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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2295 TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 31ST JULY, 2018

SOIL HEALTH CARDS

2295. SHRI ANIL SHIROLE:

SHRI PARBHUBHAI NAGARBHAI VASAVA:

SHRI GEORGE BAKER:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE ‡ãðŠãäÓã एवं किसान कल्याण ½ãâ"ããè

be pleased to state:

- (a) the main/salient features of soil health card scheme;
- (b) the number of Soil Health cards issued under the said scheme during the last three years, State-wise, including Gujarat;
- (c) the details of funds sanctioned, allocated and utilized under the said scheme since its inception across the country, State/UT-wise including Gujarat and West Bengal;
- (d) the details of the target set and achievements made under this scheme so far;
- (e) whether the agricultural production has increased across the country after the implementation of the said scheme and if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (f) the details of the steps taken by the Government to further strengthen the said scheme and bring maximum areas under the coverage of this scheme?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

‡ãðŠãäÓã एवं किसान कल्याण ½ãâ¨ããÊã¾ã ½ãñâ À㕾ã ½ãâ¨ããè (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a): Yes, Madam. Soil Health Card Scheme plays a vital role in enhancing agricultural production in a sustainable manner. The Government has introduced Soil Health Card (SHC) Scheme to assist State Governments to provide Soil Health Cards to all farmers across the country once in a cycle of 2 years. Soil Health Card provides information to farmers on nutrient status of their soil along with recommendations on appropriate dosage of nutrients to be applied for improving soil health and its fertility, which results in enhanced agricultural productivity.

- (b): A statement showing number of Soil Health Cards State-wise and UT-wise issued during the last three years including Gujarat is given at **Annexure-I.**
- (c): A statement showing funds allocated/ sanctioned/ released and utilized since the inception of the Soil Health Card Scheme is given at **Annexure-II**.
- (d): In the 1st Cycle of the scheme (2015-16 to 2016-17) against the target of distributing 10.74 crore soil health cards full target has been achieved. In the 2nd Cycle of Scheme (2017-18 to 2018-19), against the target of distributing 12.20 crore soil health cards, 4.71 crore soil health cards have been distributed to farmers.
- (e): The soil Health Card Scheme is meant for upkeep the health of soil. Soil Health Cards provides information to farmers on nutrient status of their soil along with recommendations on appropriate dosage of nutrients to be applied for improving soil health and its fertility, which results in enhanced agricultural productivity.

The impact analysis by National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad, revealed that there is a reduction in use of urea by 9% and DAP by 7% but an increase in use of potash by 20% in paddy after the adoption of soil health cards that resulted in decreased cost of cultivation ranging between Rs.1000 to Rs.5000 per acre. MANAGE also observed a significant increase in yield after the adoption of soil health card recommendations by the farmers.

A Study conducted by National Productivity Council (NPC) found that application of fertilizers as per recommendations in the soil health card resulted in 8 to 10% saving in cost of production and the increase in the yield of crops to the tune of 5-6%.

(f): The SHC Scheme is being implemented in all the States/Union Territories with an aim to assist the states/ union territories to provide soil health cards to all farms holding across the country at an interval of 2 years and to strengthen / increase the soil testing facilities of the States/UTs. 411 Static Soil Testing Labs, 80 Mobile Soil Testing Labs and 8752 Mini Labs have been sanctioned. These labs will create additional soil testing capacity of 307.66 lakh samples per annum in addition to the existing capacity of 1.78 crore soil samples per annum. In addition, guidelines for outsourcing of soil sample analysis have also been issued to the states/UTs.

Further, to provide soil testing facilities at farmers door step and to create employment for rural youth, nearly 1562 village level soil testing projects have been approved and funds are being released to the states.

<u>Annexure-I</u>

State-wise Status of Soil Health Card Scheme (as on 24.07.2018)

		No. of SHCs Issued during								
SI.No.	States/UTs	Cycle		Cycle-II						
		2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19					
1	Uttar Pradesh	1015000	15976346	9425710	0					
2	Maharashtra	2947000	10030232	5232234	11142					
3	Madhya Pradesh	1204000	7668377	3548951	0					
4	Rajasthan	1114000	5772000	2483000	112000					
5	Karnataka	40000	7792189	3372859	0					
6	Gujarat	1366000	3742923	2554462	1531229					
7	Andhra Pradesh	1636000	5819204	3554087	0					
8	Bihar	1008000	5461650	1792813	0					
9	West Bengal	91000	4949510	1552000	48000					
10	Tamil Nadu	2343000	4657000	3403088	40499					
11	Telangana	1199000	4521737	1741214	39899					
12	Punjab	295000	956726	41842	10763					
13	Haryana	49000	4178238	348824	9300					
14	Chhattisgarh	658000	3232709	1945355	997014					
15	Odisha	654000	1720233	940293	0					
16	Kerala	46000	717435	507026	0					
17	Goa	20000	5000	10107	0					
18	Uttarakhand	268000	482494	375247	99854					
19	Himachal Pradesh	128000	257011	413459	34860					
20	J&K	33000	659062	457022	57734					
21	Jharkhand	77000	560507	110934	0					
22	Arunachal Pradesh	1000	19532	55	0					
23	Assam	11000	1289901	107573	0					
24	Manipur	1000	113522	15000	0					
25	Meghalaya	19000	190561	75141	2026					
26	Mizoram	4000	7986	5993	275					
27	Nagaland	12000	172797	38000	0					
28	Sikkim	27000	19000	0	0					
29	Tripura	9000	108723	58862	3056					
30	Andaman & Nicobar	0	10000	1625	0					
31	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	0	2222	0	0					
32	Puducherry	0	19594	953	0					
	Total	16275000	91114421	44113729	2997651					

Annexure-II

State-wise fund released and Unspent balance under Soil Health Card Scheme

(Rs. In lakh)

SI.	State	2014	2014-15 2015-16				2016-17				2017-18			2018-19		
No		Released	Fund	Allocation	Released	Fund	Allocation	Released	Fund	Allocatio	Released	Fund	Allocation	Released	Fund	
			Utilized			Utilized			Utilized	n		Utilized			Utilized	
1	Andhra Pr.	124.08	124.08	706.09	457.75	457.75	1394.47	1394.47	1394.47	1213.54	1225.67	1216.57	1345.97	672.98	0.00	
	, a anaona i ii	12.23	12.23	30.24	17.18	17.18	49.82	37.37	37.37	27.72	20.79			49.40	1	
	Assam	50.85	50.85	253.19	142.07	142.07	618.94	365.03	0.00	376.26	0.00			0.00		
	Bihar	253.39	243.15	673.50	488.17	433.59	1288.75	0.00	0.00	1177.90	0.00					
	Chhattisgarh	66.04	66.04	383.43	281.03	281.03	685.43	342.72	342.72	844.88	888.12	802.38				
	Goa	11.51	0.00	16.57	12.42	0.00	18.78	0.00	0.00	22.50	0.00					
	Gujarat	80.76	80.76	835.50	603.46	603.46	1057.38	528.69	528.69	1682.49	1990.36			0.00		
	Haryana	34.13	34.13	400.67	288.22	288.22	440.31	0.00	0.00	709.80	1065.05	699.60		800.23		
	Himachal Pr.	24.08	24.08	70.55	47.34	47.34	58.84	29.42	29.42	135.00	136.34	136.3400		113.09		
_	J&K	31.79	31.79	141.22	77.16	77.16	325.89	0.00	0.00	223.18				246.54		
	Jharkhand	50.69	35.58	73.25	53.97	38.12	128.35	64.18		103.77	0.00					
	Karnataka	127.02	127.02	1292.93	650.25	650.25	2059.61	1029.80	1029.80	1499.19	1135.63	1095.48		835.33		
	Kerala	112.62	112.62	82.56	60.93	60.93	131.77	0.00	0.00	114.83	0.00			0.00		
	Madhya Pr.	142.86	142.86	1228.13	888.05	888.05	2747.08	1373.54	1373.54	2082.58	2669.47	2109.02		2097.56		
$\overline{}$	Maharashtra	215.96	215.96	1284.83	932.30	932.30	2430.13	1910.73	1743.53	2112.41	1066.77	813.28		1560.21		
	Manipur	12.80	0.00	30.91	17.58	0.00	63.47	0.00	0.00	27.96		0.00				
	Meghalaya	13.62	13.62	36.45	20.60	20.60	43.44	0.00	0.00	53.15	40.26					
	Mizoram	11.98	11.98	23.93	13.79	13.79	36.04	6.15		16.18						
	Nagaland	13.18	13.18	40.01	22.46	22.46	73.82	17.55		45.12	0.00			40.03		
-	Odisha	80.23	80.23	371.35	269.89	269.89	608.96	304.48	304.48	601.77	451.33			341.96		
	Punjab	25.81	25.81	424.02	304.98	197.62	958.42	0.00	0.00	751.97	0.00			0.00		
	Rajasthan	143.42	143.42	1212.62	875.79	875.79	2216.58	1108.29	937.52	2577.60				2109.67		
	Sikkim	11.75	11.75	20.29	11.81	11.81	25.23	0.00	0.00	17.84	13.51	13.51	88.46			
	Tamil Nadu	131.91	131.91	652.14	469.51	469.51	1289.84	644.92	644.92	1147.08	868.91	563.25				
	Telengana	93.48	93.48	544.04	352.92	352.92	936.50	468.25	468.25	931.21	705.39					
	Tripura	18.38	18.38	40.38	22.71	22.71	78.95	59.21	59.21	44.19				26.42		
	Uttar Pr.	354.47	354.47	2386.50	1716.42	1716.42	4884.09	2442.05	2442.05	4468.04	2256.36	1951.35		2319.31		
	Uttarakhand	23.40	23.40	119.02	65.19	65.19	235.56	144.70	144.70	183.25	92.54					
	West Bengal	117.14	117.14	666.70	480.12	480.12	1459.95	1094.96	1094.96	1170.32	591.01	0.00				
	Puducherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		18.00	13.64					
	A&N Island	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00					
32	D&N Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00					
	Total	2389.58	2339.92	14041.02	9644.07	9436.28	26346.40	13366.49	12652.77	24379.73	15276.87	11330.45	30224.98	13454.78	0.00	

There is no allocation during 2014-15 fund released are for preparatory arrangements.