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India Diversifies Urea Imports to Egypt, Algeria, Nigeria and Georgia

13 August 2026 ·

ECONOMY

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India Diversifies Urea Imports to Egypt, Algeria, Nigeria and Georgia

13 August 2026 · 1 min read ·

✓ Every fact web-verified against primary sources

*India sourced **52% of its April-June 2026 urea imports**, out of a total 2.5 million tonnes, from four non-traditional suppliers, **Egypt, Algeria, Nigeria and Georgia**, a segment that was **zero in the same quarter a year earlier**.*

Background

India's traditional urea import routes have relied heavily on Gulf suppliers, but tensions linked to the 2026 Iran conflict and disruptions around the [Strait of Hormuz](#) unsettled that supply chain, prompting the government and fertiliser trading agencies to diversify sourcing. In June 2026 alone, imports broke down as: Egypt 3.95 lakh tonnes, Algeria 1.65 lakh tonnes, Nigeria 1.38 lakh tonnes, and Georgia 1.22 lakh tonnes. This diversification has extended to nearly 17 countries for urea and DAP combined since the escalation began.

UPSC Relevance

Fertiliser import-dependence is a recurring strategic-[vulnerability](#) theme, and this diversification illustrates how geopolitical disruption in one region (West Asia) cascades into agricultural input security elsewhere. It also strengthens the policy case for accelerating India's own urea self-sufficiency push, including Nano Urea adoption and the revival of previously closed domestic PSU fertiliser plants, both operating within the Nutrient-Based Subsidy framework.

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INDIA'S UREA IMPORT DIVERSIFICATION:

New source countries: Egypt, Algeria, Nigeria, Georgia

Share of April-June 2026 urea imports from these four: 52% (of 2.5 million tonnes total)

Same quarter, previous year: 0% from these four countries

Trigger: 2026 Iran conflict and Strait of Hormuz-linked disruption to traditional Gulf supply

June 2026 breakdown: Egypt 3.95 lakh tonnes, Algeria 1.65 lakh tonnes, Nigeria 1.38 lakh tonnes, Georgia 1.22 lakh tonnes

OTHER RELEVANT FACTS:

Diversification now spans roughly 17 countries for urea and DAP combined

Domestic self-sufficiency levers: Nano Urea, revival of closed PSU fertiliser plants, Nutrient-Based Subsidy framework

Sources: Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers, PIB

Source: India Diversifies Urea Imports to Egypt, Algeria, Nigeria and Georgia — Ujjayari.com | Free UPSC & State PCS Current Affairs

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