

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1460 TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.12.2022

Cost effective alternatives to fertilizers

1460 SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN:

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

- (a) the amount spent on import of urea in the last five years, year-wise; and
- (b) the steps being taken to reduce consumption of these fertilizers in the long term and support farmers for transition towards sustainable and cost-effective alternatives?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS

(SHRI BHAGWANTH KHUBA)

(a): The amount spent on import of urea along with the quantity of urea imported in the last five years is given in the table below:

Quantity and Value of Imported Urea from the year 2017-18 to 2021-22		
Year	Quantity in LMT	Value in Million US\$
2017-18	59.75	1295.87
2018-19	74.81	2040.14
2019-20	91.23	2302.95
2020-21	98.28	2580.27
2021-22	91.36	6041.06

(b): Government of India (GoI) is promoting the balanced and judicious use of fertilizers based on soil test based recommendations in conjunction with organic fertilizer and bio-fertilizers. The GoI is implementing Soil Health Card Scheme which besides providing soil fertility status (Soil test based information on nutrient status) along with recommendations on appropriate dosages of nutrients to be applied for improving soil health and fertility. Further, The GoI is encouraging the use of slow release fertilisers namely neem coated urea. Further, the Government of India has notified the Nano Urea and is encouraging its use.

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Nano Urea developed by IFFCO has been provisionally included in Fertilizer Control Order (FCO)-1985, based on the preliminary experimental trials undertaken in several Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)/state agricultural Universities. Nano-urea spray on different crops gave comparable yields to those obtained under fully recommended doses of fertilizers with 50% savings in top dressed urea.

The Price of Nano Urea (liquid) is Rs 225 / 500 ml bottle which is 16 % less than the price of a 45 Kg bag of conventional Urea.

Moreover, Use of Nano Urea is being promoted through different activities such as awareness camps, webinars, nuked nataks, field demonstrations, kisan sammelans and films in regional languages etc.
