

# **Equities**

15 February 2012 | 24 pages

# **Global Fertilisers**

# Indian Fertiliser Subsidy Scheme — Costs Versus Yields

- Indian Subsidy Cutbacks a Major Risk to FY12 Fertiliser Demand Higher international prices, a weaker rupee and the Indian Government's goal to limit the fiscal impact of surging fertiliser subsidies has resulted in significantly higher DAP (>180%) and MOP (>100%) prices to farmers since the implementation of the country's new subsidy scheme in April 2010. Farmer price increases are far greater than international price gains over the same period (~15% & ~45%, respectively, for DAP and MOP) and have resulted in demand destruction of 20-25%. DAP and MOP subsidies may fall in 2012/13, and could pressure imports (by up to 1mT for each). This could risk oversupply given India accounts for ~45% (~7mT) of global DAP trade and ~15% (~6mT) of MOP trade.
- We Prefer Urea Stocks While DAP & MOP prices have increased, urea has remained at a very low (~\$115/T) and fixed price to the India farmer. Urea was also allocated >50% of the total \$11-12bn fertiliser subsidy budget. Thus urea demand has remained intact. India's domestic urea industry has capacity of ~22mT (>3x the size of the DAP industry). We believe one of its key advantages of scale is its relatively louder lobbying voice. We have Buy (1) ratings on China BlueChemical, CF Industries, Industries Qatar, Orascom Construction, Sinofert & Yara. Any change to the urea subsidy programme is a risk, although we think significantly higher prices are unlikely.
- MOP in a Relatively Better Position than DAP While DAP & MOP have suffered demand destruction (20-25%) as a result of higher farmer prices we relatively prefer MOP. Our reasons are: 1) it is cheaper than DAP (absolute prices are the key driver of fertiliser demand in India); 2) NBS subsidy economics for 2012/13 imply a MOP importer breakeven price of ~\$490/T (in line with current Indian prices) whereas the DAP breakeven of \$613/T implies a 10% cut to the 2H11 contract price of \$677/T cfr; 3) India has no domestic source of potash and so must import; and 4) Indian demand is more relevant for DAP as it accounts for a larger proportion of global trade (~45%) versus MOP (~15%). In potash, we have Buy (1) ratings on Israel Chemicals, K+S & Potash Corp. Despite potential challenges to Indian demand we would highlight our Buy (1) ratings on IPL & PhosAgro, where we believe valuations remain attractive.
- India Faces a Dilemma India's immediate objective is to contain its fertiliser subsidy spending. However, this may not complement its aim to achieve broader fertiliser application. India over-applies urea (it accounts for >80% of fertiliser application). This is negatively affecting yields. India's rice yields are even below those of its developing market neighbours. India also has over a billion people to feed where food accounts for as much as 50% of disposable income on average. Legislative elections are to be held in seven states this year, along with Presidential elections in July. We believe India's fertiliser subsidy and food costs will remain a key challenge for the government.

Industry Overview

#### MENA

### **Heidy Rehman**

+971-4-509-9746 heidy.rehman@citi.com

#### North America

#### P.J. Juvekar

+1-212-816-3097 pj.juvekar@citi.com

#### **Daniel Jester**

+1-212-816-5341 daniel.jester@citi.com

#### Pan-Europe

#### **Andrew Benson**

+44-20-7986-3925 andrew.benson@citi.com

#### **Dominik Frauendienst**

+44-20-7986-4299 dominik.frauendienst@citi.com

#### Russia

#### Daniel Yakub

+7-495-642-7693 daniel.yakub@citi.com

### Asia-Pac

#### Oscar Yee

+852-2501-2473 oscar.yee@citi.com

# Trevor Huynh

+61-2-8225-4821 trevor.huynh@citi.com

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# Summary

India's NBS (Nutrient Based Subsidy) scheme has become a particular focus for investors given the recent rise in DAP and MOP prices to the farmer along with subsequent demand destruction.

India is a key focus for fertilisers given it accounts for the following:

- ~20% of global urea trade (~7mT)
- ~45% of global DAP trade (~7mT)
- ~15% of global MOP trade (~6mT)

In this note we set out an overview of India's fertiliser subsidy schemes.

To summarise however we would highlight the following:

#### Preference for urea stocks

We have Buy (1) ratings on the urea stocks in Figure 1. We set out valuation tables in Figure 23 at the back of this note.

Figure 1. Urea Stocks - Top Picks

| Company              | Country       | RIC code | BBG code | Currency | <b>Current Price</b> | Target Price | ETR % |
|----------------------|---------------|----------|----------|----------|----------------------|--------------|-------|
| China BlueChemical   | China         | 3983.HK  | 3983 HK  | HKD      | 6.2                  | 7.8          | 29%   |
| CF Industries        | United States | CF.N     | CF US    | USD      | 180                  | 194          | 8%    |
| Industries Qatar     | Qatar         | IQCD.QA  | IQCD QD  | QAR      | 134                  | 140          | 9%    |
| Orascom Construction | Egypt         | OCIC.CA  | OCIC EY  | EGP      | 260                  | 280          | 14%   |
| Sinofert             | China         | 0.297.HK | 297 HK   | HKD      | 2.4                  | 2.8          | 25%   |
| Yara                 | Norway        | YAR.OL   | YAR NO   | NOK      | 256                  | 360          | 28%   |

Source: Powered by dataCentral. Note: dataCentral is CIRA's proprietary database which includes Citi's estimates for rated stocks, data from company reports and feeds from Reuters, Datastream, FirstCall, IBES and Toyo Kezai for non-rated stocks. Priced as at 13 February 2012.

> The key reason for our positive stance is that urea prices to the Indian farmer remain relatively the lowest at ~\$115/T. This low fixed price seems set to hold.

Indian urea demand seems set to remain intact given the price to the farmer is fixed at a very low c.\$115/T.

We would note that there have been various initiatives to raise the price of urea to the farmer. The most recent was for a 40% increase. However, this has been rejected by India's Department of Fertilisers (DoF).

Figure 2. India – Current Fertiliser Prices to the Farmer (Rs /T & \$/T)

|   | Urea  | MOP           | DAP           |
|---|-------|---------------|---------------|
| Price to the Indian farmer (Rs /T)                | 5,310 | 12,000-12,600 | 18,200-19,000 |
| Price to the Indian farmer (\$/T)                 | 115   | 261-274       | 396-413       |
| Current Average International Market Price (\$/T) | 410   | 500           | 545           |
| FX rate: Rs 46: \$1                               |       |               |               |

Source: FAI (Fertiliser Association of India) & CIRA

Price is the key driver of farmer fertiliser demand in India; despite the potential impact to yields from imbalance fertiliser application.

While an increase in urea prices remains a risk, we believe it is unlikely (given powerful government lobbying by India's domestic urea industry). We thus believe Indian urea demand will remain intact.

Indeed farmers may even choose to substitute urea for other more expensive fertilisers. Unlike their developed market counterparts, Indian farmers do not generally have access to scientific farming techniques. Their choice of fertiliser is predominantly driven by price. This is underlined by the fragmented nature of India's agricultural industry.

# Then DAP followed by MOP

We are relatively more cautious on MOP but more so on DAP.

Both have suffered demand destruction as a result of higher prices to the farmer. Indeed the FAI forecasts 2012/13 imports to decline by  $\sim$ 15% (to  $\sim$ 6mT for DAP and just over 5mT for MOP).

MOP is relatively cheaper to the Indian farmer, appears to have better 2012/13 NBS economics & has to be imported.

However, we would relatively prefer MOP given:

- It is cheaper to the Indian farmer than DAP and is therefore more likely to be displaced (see Figure 2).
- NBS economics on MOP for the upcoming 2012/13 NBS scheme imply an importer breakeven price of ~\$490/T (which is broadly in line with what India is paying). For DAP the breakeven implies a price of \$613/T cfr (i.e. a 10% cut on the 2H11 IPP of \$677/T cfr).
- India also has no domestic source of potash and so must import.
- India is more relevant for DAP given it accounts for a larger proportion of global trade (~45%) versus MOP (~15%).

We set out detail of breakeven prices in Figure 18 on page 13.

Our top picks in potash are highlighted in Figure 3.

Figure 3. Potash Stocks — Top Picks

| Company                             | Country                      | RIC code | BBG code | Currency | Current Price | Target Price | ETR % |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|---------------|--------------|-------|
| Israel Chemical                     | Israel                       | ICL.TA   | ICL IT   | ILS      | 40.5          | 50.0         | 31%   |
| K+S                                 | Germany                      | SDFGn.DE | SDF GR   | EUR      | 39.7          | 60.0         | 54%   |
| Potash Corp                         | Canada                       | POT.N    | POT US   | USD      | 44.7          | 54.0         | 22%   |
| Source: Powered by dataCentral. Pri | iced as at 13 February 2012. |          |          |          |               |              |       |

The key risks to potash are: 1) India taking a stake in Belaruskali and 2) delays to this year's contract negotiations (which seem likely to start mid-year).

We would note that the key potential downside risk for MOP is whether India takes a stake in Belaruskali (not listed). According to press reports (source: Bloomberg) the Indian Government is considering the acquisition of a 20-25% stake in Belaruskali. It has made no comment on these reports. If this were to transpire this would destabilise the current potash oligopoly, in our view. Pricing would likely fall given the resulting change in bargaining power of a major customer.

We also note that we would most likely expect mid-year potash price negotiations for India given the delay to a number of its potash shipments for 2011/12. This would be underlined if developed market demand continues to falter.

For information, we include our top DAP stocks where we believe valuation remains supportive.

| Figure 4. I | DAP Sto | cks — | Top | <b>Picks</b> |
|-------------|---------|-------|-----|--------------|
|-------------|---------|-------|-----|--------------|

| Company       | Country   | RIC code | BBG code | Currency | <b>Current Price</b> | Target Price | ETR % |
|---------------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|----------------------|--------------|-------|
| Incitec Pivot | Australia | IPL.AX   | IPL AU   | AUD      | 3.4                  | 4.3          | 30%   |
| PhosAgro      | Russia    | PHORq.L  | PHOR LI  | USD      | 10.3                 | 21.0         | 132%  |

Source: Powered by dataCentral. Priced as at 13 February 2012.

# India is a Major Importer of Fertilisers

India is a key focus for fertilisers as it accounts for the following:

- ~20% of global urea trade at ~7mT this equates to ~25% of India's average annual consumption.
- ~45% of global DAP trade at ~7mT this equates to ~60% of India's average annual consumption.
- ~15% of global MOP trade at ~6mT India imports its total requirements (as it has no domestic source of supply).

# With a significant agricultural industry....

India should continue to be a major consumer of fertilisers given the following:

Agriculture accounts for 17% of India's GDP.

- Population over 1bn
- Agricultural land as a percentage of total land mass 43%
- Agriculture as a percentage of GDP 17%
- Agriculture as a percentage of total exports 10%
- Agricultural workforce as a percentage of total workforce >50%
- World's second largest producer of rice, wheat, sugarcane, tea and fruits & vegetables

## ...that is highly fragmented

India's farming industry is made up of:

Over 80% of India's farm holding are <2 hectares.

- Operational farm holdings totalling ~129m hectares
- Of which most are small or marginal (i.e. <2 hectares) 83%

This contrasts markedly with the industrialised landscape and techniques of developed markets, such as the US.

This also partly explains India's soil deficiency and over-application of urea (see page 14).

# India's Fertiliser Subsidy Rocketed to Over \$20bn in 2008

India has subsidised fertilisers for over three decades. From 2002 the subsidy was effectively set as follows:

# The delivered market price less the fixed price to the farmer

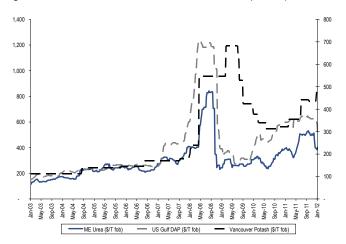
This subsidy was always been paid to the Indian importer (despite various initiatives for it to be paid directly to the farmer).

Under this scheme India set government-fixed Maximum Retail Prices (MRPs). This applied to 19 specific fertilisers (Urea, DAP, MOP, MAP, TSP, SSP, AS and 12 grades of complex /blended fertilisers). For urea, DAP and MOP the MRPs were as follows:

- Urea Rs 4,830/T (or \$105/T<sup>1</sup>)
- DAP Rs 9,350/T (or ~\$203/T)
- MOP Rs 4,455/T (or ~\$97/T)

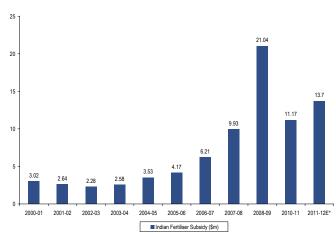
When fertiliser prices peaked in 2008 (see Figure 6) India's subsidy budget exceeded ~\$20bn (or almost 2% of GDP).

Figure 5. Urea, DAP & MOP Prices, Jan-03 — Feb-12 (\$/T fob)



Source: FMB, Green Markets & CIRA.

Figure 6. Indian Fertiliser Subsidy, 2000-12E (\$m)



<sup>\*</sup> Allocations so far for 2011-12 from the Ministry of Finance. However this figure could rise to ~\$20bn.

NB: India's agricultural year runs from start April to end March.

Source: Citi Investment Research and Analysis

# India's NBS Scheme Aimed to Cap its Fertiliser Subsidy

In a bid to control its fertiliser subsidy spending, India introduced its Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) scheme in April 2010.

India aimed to cap its subsidy at ~\$11-12bn; albeit with carve-outs for urea.

Prices to the farmer were raised by ~10%

although urea remained fixed. DAP & MOP were decontrolled, implying

importers could raise prices further.

The initiatives and key changes to the scheme were as follows:

- A targeted maximum subsidy cap of ~\$11-12bn.
- With an allocation per nutrient (see Figure 8).
- Urea pricing to the farmer was to remain fixed although at a raised (+10%) MRP of Rs 5,310/T (or ~\$115/T).
- Phosphate and potash fertilisers were decontrolled, i.e. prices to the farmer could be raised by the importer /manufacturer (although subject to government approval). However, increases were to be limited. DAP was set at Rs10,750/T (or ~\$235/T) while MOP was set at Rs5,055/T (or ~\$110/T).
- The setting of fixed import parity prices for DAP and MOP contracts, with only primary freight being borne by the government.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> At the prevailing FX rate of Rs 46: \$1.

Figure 7. India NBS Scheme - Allocated Subsidy Per Tonne, 2010-12 (Units As Stated)

|                  | 2010-11        |                | 2011-12        |                | Yoy Change % |
|------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| Fertiliser       | Subsidy (Rs/T) | Subsidy (\$/T) | Subsidy (Rs/T) | Subsidy (\$/T) | , ,          |
| DAP              | 18,474*        | 401            | 19,763         | 430            | +7%          |
| MAP              | 16,219         | 353            | 19,803         | 431            | +22%         |
| NPK: 14-35-14-0  | 15,877         | 345            | 18,866         | 410            | +19%         |
| DAP Lite         | n/a            | n/a            | 18,573         | 404            | n/a          |
| NPK: 10-26-26-0  | 15,521         | 337            | 18,080         | 393            | +16%         |
| NPK: 12-32-16-0  | 15,114         | 329            | 17,887         | 389            | +18%         |
| MOP              | 14,692         | 319            | 16,054         | 349            | +9%          |
| NPK: 19-19-19-0  | 14,058         | 306            | 16,387         | 356            | +17%         |
| NPK: 14-28-14-0  | 14,037         | 305            | 16,602         | 361            | +18%         |
| NP: 28-28-0-0    | 13,861         | 301            | 16,657         | 362            | +20%         |
| NPK: 17-17-17-0  | 12,578         | 273            | 14,662         | 319            | +17%         |
| TSP              | 12,087         | 263            | 14,875         | 323            | +23%         |
| NP: 24-24-0-0    | n/a            | n/a            | 14,278         | 310            | n/a          |
| NPK: 16-16-16-0  | n/a            | n/a            | 13,800         | 300            | n/a          |
| NP: 23-23-0-0    | 11,386         | 248            | 13,683         | 297            | +20%         |
| NPK: 15-15-15-09 | n/a            | n/a            | 13,088         | 285            | n/a          |
| NPK: 15-15-15-0  | 11,099         | 241            | 12,937         | 281            | +17%         |
| NPS: 20-20-0-13  | 10,133         | 220            | 12,116         | 263            | +20%         |
| NP: 20-20-0-0    | 9,901          | 215            | 11,898         | 259            | +20%         |
| NPS: 16-20-0-13  | 9,203          | 200            | 11,030         | 240            | +20%         |
| AS: 20.6-0-0-23  | 5,195          | 113            | 5,979          | 130            | +15%         |
| SSP              | 4,400          | 96             | 5,359          | 117            | +22%         |

<sup>\*</sup> Raised to this level from the initial Rs 16,268/T. The raised subsidy was based on an Import Parity Price (IPP) of \$580/T cfr for DAP.

NB: n/a designations reflect those fertilisers that were only included in the NBS scheme from 2011-12.

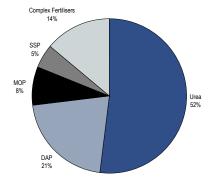
Applied FX rate: Rs 46 : \$1 Source: FAI & CIRA

# Urea got the best deal and still does

Urea (and thus its producers and importers) benefited from the new scheme on two fronts:

- Urea was allocated the largest proportion of the subsidy, i.e. >50% (see Figure 8).
- Importantly, urea was also not decontrolled. Urea pricing has remained at a very low fixed price to the Indian farmer, i.e. \$115/T. This has encouraged demand but also over-application.

Figure 8. India — Subsidy Allocation by Fertiliser, 2010-11



Source: FAI

The aim was to cap but also cover import /production costs and to encourage broader fertiliser application.

India imputed a number of variables to arrive at manageable farmer DAP & MOP pricing.

Farmer prices started to rise when importer /producer costs could not be covered within the existing NBS IPP & subsidy parameters.

## How it was meant to work

Overall the aim was to ensure that the applied subsidy plus the price to the farmer covered any necessary import /production costs (as well as allowing for a small margin) — see Figure 9.

On this basis, this should have encouraged DAP and MOP imports, thus leading to more balanced fertiliser application.

The key variables in the calculations made by India's Department of Fertilisers (DoF) were:

- Import parity pricing India's DoF based its FY IPPs (Import Parity Prices) for DAP and MOP based on prevailing price levels and did not incorporate potential increases
- FX rate India's DoF based this on its historical average rate (see Figure 12).
- **Subsidy** India's DoF based this on the proportion allocated to each nutrient as part of its fertiliser subsidy cap of \$11-12bn.
- **Prices to the farmer** Based on the above, India's DoF arrived at prices to the farmer which implied only a c.10% increase on the previous MRP levels.

Figure 9. Initial Indian NBS Economics for DAP & MOP, 2010-11 (Units As Stated)

|   | DAP    | MOP    |
|---|--------|--------|
| Initial Estimated DAP /MOP import parity price (\$/T) | 500    | 350    |
| Assumed FX rate: Rs /\$                               | 46     | 46     |
| DAP /MOP import price (Rs/T)                          | 23,000 | 16,100 |
| Customs duty at 5.15% (Rs/T)                          | 1,185  | 829    |
| Stevedoring charges (Rs/T)                            | 700    | 700    |
| Bagging costs (Rs/T)                                  | 200    | 200    |
| Dealer's Margin (Rs/T)                                | 275    | 275    |
| Costs less internal freight (Rs/T)                    | 25,360 | 18,104 |
| Standard importer margin (Rs/T)                       | 600    | 600    |
| Total cost less internal freight (Rs/T)               | 25,960 | 18,704 |
| Subsidy (Rs/T)  | 16,268 | 14,692 |
| Initial Price to the Farmer (Rs /T)                   | 10,750 | 5,055  |
| Implied recovered cost (Rs/T)                         | 27,018 | 19,747 |
| Revenue less costs excl domestic freight* (Rs/T)      | 1,059  | 1,043  |

<sup>\*</sup> Indian domestic freight costs can vary from Rs 800-4,000/T depending on distance & whether truck or rail. Source: FAI and CIRA Estimates

# What went wrong

Initially the NBS scheme was treated as a "work-in-progress" and so revisions were likely to be expected. However, the concern for investors has always been the risk of upward pressure on farmer prices. Indeed this began to transpire, albeit initially within relatively manageable levels.

# DAP assumptions needed upward revisions; farmer prices followed

Key within its assumptions, we would argue that India's DoF underestimated the potential rise in fertiliser prices, particularly for DAP. From the start April 2010 (when the new NBS scheme was implemented) to the end of the year, DAP prices increased 25% to close to \$600/T fob (see Figure 5).

The DoF thus had to revisit its NBS DAP assessment. It raised its DAP IPP to \$580/T cfr and the respective subsidy to Rs18,474/T.

Farmer DAP prices initially increased 16% on early revisions

However, this still left costs uncovered (Figure 10). This difference in cost was passed on to the farmer. Thus, at this stage, prices to the farmer started to rise.

| Figure 10. Revised Indian NBS Economics for DAP (Units As Stated) |        |
|---|--------|
| DAP import price (\$/T)   | 580    |
| Assumed FX rate: Rs /\$   | 46     |
| DAP import price (Rs/T)   | 26,680 |
| Customs duty at 5.15% (Rs/T)                                      | 1,374  |
| Stevedoring charges (Rs/T)  | 700    |
| Bagging costs (Rs/T)  | 200    |
| Dealer's Margin (Rs/T)  | 275    |
| Costs less internal freight (Rs/T)                                | 29,229 |
| Standard importer margin (Rs/T)                                   | 600    |
| Total cost less internal freight (Rs/T)                           | 29,829 |
|   |        |
| Subsidy (Rs/T)  | 18,474 |
| Initial Price to the Farmer (Rs /T)                               | 12,500 |
| Implied recovered cost (Rs/T)                                     | 30,974 |
| Revenue less costs excl domestic freight (Rs/T)                   | 1,145  |
| Source: Citi Investment Research and Analysis                     |        |

# Indeed farmer prices continued to rise

For the NBS scheme covering the 2011-12 agricultural year farmers saw a further increase in DAP and MOP pricing.

By 2012 DAP & MOP prices to the farmer had increased around 55% & 155%, respectively (since the start of the NBS scheme).

| Figure 11. Initial Indian NBS Economics for DAP & MOP, 2011-12 (Units As Stated) |
|--|
|--|

|   | DAP    | MOP    |
|---|--------|--------|
| DAP /MOP import parity price (\$/T)             | 645*   | 500#   |
| Assumed FX rate: Rs /\$                         | 46     | 46     |
| DAP /MOP import price (Rs/T)                    | 29,670 | 23,000 |
| Customs duty at 5.15% (Rs/T)                    | 1,528  | 1,185  |
| Stevedoring charges (Rs/T)                      | 700    | 700    |
| Bagging costs (Rs/T)                            | 200    | 200    |
| Dealer's Margin (Rs/T)                          | 275    | 275    |
| Costs less internal freight (Rs/T)              | 32,373 | 25,360 |
| Standard importer margin (Rs/T)                 | 600    | 600    |
| Total cost less internal freight (Rs/T)         | 32,973 | 25,960 |
| Subsidy (Rs/T)                                  | 19.763 | 16.054 |
| Price to the Farmer (Rs /T)                     | 14,500 | 11,300 |
| Implied recovered cost (Rs/T)                   | 34,263 | 27,534 |
| Revenue less costs excl domestic freight (Rs/T) | 1,290  | 1,395  |

<sup>\* 1</sup>H DAP IPP was set at \$612/T cfr. For 2H11 this increased to \$677/T cfr. Prices to the farmer similarly increased. # Average potash price (based on \$470-530/T cfr depending on timing of delivery).

Source: FAI and CIRA Estimates

# Then the rupee weakened....

Aside from the rise in global fertiliser prices, Indian importers /producers were also faced with a weakening rupee (see Figure 12).

Key to note is that the set subsidy along with the IPP for each nutrient is fixed, i.e. neither varies according to FX rates.

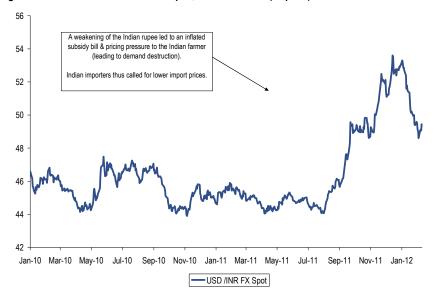
From the beginning of August to mid-December 2011 the Indian rupee versus the US dollar weakened from 44 to almost 54.

From the beginning of August to mid-December 2011 the Indian rupee versus the US dollar weakened by ~20%.

At the peak of India's weakening rupee, the NBS scheme at maximum quoted farmer prices for DAP and MOP became uneconomic. Indian importers also sought lower DAP & MOP prices.

Overall farmer prices for DAP and MOP had risen by >100% and >180% respectively (since the introduction of the NBS scheme).

Figure 12. US Dollar Versus Indian Rupee, Jan-10-to-Date (Rupees)



Source: Reuters & CIRA

# ....and farmer prices went up further

At the peak of India's weakening rupee, the NBS scheme at maximum quoted farmer prices for DAP and MOP became uneconomic.

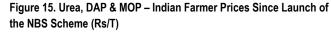
Indian importers have since pressured DAP and MOP suppliers for price reductions. PhosAgro agreed to a \$25-35/T cut to DAP pricing. However, the more consolidated MOP industry stood firm.

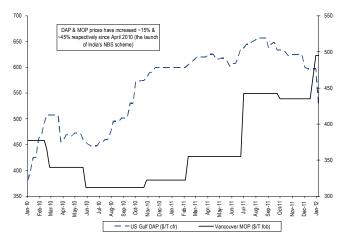
Figure 13. Indian NBS Economics for DAP & MOP At Weaker Rupee, 2011/12 (Units As Stated)

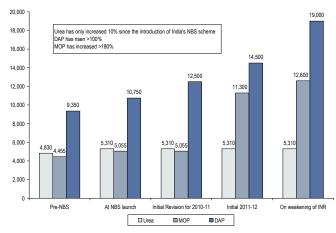
|   | DAP                      | MOP    |
|---|--------------------------|--------|
| DAP /MOP import parity price (\$/T)   | 677                      | 500    |
| Assumed FX rate: Rs /\$   | 54                       | 54     |
| DAP /MOP import price (Rs/T)  | 36,558                   | 27,000 |
| Customs duty at 5.15% (Rs/T)  | 1,883                    | 1,391  |
| Stevedoring charges (Rs/T)  | 700                      | 700    |
| Bagging costs (Rs/T)  | 200                      | 200    |
| Dealer's Margin (Rs/T)  | 275                      | 275    |
| Costs less internal freight (Rs/T)  | 39,616                   | 29,566 |
| Standard importer margin (Rs/T)   | 600                      | 600    |
| Total cost less internal freight (Rs/T)   | 40,216                   | 30,166 |
| O 1-24 (D./T)   | 40.700                   | 40.054 |
| Subsidy (Rs/T)  | 19,763                   | 16,054 |
| Price to the Farmer (Rs /T)*  | 19,000                   | 12,600 |
| Implied recovered cost (Rs/T)   | 38,763                   | 28,654 |
| Revenue less costs excl domestic freight (Rs/T)   | -1,453                   | -1,512 |
| * Max of quoted range of Rs 18,200-19,000/T for DAP and Rs Source: FAL and CIRA Estimates | 12,000-12,600/T for MOP. |        |

Overall farmer prices for DAP and MOP had risen by >100% and >180%, respectively (since the introduction of the NBS scheme). By comparison international DAP and MOP prices have risen ~15% and 45%, respectively, since the implementation of India's NBS scheme in April 2010.

Figure 14. International DAP & MOP Prices, Jan-10-Jan-12 (\$/T)







Source: FMB, Green Markets & CIRA

Source: FAI & CIRA

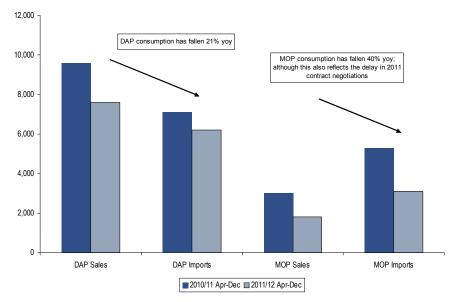
# Demand destruction has now become apparent

With rising prices, farmer demand for DAP and MOP started to stall.

India's FAI estimates underlying DAP & MOP demand to have fallen by 20-25%.

For April to December 2011 DAP consumption in India has fallen 21%. MOP consumption has fallen 40%. However, this also reflects the delay to contract negotiations. India's FAI estimates underlying demand to have fallen by 20-25% overall for DAP and MOP.

Figure 16. India – DAP & MOP Sales & Imports, Apr-Dec 2010/11 & 2011/12 (kT)



Source: FAI, FMB & CIRA.

# What now?

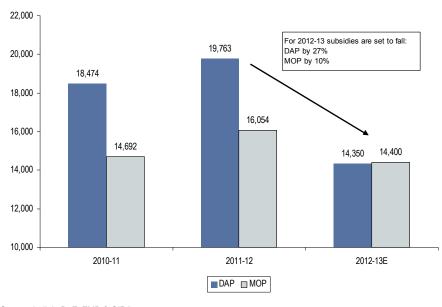
India is now in the process of setting its 2012-13 financial budget, which will be signed into law in March. This will incorporate its updated NBS budget.

## DAP & MOP subsidies seem set to fall.....

While final figures are yet to be disclosed, India's DoF has indicated a cut in the subsidies for DAP and MOP (as highlighted in Figure 17).

India is cutting its DAP subsidy by 27% & its MOP subsidy by 10%.

Figure 17. Indian NBS Scheme – DAP & MOP Subsidy per Tonne (Rs)



Source: India's DoF, FMB & CIRA

# ....implying DAP & MOP import pricing pressure

Assuming farmer prices for DAP and MOP do not rise further and also the prevailing FX rate of Rs49:\$, we would estimate a breakeven DAP IPP of \$613/T cfr. This compares with the 2H11 price of \$677/T cfr, i.e. a c.10% cut.

For MOP we estimate a price of ~\$490/T cfr. This is broadly in line with current contract prices.

However, we would note that in both instances we do not account for incremental domestic freight costs. Assuming an average Rs1,500/T we would estimate a DAP IPP of \$584/T cfr (-14% on 2H11). For MOP we estimate \$460/t cfr (-6% on 2H11).

We estimate breakeven DAP at \$613/T cfr (-10% on 2H11) & MOP at \$490/T cfr (flat on 2H11); all excluding domestic freight costs.

Figure 18. Indian NBS Economics for DAP & MOP, 2012/13 (Units As Stated)

|   | DAP                     | MOP    |
|---|-------------------------|--------|
| DAP /MOP import parity price (\$/T)                           | 613                     | 490    |
| Assumed FX rate: Rs /\$                                       | 49                      | 49     |
| DAP /MOP import price (Rs/T)                                  | 30,029                  | 23,990 |
| Customs duty at 5.15% (Rs/T)                                  | 1,546                   | 1,235  |
| Stevedoring charges (Rs/T)                                    | 700                     | 700    |
| Bagging costs (Rs/T)  | 200                     | 200    |
| Dealer's Margin (Rs/T)  | 275                     | 275    |
| Costs less internal freight (Rs/T)                            | 32,750                  | 26,400 |
| Standard importer margin (Rs/T)                               | 600                     | 600    |
| Total cost less internal freight (Rs/T)                       | 33,350                  | 27,000 |
| Subsidy (Rs/T)  | 14,350                  | 14,400 |
| Price to the Farmer (Rs /T)*                                  | 19,000                  | 12,600 |
| Implied recovered cost (Rs/T)                                 | 33,350                  | 27,000 |
| Revenue less costs excl domestic freight (Rs/T)               | -                       | -      |
| * Max of quoted range of Rs 18,200-19,000/T for DAP and Rs 1. | 2,000-12,600/T for MOP. |        |
| Source: FAI and CIRA Estimates                                |                         |        |

# 2012-13 DAP & MOP imports now seem likely to fall

India's FAI indicates a 15% fall in DAP & MOP imports for 2012-13.

Given recent demand destruction as well as the potential cut to subsidies we believe DAP and MOP imports seem likely to fall.

The FAI has indicated ~6mT for DAP (from 7mT) and just over 5mT for MOP (from close to 6mT).

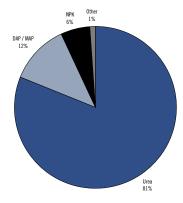
# India's dilemma – subsidy cap versus adequate crop yields

India's immediate objective seems to be to keep a manageable cap on its fertiliser budget, in our view. However, this may not complement its aim to achieve broader fertiliser application.

India over-applies urea and will likely continue to do so.

India continues to over-apply urea (see Figure 19). Indeed if urea continues to remain at the lowest price to farmers then demand will likely continue to be skewed to this nutrient.

Figure 19. Fertiliser Application by Nutrient



Source: IFA

Its crop yields remain weak, even by developing market standards.....

...while it has over a billion people to feed.

India's NBS scheme will likely need meaningful revisions, in our view.

However, this has led to soil deficiency which has negatively affected crop yields (see Figure 20). India's rice yields are even below those of its developing market neighbours (see Figure 21).

This is critical as India has over a billion people to feed. India will also hold elections across seven states this year. Its Presidential election is also due to be held in July of this year.

We believe this stresses the importance of balanced fertiliser application as well as affordable prices to the farmer.

However, the current subsidy scheme does not allow for both. We believe meaningful adjustments will likely need to be made over the near- to medium-term.

Figure 20. India – Soil Deficiency by Nutrient (Percentage)

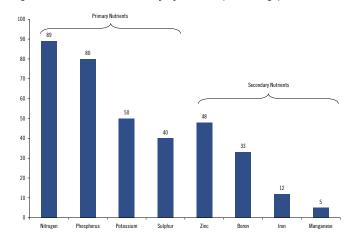
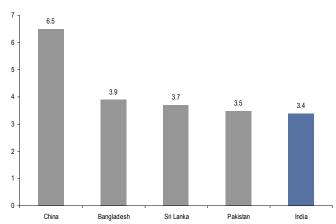


Figure 21. Rice Yields per Hectare – India Vs Developing Neighbours (T)



Source: FAO

Source: Food & Agriculture Organisation of the UN

# **Appendix**

# Global Fertilisers – Coverage & Valuation

Figure 22. Global Fertilisers – Coverage

|                    |                  |           |           |           |          |       | 52 Wee | eks   |              |       |                   |                  |            |        |                 |
|--------------------|------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-------|--------|-------|--------------|-------|-------------------|------------------|------------|--------|-----------------|
| Company            | Country          | Reuters   | Bloomberg | Rating    | Currency | Price | High   | Low   | Target Price | ETR % | Market cap (US\$) | Avg Daily Volume | Free Float | FYE    | Primary Analyst |
| Agrium Inc         | Canada           | AGU.N     | AGU US    | 2         | USD      | 81.4  | 98.1   | 64.1  | 87.0         | 38%   | 12,849            | 458              | 64%        | Dec-12 | P.J. Juvekar    |
| Arab Potash        | Jordan           | APOT.AM   | APOT JR   | 2         | JOD      | 40.0  | 46.6   | 37.5  | 41.0         | 4%    | 4,696             | 2                | 7%         | Dec-12 | Heidy Rehman    |
| China BlueChemical | China            | 3983.HK   | 3983 HK   | 1         | HKD      | 6.2   | 6.9    | 5.1   | 7.8          | 29%   | 3,680             | 6,536            | 25%        | Dec-12 | Oscar Yee       |
| CF Industries      | United States    | CF.N      | CF US     | 1         | USD      | 180.2 | 189.8  | 121.0 | 194.0        | 8%    | 11,780            | 477              | 100%       | Dec-12 | P.J. Juvekar    |
| Incitec Pivot      | Australia        | IPL.AX    | IPL AU    | 1         | AUD      | 3.4   | 4.6    | 3.0   | 4.3          | 30%   | 5,905             | 10,331           | 100%       | Sep-12 | Trevor Huynh    |
| Industries Qatar   | Qatar            | IQCD.QA   | IQCD QD   | 1         | QAR      | 133.7 | 148.5  | 117.0 | 140.0        | 9%    | 20,195            | 280              | 30%        | Dec-12 | Heidy Rehman    |
| Israel Chem        | Israel           | ICL.TA    | ICL IT    | 1         | ILS      | 40.5  | 64.0   | 34.2  | 50.0         | 31%   | 13,848            | 2,303            | 34%        | Dec-12 | Andrew Benson   |
| JPMC               | Jordan           | JOPH.AM   | JOPH JR   | 3         | JOD      | 12.0  | 15.9   | 11.5  | 8.0          | -32%  | 1,270             | 19               | 10%        | Dec-12 | Heidy Rehman    |
| K+S                | Germany          | SDFGn.DE  | SDF GR    | 1         | EUR      | 39.7  | 58.6   | 33.4  | 60.0         | 54%   | 10,001            | 1,439            | 88%        | Dec-12 | Andrew Benson   |
| Maaden             | Saudi Arabia     | 1211.SE   | MAADEN AB | Not Rated | SAR      | 28.4  | 29.3   | 19.9  | Not Rated    | na    | 7,005             | 2,232            | 33%        | Dec-12 | na              |
| Mosaic             | United States    | MOS.N     | MOS US    | 2         | USD      | 54.4  | 89.1   | 47.1  | 57.0         | 5%    | 23,151            | 1,712            | 70%        | May-12 | P.J. Juvekar    |
| Orascom Cnstruct   | Egypt            | OCIC.CA   | OCIC EY   | 1         | EGP      | 259.9 | 285.1  | 197.0 | 280.0        | 14%   | 8,996             | 123              | 47%        | Dec-12 | Heidy Rehman    |
| Potash Saskatche   | Canada           | POT.N     | POT US    | 1         | USD      | 44.7  | 63.3   | 38.6  | 54.0         | 22%   | 38,384            | 1,635            | 100%       | Dec-12 | P.J. Juvekar    |
| PhosAgro           | Russian Federati | icPHORq.L | PHOR LI   | 1         | USD      | 10.3  | 14.8   | 8.1   | 21.0         | 132%  | 3,303             | 201              |            | Dec-12 | Daniel Yakub    |
| SAFCO              | Saudi Arabia     | 2020.SE   | SAFCO AB  | 2         | SAR      | 180.0 | 192.8  | 149.0 | 195.0        | 16%   | 11,999            | 170              | 40%        | Dec-12 | Heidy Rehman    |
| Sinofert           | Hong Kong        | 0297.HK   | 297 HK    | 1         | HKD      | 2.4   | 4.6    | 1.8   | 2.8          | 20%   | 2,129             | 14,823           | 25%        | Dec-12 | Oscar Yee       |
| Uralkali           | Russian Federati | cURKAq.L  | URKA LI   | 2         | USD      | 37.9  | 50.5   | 27.8  | 41.0         | 12%   | 23,425            | 1,535            | 42%        | Dec-12 | Daniel Yakub    |
| Yara               | Norway           | YAR.OL    | YAR NO    | 1         | NOK      | 255.6 | 335.5  | 203.3 | 360.0        | 28%   | 12,780            | 2,294            | 64%        | Dec-12 | Andrew Benson   |
| Z A Pulawy         | Poland           | PULW.WA   | ZAP PW    | Not Rated | PLN      | 90.9  | 128.1  | 77.5  | Not Rated    | na    | 542               | 12               | 34%        | Jun-12 | na              |

Source: Powered by dataCentral. Priced as at 13 February 2002.

Figure 23. Global Fertilisers – Valuation

|                    |        |      |      | P/E   |       | E    | V/EBITDA x |       |      | EV/EBIT x |       | F     | CF yield % |       | Div  | idend yield % |       |      | P/Book |       |
|--------------------|--------|------|------|-------|-------|------|------------|-------|------|-----------|-------|-------|------------|-------|------|---------------|-------|------|--------|-------|
| Company            | FYE    | LRY  | 2010 | 2011E | 2012E | 2010 | 2011E      | 2012E | 2010 | 2011E     | 2012E | 2010  | 2011E      | 2012E | 2010 | 2011E         | 2012E | 2010 | 2011E  | 2012E |
| grium Inc          | Dec-12 | 2011 | 17.6 | 8.3   | 8.8   | 12.8 | 6.4        | 5.2   | 14.5 | 7.7       | 6.1   | -2.6% | 1.3%       | 3.6%  | 0.1% | 0.3%          | 0.6%  | 2.4  | 2.0    | 1.6   |
| rab Potash         | Dec-12 | 2010 | 20.4 | 15.1  | 10.5  | 14.4 | 10.2       | 7.1   | 17.8 | 12.5      | 8.1   | 5.6%  | 4.7%       | 8.6%  | 1.8% | 1.8%          | 1.8%  | 4.1  | 3.4    | 2.7   |
| China BlueChemical | Dec-12 | 2010 | 19.7 | 11.1  | 10.3  | 8.9  | 5.5        | 5.2   | 12.8 | 7.2       | 6.8   | 2.3%  | 1.6%       | -3.1% | 1.8% | 3.2%          | 3.6%  | 2.2  | 2.0    | 1.7   |
| F Industries       | Dec-12 | 2010 | 22.8 | 8.0   | 7.8   | 7.2  | 3.7        | 3.5   | 9.6  | 4.3       | 4.1   | 7.9%  | 19.7%      | 14.1% | 0.2% | 0.6%          | 0.9%  | 2.9  | 2.8    | 2.1   |
| ncitec Pivot       | Sep-12 | 2011 | 14.4 | 10.4  | 10.4  | 9.2  | 7.1        | 6.6   | 11.3 | 8.4       | 8.0   | 3.8%  | 1.4%       | 9.8%  | 2.3% | 3.4%          | 3.8%  | 1.5  | 1.5    | 1.4   |
| ndustries Qatar    | Dec-12 | 2010 | 13.2 | 8.9   | 8.6   | 12.0 | 8.1        | 7.1   | 13.5 | 8.8       | 8.1   | 1.7%  | 5.5%       | 11.1% | 4.1% | 4.1%          | 4.9%  | 3.4  | 2.7    | 2.3   |
| srael Chem         | Dec-12 | 2010 | 12.8 | 8.9   | 8.9   | 9.8  | 7.1        | 7.2   | 11.3 | 7.9       | 7.9   | 8.7%  | 5.8%       | 12.1% | 8.7% | 7.7%          | 7.3%  | 5.3  | 4.5    | 3.8   |
| PMC                | Dec-12 | 2010 | 12.0 | 11.4  | 12.7  | 9.1  | 7.7        | 8.9   | 11.9 | 9.5       | 11.1  | -1.3% | -1.2%      | 1.2%  | 1.2% | 1.2%          | 1.2%  | 1.7  | 1.5    | 1.4   |
| +S                 | Dec-12 | 2010 | 14.6 | 10.7  | 9.6   | 8.4  | 6.7        | 6.0   | 10.9 | 8.2       | 7.3   | 8.6%  | 7.5%       | 5.7%  | 2.5% | 3.2%          | 4.0%  | 2.9  | 2.5    | 2.1   |
| laaden             | Dec-12 | nm   | na   | 63.1  | 15.5  | na   | na         | na    | na   | na        | na    | na    | na         | na    | na   | na            | 0.0%  | na   | na     | na    |
| losaic             | May-12 | 2011 | 28.1 | 12.4  | 10.9  | 12.7 | 6.7        | 5.9   | 17.1 | 7.8       | 6.9   | 2.1%  | 4.8%       | 2.7%  | 0.4% | 0.4%          | 0.4%  | 2.7  | 2.0    | 1.9   |
| rascom Cnstruct    | Dec-12 | 2010 | 15.0 | 12.1  | 9.8   | 9.9  | 8.0        | 6.8   | 13.0 | 10.0      | 8.3   | -0.7% | 4.9%       | 9.9%  | 7.0% | 5.8%          | 5.8%  | 2.9  | 2.8    | 2.5   |
| hosAgro            | Dec-12 | 2010 | 9.5  | 4.6   | 5.9   | 6.5  | 3.6        | 4.7   | 9.1  | 4.4       | 5.8   | 2.9%  | 16.7%      | 18.0% | 2.5% | 29.0%         | 3.4%  | 1.7  | 2.9    | 1.8   |
| otash Saskatche    | Dec-12 | 2011 | 22.3 | 12.7  | 12.4  | 14.1 | 9.1        | 8.7   | 16.8 | 10.2      | 9.8   | 1.6%  | 3.2%       | 4.1%  | 0.3% | 0.6%          | 1.3%  | 5.7  | 4.9    | 3.6   |
| SAFCO              | Dec-12 | 2010 | 15.4 | 12.2  | 12.3  | 14.4 | 10.8       | 10.7  | 16.0 | 11.8      | 11.7  | 6.2%  | 8.4%       | 8.4%  | 6.7% | 7.2%          | 7.2%  | 6.3  | 5.7    | 5.5   |
| inofert            | Dec-12 | 2010 | 25.0 | 12.1  | 9.6   | 23.0 | 6.0        | 4.6   | 49.7 | 8.2       | 6.1   | 8.1%  | 20.3%      | 3.4%  | 0.6% | 1.3%          | 1.8%  | 1.1  | 1.0    | 0.9   |
| ralkali            | Dec-12 | 2010 | 20.7 | 13.9  | 9.9   | 15.8 | 10.4       | 7.4   | 18.1 | 11.4      | 7.9   | 2.5%  | 7.4%       | 7.7%  | 0.0% | 3.6%          | 5.0%  | 6.1  | 2.6    | 2.0   |
| ara                | Dec-12 | 2011 | 12.3 | 7.1   | 7.4   | 8.2  | 5.2        | 4.8   | 10.7 | 6.3       | 5.8   | 5.4%  | 5.8%       | 15.6% | 2.2% | 2.7%          | 3.0%  | 2.1  | 1.6    |       |
| eighted average    |        |      | 19.5 | 12.7  | 10.2  | 12.2 | 7.7        | 6.9   | 15.0 | 8.8       | 7.9   | 3.2%  | 6.0%       | 7.7%  | 2.2% | 3.2%          | 3.1%  | 4.0  | 3.2    | 2.    |

Source: Powered by dataCentral. Priced as at 13 February 2002.

**Notes** 

**Notes** 

**Notes** 

# **Appendix A-1**

# **Analyst Certification**

The research analyst(s) primarily responsible for the preparation and content of this research report are named in bold text in the author block at the front of the product except for those sections where an analyst's name appears in bold alongside content which is attributable to that analyst. Each of these analyst(s) certify, with respect to the section(s) of the report for which they are responsible, that the views expressed therein accurately reflect their personal views about each issuer and security referenced and were prepared in an independent manner, including with respect to Citigroup Global Markets Inc and its affiliates. No part of the research analyst's compensation was, is, or will be, directly or indirectly, related to the specific recommendation(s) or view(s) expressed by that research analyst in this report.

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|--|-------|-----------|------|-----------------|------|------|--|
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| Citi Investment Research & Analysis Global Fundamental Coverage            | 57%   | 34%       | 9%   | 10%             | 79%  | 10%  |  |
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