

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3465**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2019

**SOIL TESTING**

3465. SHRI DHARAMBIR SINGH:

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

- (a) whether the Government has formulated a scheme to test the soil of agricultural fields to prevent the spread of cancer like disease through it;
- (b) if so, the number of States where the soil has been tested so far including the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) if not, whether the Government should not get the testing of the soil done for toxicity spreading through food products grown along with the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a): Government has been implementing Soil Health Card (SHC) Scheme since 2015 to provide soil test based crop-specific nutrient recommendations to all the farmers in the country every 2 years. Each sample is tested for 12 parameters namely macro-nutrients (Nitrogen, Phosphorous & Potassium), secondary nutrient (Sulphur), micro-nutrients (Zinc, Iron, Copper, Boron & Manganese) and others (Electrical Conductivity, pH & Organic Carbon). 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 productivity, which would also result in safe produce.

(b): The number of soil samples tested during cycle -I (2015-17) is 253.49 lakh samples, during cycle - II (2017-19) is 267.86 lakh samples and during current year (2019-20 so far) is 13.20 lakh. The State-wise detail is given at **Annexure**.

(c): In order to assess the factual position of crop growing soils of the country in terms of pesticides residues, work has recently been initiated in program mode at Division of Agriculture Chemicals, IARI, the assessment of soils of basmati growing regions and vegetable growing belts in the first phase.

**Annexure****State-wise number of Soil Samples Tested under Soil Health Card (SHC) Scheme**

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Number of Soil Samples Tested during		
		Cycle-I (2015-17)	Cycle-II (2017-19)	(2019-20)
1	Uttar Pradesh	4770399	4867442	245000
2	Maharashtra	2347121	2792042	196412
3	Madhya Pradesh	2313977	2315844	109085
4	Rajasthan	2308013	2865039	42293
5	Karnataka	1665765	1665766	61495
6	Gujarat	1589236	1684207	63591
7	Andhra Pradesh	1348382	1357706	225970
8	Bihar	1308778	1149690	38698
9	West Bengal	1300349	1167860	0
10	Tamil Nadu	1274536	1300037	58317
11	Telangana	1034678	954453	110664
12	Punjab	835526	835526	17793
13	Haryana	788670	1245100	22666
14	Chhattisgarh	703691	949334	55054
15	Odisha	668635	579383	2562
16	Kerala	127585	141454	0
17	Goa	25000	12000	529
18	Uttarakhand	135738	137019	12513
19	Himachal Pradesh	69635	100000	13539
20	J & K	160687	147853	28267
21	Jharkhand	115302	76164	3965
22	Arunachal Pradesh	20532	8005	0
23	Assam	278707	284778	0
24	Manipur	20713	20714	0
25	Meghalaya	39372	39372	2846
26	Mizoram	11986	11986	590
27	Nagaland	33423	16712	0
28	Sikkim	13217	10109	0
29	Tripura	32736	32736	8650
30	Delhi	0	860	0
31	Andaman & Nicobar	1405	11804	0
32	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2222	0	0
33	Puducherry	3530	5747	236
<b>Total</b>		<b>25349546</b>	<b>26786742</b>	<b>1320735</b>

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