



VAJIRAO & REDDY INSTITUTE
India's Top Potential Training Institute for IAS

+918988885050
+918988886060



www.vajiraoinstitute.com
info@vajiraoinstitute.com



TODAY'S ANALYSIS

(04 January 2025)

TOPICS TO BE COVERED

- **SCHOOL ENROLLMENT DECLINED IN INDIA**
- **TOBACCO BOARD FOCUSES ON SUSTAINABILITY & GROWTH**
- **ONE TIME SPECIAL PACKAGE ON DAP FERTILIZER**
- **MCQs**



ADDRESS:

19/1A Shakti Nagar, Nagiya Park Near Delhi University, New Delhi - 110007 (India)



SCHOOL ENROLLMENT DECLINES IN INDIA

TOTAL SCHOOL ENROLMENT

2023-24	24.80 cr
2022-23	25.18 cr
2021-22	26.52 cr
2020-21	26.44 cr
2019-20	26.45 cr
2018-19	26.03 cr

*Average total enrolment for
2018-19 to 2021-22 is 26.36 cr*

Source: UDISE+ report

Overview:

- Ministry of Education (MoE) released data showing a significant decline in school enrolments for the academic year 2023-24.
- Data, published in the Unified District Information System for Education Plus (UDISE+) report reveals that enrolment dropped by over 1 crore students compared to previous years.

ADDRESS:

19/1A Shakti Nagar, Nagiya Park Near Delhi University, New Delhi - 110007 (India)



KEY FINDINGS

○ **Total Enrolment Decline:**

- Enrolment in 2023-24 stands at **24.8 crore**, a **6% decrease** (1.22 crore fewer students) compared to **26 crore** in 2018-19.
- The decrease continued from 2022-23 (25.18 crore).

○ **Historical Trends:**

- Enrolment in 2018-19: **26.02 crore**.
- Increase in 2019-20: **26.45 crore** (1.6% increase).
- After some fluctuations, the enrollment had generally hovered around 26 crore until the significant decline in 2023-24.

○ **Aadhaar & Educational ID:**

- UDISE+ system collects detailed data, including students' **Aadhaar numbers**.
- Over **19.7 crore students** provided Aadhaar details in 2023-24.
- **Unique Educational IDs (EID)** created for each student to prevent duplicates.

○ **Data Accuracy:**

- Online submission with validation checks at different administrative levels ensures data accuracy.

ADDRESS:

19/1A Shakti Nagar, Nagiya Park Near Delhi University, New Delhi - 110007 (India)



- Data from 2022-23 onward is more reliable due to improved verification processes.

- **Gender-wise Enrolment Decline:**

- **Boys' enrolment:** From **13.53 crore** (2018-19) to **12.87 crore** (2023-24) — a **4.87%** decrease.
- **Girls' enrolment:** From **12.49 crore** (2018-19) to **11.93 crore** (2023-24) — a **4.48%** decrease.

- **State-wise Decline:**

- **Bihar:** Enrolment dropped from **2.49 crore** (2018-19) to **2.13 crore** (2023-24), a **35.65 lakh decrease**.
- **Uttar Pradesh:** Dropped from **4.44 crore** to **4.16 crore** (28.26 lakh decrease).
- **Maharashtra:** Dropped by **18.55 lakh**, from **2.32 crore** to **2.13 crore**.

ABOUT UDISE+

- **Overview:**

- UDISE+ is a large **Management Information System** initiated by the **Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSEL)**, Ministry of Education, Government of India.
- It covers **14.72 lakh schools**, **98.08 lakh teachers**, and **24.80 crore children**.

ADDRESS:

19/1A Shakti Nagar, Nagiya Park Near Delhi University, New Delhi - 110007 (India)



- **Purpose:**

- UDISE+ is an **online portal** that records data related to:

1. **Schools**
2. **Teachers**
3. **Enrolment**
4. **Infrastructure**
5. Other educational parameters for all recognized schools in India.

- **Data Collection Process:**

- Data is captured using the **Data Capture Format (DCF)**.
- Each school is provided with a **login ID and password** for online data entry.
- **Head Teacher/Head Master** of each school is responsible for compiling the data.

- **Validation and Verification Process:**

- Data undergoes a **3-stage validation/verification process:**
 1. **Block/Cluster level**
 2. **District level**
 3. **State level**

ADDRESS:

19/1A Shakti Nagar, Nagiya Park Near Delhi University, New Delhi - 110007 (India)



- After verification, data is **certified by the State Project Director (SPD)** at the State level.
- **Approval and Certification:**
 - Once the SPD certifies the data, it is considered **approved by the State**.
 - The certified data is then entered into the UDISE+ portal by the respective state.
- **Importance:**
 - UDISE+ data is considered the **most trusted and comprehensive pan-India database** for school education in the country.

IMPACT OF UDISE+

- The new system has contributed to improving data quality by establishing accurate identities for students and teachers.
- This has significant implications for beneficiary identification and **scheme allocations, such as Samagra Shiksha, PM POSHAN, and National Scholarships**.
- **By eliminating duplicate entries, the MoE aims to ensure more accurate beneficiary identification for government educational schemes**, which can lead to substantial cost savings in the future.

ADDRESS:

19/1A Shakti Nagar, Nagiya Park Near Delhi University, New Delhi - 110007 (India)



VAJIRAO & REDDY INSTITUTE

India's Top Potential Training Institute for IAS

+918988885050



+918988886060

www.vajiraoinstitute.com



info@vajiraoinstitute.com

In conclusion, while the 2023-24 enrolment data highlights some concerning trends in school enrolment, the improvements in data accuracy and the introduction of unique identifiers could lead to more efficient and equitable distribution of educational resources in the future. The government must investigate the causes of the enrolment decline to formulate effective interventions.

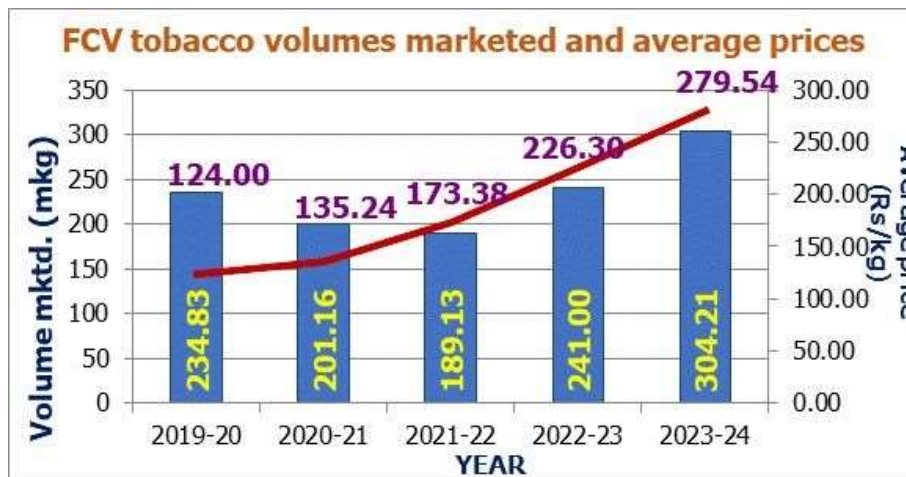


ADDRESS:

19/1A Shakti Nagar, Nagiya Park Near Delhi University, New Delhi - 110007 (India)



TOBACCO BOARD FOCUSES ON SUSTAINABILITY & GROWTH



- The Tobacco Board has been at the forefront of strategic initiatives aimed at promoting the sustainability and growth of India's tobacco industry.
- These measures include crop planning, production regulation, and export promotion to ensure the industry's long-term viability.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- **Strategic Initiatives for Sustainability and Growth:**
 - The Tobacco Board, established in 1976 under the Tobacco Board Act, plays a key role in regulating tobacco farming and ensuring fair and remunerative prices for tobacco farmers.

ADDRESS:

19/1A Shakti Nagar, Nagiya Park Near Delhi University, New Delhi - 110007 (India)



- The Board works closely with farmers, providing assistance and **financial support through banks to ensure high-quality tobacco production that meets the standards of both domestic and international markets.**
- The Board's extension and developmental activities promote sustainable cultivation practices, ensuring the tobacco industry's future growth.
- **Tobacco Exports Achieve Record Highs:**
 - **India is the 2nd-largest producer of tobacco in the world, following China, and the 4th-largest producer of Flue-Cured Virginia (FCV) tobacco globally.**
 - The tobacco sector continues to be a significant contributor to India's foreign exchange.
 - In 2023-24, tobacco exports reached a record ₹12,005.89 crore (approximately \$1.45 billion), marking an impressive growth of 87% compared to ₹6,408.15 crore in 2019-20.
 - The export volume has also surged from 218.84 million kg in 2019-20 to 315.51 million kg in 2023-24.
- **Doubling of Tobacco Farmers' Income:**
 - **The income of Flue Cured Virginia (FCV) tobacco farmers has more than doubled in the past five years.**

ADDRESS:

19/1A Shakti Nagar, Nagiya Park Near Delhi University, New Delhi - 110007 (India)



- **From ₹124 per kg in 2019-20, the price paid to FCV tobacco farmers has increased to ₹279.54 per kg in 2023-24.**
- **This achievement is a direct result of effective government policies and efficient market mechanisms that have significantly improved the livelihoods of approximately 83,000 farmers.**
- **The introduction of an IT-enabled electronic auctioning system by the Tobacco Board** has played a crucial role in ensuring better price discovery and securing fair remuneration for farmers.
- **Record-Breaking 2023-24 FCV Tobacco Season:**
 - Despite facing challenges such as natural calamities, **FCV tobacco farmers in Andhra Pradesh recorded a historic production of 215.35 million kg of tobacco in the 2023-24 season.**
 - **Farmers realized an average price of ₹288.65 per kg, the highest-ever recorded price for FCV tobacco, generating ₹6,313.58 crore in earnings.**
 - This represents an increase of ₹62.92 per kg compared to the previous season's average.

ADDRESS:

19/1A Shakti Nagar, Nagiya Park Near Delhi University, New Delhi - 110007 (India)



- The auctions for the 2023-24 crop ran for 178 days, from 29th February to 14th October 2024, with 43,021 farmers participating across 16 auction platforms.
- **Supportive Welfare Measures for Farmers:**
 - The **Tobacco Board has extended various welfare measures to tobacco farmers, including financial assistance** in the form of grants and loans during difficult times.
 - In the 2023-24 season, 38,751 registered growers **benefitted from a penalty waiver for the sale of 76.84 million kg of excess tobacco, resulting in savings of ₹184 crore for the farmers.**
 - The **Tobacco Board also contributed ₹92.70 lakh to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund in Andhra Pradesh to assist victims of recent cyclones**, demonstrating its commitment to the welfare of the farmers and communities.
- **Focus on Sustainable Practices:**
 - The Tobacco Board continues to emphasize sustainable tobacco farming by encouraging the adoption of **eco-friendly cultivation practices.**
 - This **not only enhances the quality of tobacco but also ensures the long-term viability of the industry in a changing environmental landscape.**

ADDRESS:

19/1A Shakti Nagar, Nagiya Park Near Delhi University, New Delhi - 110007 (India)



- The Board's efforts also include promoting organic tobacco cultivation and reducing the environmental impact of tobacco farming through better crop management practices.

INDUSTRY IMPACT & FUTURE OUTLOOK

• Economic Contributions:

- The tobacco industry significantly contributes to India's **economy**:
 - Provides income to **hundreds of thousands of farmers**.
 - Contributes to **foreign exchange earnings** through exports.
- Growth in **production** and **exports** reflects effective strategies by the **Tobacco Board** and **supportive government policies**.

• Farmer Welfare and Income Growth:

- The income of **FCV (Flue-Cured Virginia) tobacco farmers** has **doubled** due to:
 - **Targeted support** and efficient **market systems**.
 - **Rising prices**, leading to better livelihoods for farmers.
- The sector shows potential for continued income growth for farmers.

• Sustainability in Tobacco Cultivation:

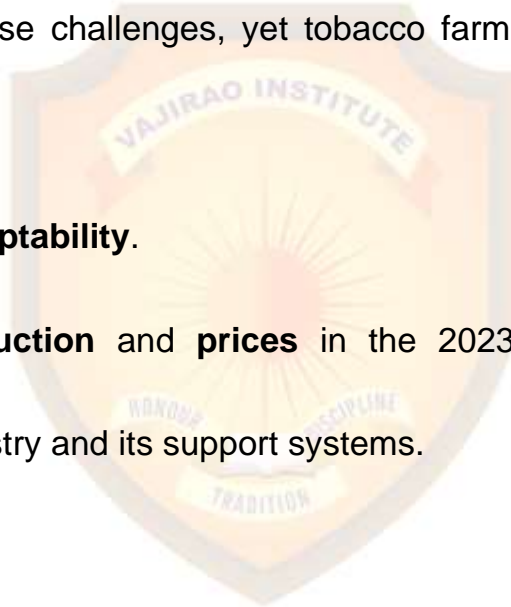
- The **Tobacco Board** focuses on **sustainable practices**:

ADDRESS:

19/1A Shakti Nagar, Nagiya Park Near Delhi University, New Delhi - 110007 (India)



- Promotes **eco-friendly farming methods**.
- Ensures long-term **sustainability** amidst growing **global environmental concerns**.
- Responds to increasing demand for **responsibly produced goods**.
- **Challenges and Resilience:**
 - **Natural calamities** pose challenges, yet tobacco farmers in **Andhra Pradesh** have shown:
 - **Resilience** and **adaptability**.
 - **Record-high production** and **prices** in the 2023-24 season demonstrate the strength of the industry and its support systems.



ADDRESS:

19/1A Shakti Nagar, Nagiya Park Near Delhi University, New Delhi - 110007 (India)



ONE TIME SPECIAL PACKAGE ON DAP FERTILIZER

- On January 1, 2025, the Union Cabinet, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved the extension of the **One-Time Special Package on Diammonium Phosphate (DAP)** fertilizer.
- This extension is for the period from **January 1, 2025, onwards**, until further orders, to ensure **sustainable availability of DAP** at **affordable prices** for farmers.
- The special package will continue the subsidy of **₹3,500 per metric ton (MT)** of DAP **over and above** the existing **Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS)**.
- The estimated budgetary requirement for this extended support is approximately **₹3,850 crore**.

ABOUT DAP

Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP) is a widely used chemical compound primarily as a **fertilizer** in agriculture. It is an inorganic salt with the chemical formula **(NH₄)₂HPO₄**. DAP is

ADDRESS:

19/1A Shakti Nagar, Nagiya Park Near Delhi University, New Delhi - 110007 (India)



one of the most popular phosphorus-based fertilizers because it contains two essential nutrients for plant growth: **nitrogen (N)** and **phosphorus (P)**.

- **Nitrogen (N):** 18% of the fertilizer content is nitrogen, which is crucial for the growth of leaves and overall plant health.
- **Phosphorus (P):** 46% of the fertilizer content is phosphorus, which promotes root development, flowering, and fruiting.

KEY CHARACTERISTICS OF DAP

- **Appearance:** DAP is typically found as a **white to off-white crystalline powder** or **granules**.
- **Solubility:** It is highly soluble in water, which allows plants to absorb the nutrients quickly.
- **pH:** When dissolved in water, DAP tends to increase the pH of the soil, making it slightly alkaline.

USES

- **Fertilizer:** DAP is most commonly used in **agriculture** as a source of phosphorus and nitrogen. It's especially effective for crops that need a high amount of phosphorus, such as **corn, wheat, rice, and soybeans**.

ADDRESS:

19/1A Shakti Nagar, Nagiya Park Near Delhi University, New Delhi - 110007 (India)



- **Soil Improvement:** It is also used to improve the quality of soil by enhancing its nutrient profile and promoting healthy root systems.
- **Hydrogenation and Acid Reactions:** DAP has some industrial applications, such as in **water treatment** and as a **flame retardant** in certain materials.

ADVANTAGES & DISADVANTAGES

Advantages:

- **High Nutrient Content:** The high percentage of nitrogen and phosphorus in DAP means fewer applications are needed compared to other fertilizers.
- **Fast-Acting:** Due to its high solubility, DAP provides quick nutrient availability for plants.

Disadvantages:

- **Soil Alkalinity:** Prolonged use can make the soil slightly more alkaline, which may not be ideal for certain crops that prefer acidic soil.
- **Cost:** As with many high-nutrient fertilizers, DAP can be expensive for farmers in some regions.

KEY POINTS

Objective:

ADDRESS:

19/1A Shakti Nagar, Nagiya Park Near Delhi University, New Delhi - 110007 (India)



Cabinet approves
Extension of One-time Special
Package on Di-Ammonium
Phosphate (DAP) beyond the NBS
subsidy for the period from
01.01.2025



- It aims to ensure sustainable availability of **DAP at affordable prices** to the farmers

- The Special package on DAP at **₹ 3,500 per MT** will be provided for the period 01.01.2025 till further orders, beyond the approved NBS subsidy



CABINET DECISION 01-01-2025

The primary goal of this extension is to ensure the **availability of DAP** at affordable prices to farmers, particularly given the **volatility in global markets** and **geopolitical constraints** that have impacted fertilizer prices worldwide.

- **Package Extension:**

- The subsidy of ₹3,500 per MT for DAP will be extended for an indefinite period starting from **January 1, 2025**.
- The **special package** aims to provide financial relief to farmers, keeping the prices of DAP fertilizer at **reasonable levels**.

ADDRESS:

19/1A Shakti Nagar, Nagiya Park Near Delhi University, New Delhi - 110007 (India)



- **Financial Implications:**

- The **tentative financial implication** for this extension is approximately **₹3,850 crore**.
- When combined with the package approved earlier in **July 2024**, the total amount spent on the **special package for DAP** from April 2024 to January 2025 will exceed **₹6,475 crore**.

- **Background of DAP Subsidy:**

- DAP is a key **phosphatic fertilizer** that is used extensively by farmers for crops like **wheat, paddy, and groundnut**.
- Since **April 2010**, the subsidy on **phosphatic and potassic fertilizers (P&K fertilizers)**, including DAP, has been governed under the **Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Scheme**.
 - The **Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) scheme** is a government program that **provides a fixed subsidy on Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers**.
 - The scheme was implemented **on April 1, 2010**.
 - The subsidy is **based on the nutrient content of the fertilizer and is decided annually or biennially**.

ADDRESS:



- In 2024, despite **geopolitical tensions** and **global price volatility**, the Indian government kept the price of DAP unchanged, offering farmers substantial relief by maintaining the price at **affordable levels** during both the **Kharif** and **Rabi** seasons.

- **Impact on Farmers:**

- The extension of this package ensures **farmers continue to receive DAP** at **subsidized prices**, which is crucial for their agricultural productivity.
- This move also emphasizes the **government's commitment** to farmers' welfare and to keeping the cost of essential agricultural inputs low, even amidst challenging external factors.

- **Benefits of the Extension:**

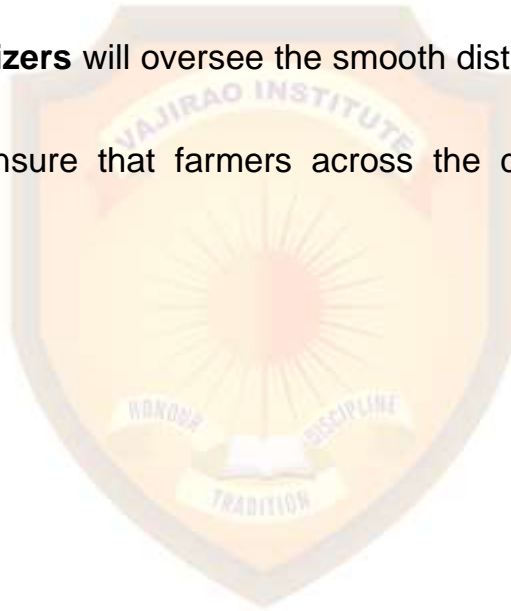
- **Affordability:** The continued subsidy ensures that DAP is available to farmers at **reasonable and affordable prices**, which is vital for maintaining their crop yields and productivity.
- **Sustainability:** The extension guarantees the **sustainable supply of DAP** fertilizer over an extended period, ensuring that farmers can rely on consistent input prices and supply.
- **Farmer Welfare:** The primary focus is on ensuring that farmers are not burdened by high fertilizer costs, which could otherwise hurt their financial stability and crop production.

ADDRESS:



IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

- The special package will continue to offer a subsidy of **₹3,500 per MT** of DAP over and above the existing NBS subsidy for the period from **January 1, 2025**, until further instructions.
- The **Department of Fertilizers** will oversee the smooth distribution and availability of DAP under this package to ensure that farmers across the country can access it without disruptions.



ADDRESS:

19/1A Shakti Nagar, Nagiya Park Near Delhi University, New Delhi - 110007 (India)



MCQs

1. Consider the following statements wrt UDISE+ and mark the correct one:
 1. The overall school enrollment is on a decline since 2018-19.
 2. The enrollment among girls has declined more than the boys in percentage terms.
- (A) Only 1
(B) Only 2
(C) Both 1 & 2
(D) Neither 1 nor 2



Ans. (D)

2. Consider the following statements and mark the correct one.
 1. Tobacco Board of India is a statutory body.
 2. The job of the board is regulating tobacco farming and ensuring fair and remunerative prices for tobacco farmers.
- (A) Only 1
(B) Only 2
(C) Both 1 & 2
(D) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans. (C)

ADDRESS:

19/1A Shakti Nagar, Nagiya Park Near Delhi University, New Delhi - 110007 (India)



3. Which country is the largest producer of Tobacco in the world?

- (A) India
- (B) China
- (C) USA
- (D) Brazil

Ans. (B)

4. Consider the following statements and mark **how many** of them are correct?

1. DAP is not soluble in water.
2. DAP contains 46% Phosphate & 18% Nitrogen.
3. DAP makes the soil slightly acidic.

- (A) Only 1 statement is correct.
- (B) Only 2 statements are correct
- (C) All the statements are correct.
- (D) None of the statements are correct.

Ans. (A)

ADDRESS:

19/1A Shakti Nagar, Nagiya Park Near Delhi University, New Delhi - 110007 (India)



VAJIRAO & REDDY INSTITUTE

India's Top Potential Training Institute for IAS

+918988885050



+918988886060

www.vajiraoinstitute.com



info@vajiraoinstitute.com

5. In which year was the Nutrient Based Subsidy Scheme of the government launched?
- (A) 2014
 - (B) 2019
 - (C) 2025
 - (D) None of the above

Ans. (D)



ADDRESS:

19/1A Shakti Nagar, Nagiya Park Near Delhi University, New Delhi - 110007 (India)