

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3630 TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.03.2025

Introduction of Urea Gold

+3630: SHRI BABU SINGH KUSHWAHA:

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

- (a) the reasons behind introduction of sulphur-coated urea (Urea Gold) in the country by the Government and the specific steps being taken to overcome sulphur deficiency in soil through the said fertilizer;
- (b) the facilities likely to be provided to the farmers under the “One Nation and One Fertilizer” scheme and the manner in which the subsidized fertilizers are likely to be made available to the farmers under the said scheme;
- (c) the basis for deciding the colour coding of different types of fertilizer bags under the One Nation One Fertilizer scheme and its likely impact on the farmers;
- (d) whether a subsidy outlay of Rs.1451 crore has been approved by the Government; and
- (e) If so, the benefits likely to be accrued to the farmers from the said subsidy and the manner in which the said subsidy is likely to be disbursed?

ANSWER

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

(a): The Sulphur Coated Urea (Urea Gold) was introduced with the objective of achieving better nitrogen use efficiency as there would be slow release of Urea to the soil due to the coating of Sulphur. It is specially beneficial in Sulphur deficient soil. Sulphur Coated Urea (Urea Gold) has 17% Sulphur and 37% Nitrogen as per FCO Specifications.

Sulphur is a vital secondary nutrient that supports root growth, nodulation, metabolic activities and improves crop yield, quality and stress resistance. It also enhances the Nutrient Use Efficiency of other essential plant nutrients, particularly Nitrogen (N) and Phosphorus (P).

(b)& (c): The Government of India vide notification dated 24th August 2022, has decided to implement One Nation One Fertilizers by introducing Single Brand for Fertilizers and Logo under Fertilizer subsidy scheme namely “**Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janurvarak Pariyojna**” (PMBJP). The objective of the scheme is to increase the availability basket of fertilizers; takes care of dilemma among farmers

in choosing from plethora of brands available in the markets, to reduce the crisscross movement and further ensure timely supply of fertilizers.

(d): Pursuant to the Budget Announcement, 2023 and on the recommendations of the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC), the Government has approved the Market Development Assistance (MDA) @ Rs. 1500/MT to promote organic fertilizers i.e. Fermented Organic Manure (FOM)/ Liquid Fermented Organic Manure (LFOM)/ Phosphate Rich Organic Manure (PROM), produced by Compressed Bio Gas (CBG) Bio-Gas plants under GOBARdhan scheme with total outlay of Rs. 1451.84 Crore (FY 2023-24 to 2025-26), which includes a corpus of Rs. 360 Crore for research gap funding, etc.

(e): These initiatives of the Government are expected to address the imbalanced use of chemical fertilizers thereby reducing overuse of chemical fertilizers. The manner in which the MDA is disbursed is described below.

As per MDA Guidelines issued on 20-09-2025, general payment procedure for claiming Market Development Assistance (MDA) from 20-09-2023 to 30-06-2024 is as under:

- i. The marketing entities of FOM/LFOM/PROM are allowed to claim MDA from DoF for the quantity sold through PoS based on the requisite information provided by them in prescribed Proforma 'B1-MDA' duly certified by the State Agriculture Department.
- ii. State Agriculture Department is required to issue Quality Certificate (Proforma 'B2-MDA').
- iii. The marketing entity is required to submit a copy of Quality Certificate issued by the Government approved laboratory/NABL accredited private laboratory duly certified in Proforma 'B-2 MDA' by State Agriculture Department along with the claim for MDA payment for that particular month.
- iv. DBT claims shall be generated through iFMS portal by the marketing entities. The claims will be processed in the Department of Fertilizers and the Market Development Assistance will be released to the marketing entities. The marketing entities are required to claim MDA within two months from the month of sale of FOM/LFOM/PROM.

As per SOP Guidelines issued on 10-11-2025, the procedure for release of payment since July, 2024 onward is as under:

- i. 50% amount of the total claim of subsidy will be released on the basis of NABL Quality Certificates & PoS sale details submitted along with the Self Declaration of quantity.
- ii. Remaining 50% of the total claim will be released by D/o Fertilizers, on issuance of B1 & B2 Certificates by State Agriculture Department, within 45 days from the date of first intimation/request by the claimants through e-mail.
- iii. If B1 and B2 certificates not issued within 45 days, the certificates will be deemed to be issued and remaining 50% payment will be released by DoF.
