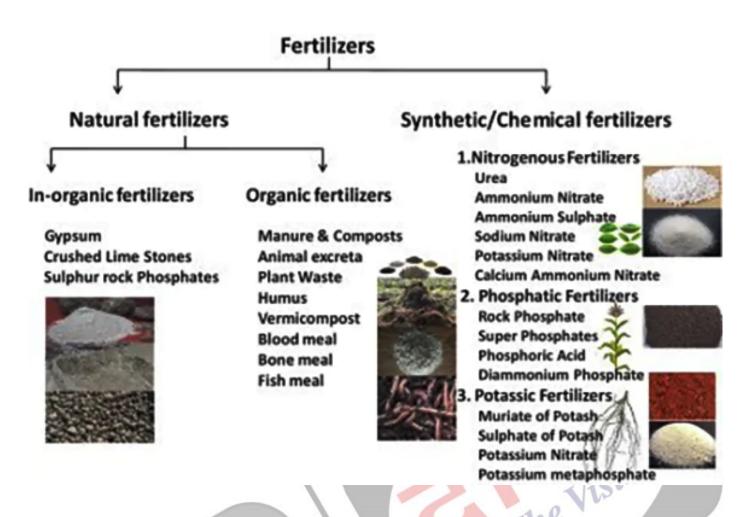
Ammonium Nitrate Import Raises Concern

Source: TH

The sharp rise in **ammonium nitrate (AN)** imports from **Russia** has raised concerns for India's domestic fertiliser industry, which faces competition from cheaper imports.

- Indian fertiliser companies are investing over Rs 4,000 crore to boost AN capacity, vital for mining coal, iron ore, and limestone.
- Ammonium Nitrate (AN):
 - Ammonium Nitrate (NH4NO3) is the nitrate salt of the ammonium ion, consisting of ammonia and nitric acid. It is a white crystalline solid highly soluble in water.
 - Uses:
 - Fertiliser: Its high nitrogen content makes it extensively used in agriculture.
 - Explosives: Mixed with fuel oil to produce Ammonium Nitrate Fuel Oil (ANFO), commonly employed in mining and demolition.
 - **Cold Packs:** These are found in instant cold packs and are useful for injury treatment.
 - Matches: AN is used in safety matches.
- About the Fertilizer Industry in India:
 - India is the world's second-largest consumer of urea, after China, and the secondlargest producer of nitrogenous fertilisers
 - The fertiliser Industry is one of the **<u>8 core industries</u>** in India.
 - It receives the **second-largest subsidy**, after food.
 - India meets 100% of its **potash requirement through imports** from countries like **Belarus, Russia, Israel, and Jordan**.



Read More: Fertiliser Consumption in India

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