

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION AND FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2753
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 15TH DECEMBER, 2015

SOIL HEALTH MISSION

2753. ADV. NARENDRA KESHAV SAWAIKAR:
KUNWAR HARIBANSH SINGH:
SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:
SHRI A.T. NANA PATIL:
SHRIMATI MEENAKASHI LEKHI:
SHRI SULTAN AHMED:
SHRI DUSHYANT CHAUTALA:
SHRI RAMESH BIDHURI:
SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR:
SHRI ASHOK SHANKARRAO CHAVAN:
SHRI OM BIRLA:
SHRI RAJESH KUMAR DIWAKER:
SHRI RAVNEET SINGH:
SHRI NAGAR RODMAL:
SHRI R. DHRUVA NARAYANA:
SHRIMATI POONAM MAHAJAN:
SHRI D.K. SURESH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has launched new soil health mission for the benefit of farmers in the country;
- (b) if so, the salient features of the Mission;
- (c) the advantage of the new mission over the past mission launched by the Government;
- (d) the number of soil health cards issued to the farmers in each State/UT during the last one year; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to create more soil testing laboratories in various parts of the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI MOHANBHAI KUNDARIA)

- (a) & (b): Yes, Madam. Soil health Card Scheme has been launched during the year 2014-15 to issue soil health cards to all 14 crore farm holdings of the country in every 3 years of interval to address nutrient deficiencies in fertilization practices.

Under the scheme, soil samples will be collected in a grid of 2.5 hectares in irrigated areas and 10 hectares grid in rainfed areas. Global Positioning System (GPS) based samples will be drawn & tested for 12 parameters namely pH, Electrical Conductivity (EC), Organic Carbon (OC), macro-nutrients (Nitrogen, Phosphorus & Potassium), secondary nutrients (Sulphur) and Micro-nutrients (Zinc, Boron, Iron Manganese & Copper). Soils Health Cards will be generated online along with fertilizer recommendation.

(c): The advantage of the new scheme are:-

(i) It is for the first time a uniform soil sampling method is introduced in all States across the country in a grid of 2.5 ha in irrigated areas and 10 ha in rainfed areas. GPS based sampling will allow monitoring of changes in soil health over the years.

(ii) Uniform soil testing methodology is being adopted to analyze 12 parameters viz. pH, EC, OC, Primary nutrients (NPK), secondary nutrients (S), micronutrients (Zn, B, Fe, Mn & Cu).

(iii) Uniform format for soil health card has been adopted. The Soil Health Card portal has been developed to generate and issue soil health cards based on General Fertilizer Recommendations provided by Agriculture Scientists.

(d): As on 09.12.2015, States have issued 66 lakh Soil Health Cards to farmers. State-wise details are given at Annexure.

(e): Under the ongoing scheme called Soil Health Management, financial assistance has been provided for 180 laboratories (103 Static and 77 Mobile) to States amounting to Rs.100 crores in two years 2014-15 & 2015-16 for setting up of Static/Mobile Soil Testing Laboratories and also strengthen the existing Static Soil Testing Laboratories.

Annexure

Status of Soil Health Card Scheme as on 09.12.2015

Sl.No.	State	No of Soil Health Cards issued till 09.12.2015
I	SOUTH ZONE	
1	Andhra Pr	1274518
2	Karnataka	3700
3	Kerala	12064
4	Tamil Nadu	980892
5	Telangana	242000
II.	WEST ZONE	
6	Gujarat	800000
7	Madhya Pr	275000
8	Maharashtra	1522000
9	Rajasthan	225000
10	Chhattisgarh	59248
11	Goa	0
III.	NORTH ZONE	
12	Haryana	20000
13	Punjab	64897
14	Uttarakhand	72322
15	Uttar.Pr	66736
16	Himachal Pr	18994
17	J&K	8586
IV.	EAST ZONE	
18	Bihar	660000
19	Jharkhand	9844
20	Odisha	222436
21	West Bengal	10500
V.	NE ZONE	
22	Arunachal Pr	0
23	Assam	413
24	Manipur	0
25	Meghalaya	15668
26	Mizoram	
27	Nagaland	5470
28	Sikkim	0
29	Tripura	6950
	TOTAL	6577238
