

GS-3

farmers preparing to sow their rabhi crops early to take adv. of soil moisture are facing shortage of phosphatic fertilizer. This highlights need for str. fix. Analysis

The shortage of fertilizers in few states have been calling outrage after the recent coal crisis that we were about to face

The rabhi crops are nearing sowing.

(Barley, mustard, wheat, gram, masur, safflower)

Fertilizer production
Domestic NPK > Urea > DAP
Import MOP > DOP > Urea

DAP - diammonium phosphate
MOP - muriate of potash.

The DAP is applied before sowing as it provides phosphorus and also nitrogen.

In India 30% of DAP is produced and rest is imported. The current shortage is due to less import due to global increase in prices of DAP.

Need for structural fixes

There is low yield due to skewed
~~NPK~~ NPK ratio - 6-7:2-4:1 as the place
of 4:2:1. The dependence of import is
also high as the long run.

Subsidies for locally produced
fertilizers must be encouraged as imports
increase the domestic production capacity
on a long footing.

The raw material availability is
crucial. The natural gas imports must
be streamlined for timely production
of urea.

Six number of DAP plants were closed,
recently still straining the crisis. New plants
must be started for addressing the crisis.

60% of pulses production is dependent
on soybean cultivation. The nutrition protection
is necessary for survival which is possible
by timely availability of fertilizers.