

### GS-III Issues Related to Direct and Indirect Farm Subsidies

#### 1. Current agricultural Fertiliser policy work against the Agriculture, Industry and Government sector. Comment

##### Why this Question?

- With falling farm yields, exacerbated by climate effects, doubling farmers' real income by FY23 will be difficult, which means continuing to subsidise fertiliser will work against the government's stated goal for the Agriculture Sector.

##### Key Demands of Question:

- Give brief intro about the current fertiliser policy.
- Mention the negative implications of the current agricultural fertiliser policy on the agriculture and industry and government sector.
- Discuss the way forward measures to reduce the imbalance usage of fertiliser.

##### Directive word:

##### Comment:

- When you are asked to comment, you have to pick main points and give your 'opinion' on them based on evidences or arguments stemming from your wide reading.
- Your opinion may be for or against, but you must back your argument with evidences.
- These types of question offer you a chance to consolidate your reading of different subjects to justify your opinion.

##### Structure of Answer:

##### Introduction:

- Give brief intro about the current agricultural fertiliser policy and importance of the fertiliser for the increased agricultural production.

##### Body:

- Discuss elaborately how the current policy affects the agricultural sector. For example, imbalance use of urea, soil chemistry affected, decrease productivity, etc.
- Mention the various negative implications on the industry and government due the fertiliser subsidy policies.
- For example, uncompetitive manufacturing costs, etc.
- Discuss its implications on the overall environment. List out the government initiatives regarding fertiliser usage.
- For example, nutrient based subsidy programme, Neem coated urea, Soil Health Cards, etc.

**Conclusion:**

- Conclude with the way forward measures to tackle this situation like implementing DBT instead of fertiliser subsidy, etc.

