-related details for advance booking (pre-booking) of fertilizer requirements. Upon successful booking of fertilizers, a QR code-based token is generated. This QR code is scanned by the fertilizer retailer in the PoS device when the buyer comes, and fertilizer is made available through Aadhaar-based biometric authentication. The Pilot of this initiative has been implemented as on 31.07.2026 in 56 districts of 22 States in a phased manner.

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## Annexure-I

**Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2590 for answer on 11.08.2026**

| ALL INDIA                                                                    |         |             |              |           |             |              |           |             |              |           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|-------------|--------------|-----------|-------------|--------------|-----------|-------------|--------------|-----------|
| REQUIREMENT, AVAILABILITY & SALES OF FERTILIZERS DURING 2023-24 to 2025-26   |         |             |              |           |             |              |           |             |              |           |
| Fig. in LMT                                                                  |         |             |              |           |             |              |           |             |              |           |
| S. No                                                                        | YEAR    | UREA        |              |           | DAP         |              |           | NPKS        |              |           |
|                                                                              |         | Requirement | Availability | DBT Sales | Requirement | Availability | DBT Sales | Requirement | Availability | DBT Sales |
| 1                                                                            | 2025-26 | 381.45      | 450.79       | 396.6     | 110.42      | 121.72       | 100.8     | 158.49      | 198.97       | 150.37    |
| 2                                                                            | 2024-25 | 364.01      | 443.83       | 387.92    | 111.92      | 105.14       | 96.29     | 151.29      | 183.98       | 149.72    |
| 3                                                                            | 2023-24 | 356.08      | 437.47       | 357.81    | 110.18      | 127.42       | 109.73    | 126.31      | 156.51       | 116.8     |
| 1. Primary Indicator of comfortable availability: Availability > Requirement |         |             |              |           |             |              |           |             |              |           |
| 2. Secondary Indicator of comfortable availability: Availability > Sales     |         |             |              |           |             |              |           |             |              |           |

**Annexure-II**

**Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2590 for answer on 11.08.2026**

| <b>Nutrient-Wise Consumption during 2023-24 to 2025-26</b> |                  |                  |                 |                 |
|------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Qty(in thousand MTs.)                                      |                  |                  |                 |                 |
| <b>Financial Year</b>                                      | <b>N</b>         | <b>P</b>         | <b>K</b>        | <b>S</b>        |
| 2023-24                                                    | 20456.370        | 8306.721         | 1878.751        | 2049.943        |
| 2024-25                                                    | 22148.199        | 8395.981         | 2383.962        | 2365.622        |
| 2025-26                                                    | 22590.385        | 8611.281         | 2338.317        | 2920.398        |
| <b>Grand Total</b>                                         | <b>65194.954</b> | <b>25313.983</b> | <b>6601.030</b> | <b>7335.963</b> |