

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2207 TO BE ANSWERED ON: 12.12.2025

SHORTAGE OF DAP IN PUNJAB

2207: SHRI MALVINDER SINGH KANG:

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

- (a) the main reasons for the current shortage of DAP fertilizer in Punjab despite the allocations by the Government;
- (b) the manner in which the Union Government proposes to address the said supply-demand gap;
- (c) the measures being taken by the Government to ensure increased domestic production and timely import of DAP to meet the growing demand in the State of Punjab during the current and upcoming crop seasons;
- (d) whether the Union Government received any complaints from farmers of Punjab regarding the availability, supply disruptions or black marketing of DAP fertilizer, if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the steps being taken to mitigate these issues; and
- (f) whether any actions is being taken by the Union Government to ensure that DAP fertilizer reaches the farmers of Punjab at the notified subsidized price without overcharging or hoarding by intermediaries, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS

(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a) & (b) The availability of DAP in the State of Punjab has remained adequate during the ongoing Rabi 2025-26 season. From 01.04.2025 to 08.12.2025, 4,55,000 Metric Tons of DAP has been made available in the State against the pro-rata requirement of 4,05,000 Metric Tons. The sales during the said period has been 2,98,000 Metric Tons and the State holds closing stock 1,57,000 Metric Tons of DAP.

Further, the mandate of the D/o Fertilizers is to ensure adequate availability of fertilizers at State level. However, the assessment and distribution of fertilizers within the State at district level is done by the concerned State government.

Moreover, following steps are taken by the Government every season for ensuring timely and adequate availability of fertilizers in the country, including the State of Punjab:

(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.

(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) The State Governments are regularly advised to coordinate with manufacturers and importers for streamlining the supplies through timely placement of indents.

(v) 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 fertilizer as indicated by the State Governments.

(c) The Government has implemented Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Scheme w.e.f. 01.04.2010 for Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) Fertilizers. Under NBS 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.

Further, to increase domestic fertilizer production and make country self reliant, the following measures have been taken by the Government:

(i) 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.

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

(iii) 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.

(d) to (f) In order to address the issue of black-marketing/hoarding, fertilizers are declared as an essential commodity under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and notified under Fertilizer Control Order, 1985. **State Governments are empowered to take action against persons involved in black-marketing/ hoarding, as per provisions of EC Act. Any complaints received at Department of Fertilizers level regarding these malpractices is sent to concerned State Government to take appropriate action** under Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and Fertilizer Control Order, 1985.

Accordingly, as informed by the State government of Punjab, during the FY 2025-26, 04 FIR's have been registered and 03 Letter of Authorizations have been cancelled as an enforcement action against the dealers/agencies found involved in these malpractices.