



Ammonium Nitrate Import Raises Concern

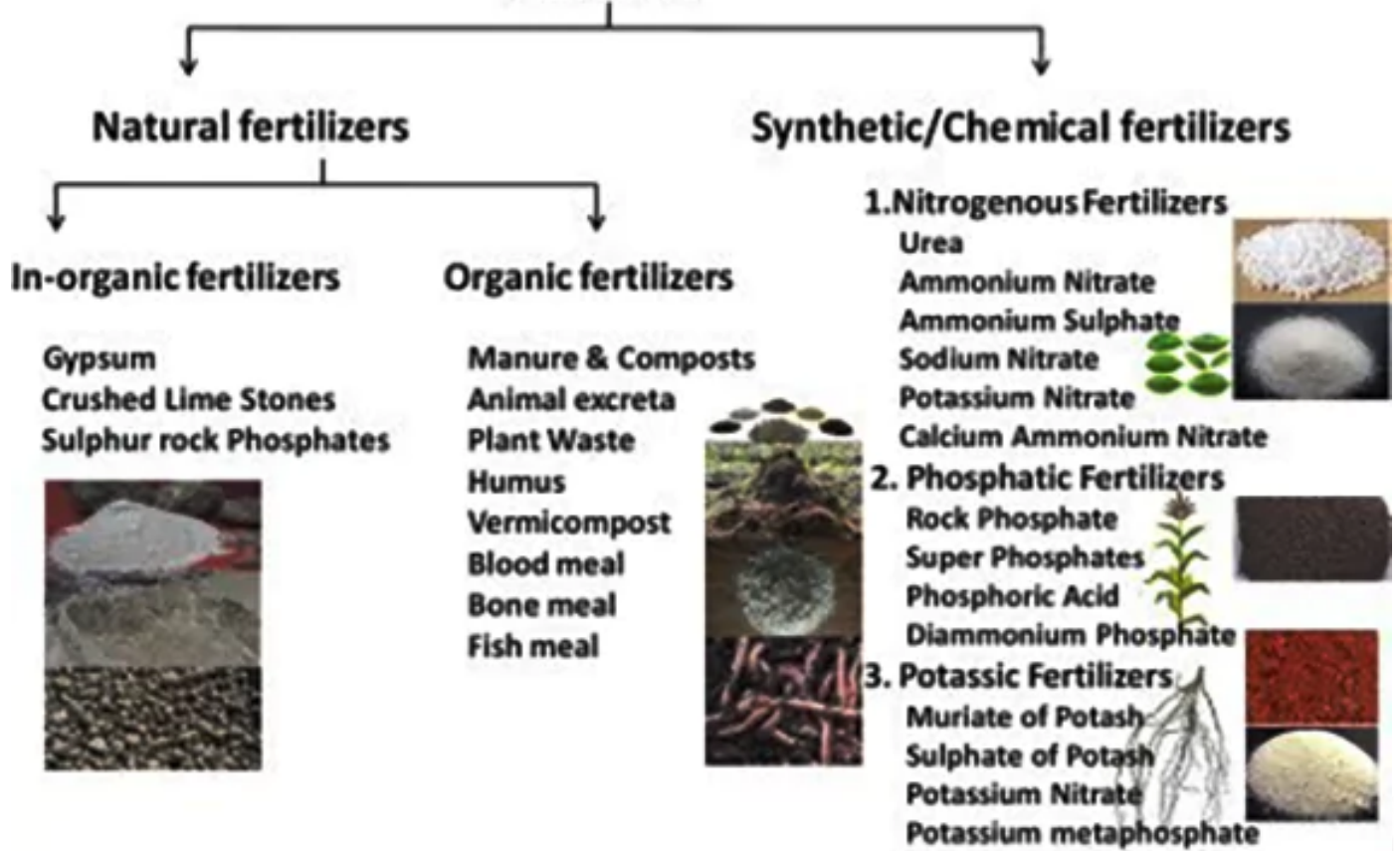
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The sharp rise in **ammonium nitrate (AN)** imports from **Russia** has raised concerns for India's domestic fertiliser industry, which faces competition from cheaper imports.

- 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 (NH_4NO_3)** 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 second-largest producer of nitrogenous fertilisers
 - The **fertiliser industry** is one of the **8 core industries** 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**.

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Fertilizers



Read More: [Fertiliser Consumption in India](#)

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