

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1763

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 10TH FEBRUARY, 2026

SOIL HEALTH CARD

1763. SHRI VARUN CHAUDHRY:

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

- (a) the number of sampling, preparation and distribution of Soil Health cards during the last five years, year and State-wise;
- (b) the expenditure involved in sampling, preparation and distribution of soil health cards; and
- (c) the output of distribution of soil health cards regarding the trend of utilisation of urea and other fertilisers in the various States and Union Territories during the last five years ?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

- (a): The details of number of sample collection, testing and generation/distribution of Soil Health Cards (SHCs) during the last five years, year-wise and state-wise are at **Annexure-I**.
- (b): Rs. 624.25 crore has been released as Central Share to States and UTs for the implementation of the Scheme during the last five years from 2020-21 to 2024-25. Rs. 300 per SHC is the cost norm under the scheme of Soil Health & Fertility provided for sampling, preparation and distribution of soil health cards.

(c): Government promotes judicious use of fertilizer through Soil Health & Fertility scheme since 2014-15 to provide SHCs for all farm holdings, to promote balanced and integrated nutrient management for improving productivity and soil fertility. Since inception of the scheme, till date 25.79 crore SHCs have been generated.

National Productivity Council (NPC), New Delhi carried out a study 'Soil Testing Infrastructure for Faster Delivery of SHC in India' in 2017 in 76 districts of 19 States covering 170 soil testing labs and 1700 farmers. As a result of application of fertilizer and micronutrients as per SHC recommendations, there has been a decrease of use of chemical fertilizer application in the range of 8-10% was found. Overall 5-6% increase in the yield of crops was reported, due to application of fertilizer and micronutrients as per SHC.

An impact study of Soil Health & Fertility Scheme (November 2017) was conducted by National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad. As per report, about 62.8% of the farmers use fertilizers according to the recommendations on the SHC. The cost per acre reduced by 4 to 10 % due to low fertilizer use. Crop yields increased for majority of the crops, although moderately.

NITI Ayog has conducted schemes evaluation during 2025 and found that the SHC has contributed to correcting fertilizer imbalance (by reducing the excessive use of urea) and improving productivity. The scheme has also helped in achieving the broader objectives of Integrated Nutrient Management (INM). About 68.5% of the surveyed farmers reported a clear improvement in soil health after using natural inputs, while 25.7% of farmers reported only a marginal improvement.

The consumption of Urea and other fertilizers depend on various interrelated factors like; cropping patterns and area, irrigation, high-yielding varieties, soil characteristics and its health, climate and weather conditions, etc. The year-wise consumption/sale of urea and other fertilizers during the last five years are at **Annexure-II**.

Annexure-I

The details of number of sample collection, testing and generation/distribution of Soil Health Cards (SHCs) during the last five years, year-wise and state-wise.

(In Numbers)

State	2020-21		2021-22	2022-23		2023-24		2024-25		Total	
	Samples collected	Sample tested & SHCs generated	Samples collected	samples collected	Sample tested & SHCs generated	Samples collected	Sample tested & SHCs generated	Samples collected	Sample tested & SHCs generated	Samples collected	Sample tested & SHCs generated
Andaman & Nicobar	3000	3000	NIL As SHC component was not implemented	3000	2850	913	604	10000	9999	16913	16453
Andhra Pradesh	0	0		0	0	278153	258716	449757	449753	727910	708469
Arunachal Pradesh	53	53		0	0	2250	2275	100000	100020	102303	102348
Assam	0	0		0	0	298482	295182	1012370	1011600	1310852	1306782
Bihar	274158	333359		502852	1510587	200000	250048	500000	500000	1477010	2593994
Chhattisgarh	5317	5317		0	0	160000	160678	174902	174875	340219	340870
Dadra & Nagar Haveli And Daman & Diu	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Goa	6556	6556		9033	9033	8986	8783	11889	10341	36464	34713
Gujarat	0	0		179769	88422	178634	178286	623844	623295	982247	890003
Haryana	18972	18972		600000	600000	299522	297772	599994	583159	1518488	1499903
Himachal Pradesh	25152	25152		24134	24134	12000	12361	74000	74084	135286	135731
Jammu & Kashmir	77519	77519		272378	186890	54000	57905	80524	80314	484421	402628
Jharkhand	0	0		0	0	120511	112024	238073	234959	358584	346983
Karnataka	105546	105546		177359	177359	221427	221427	268000	268000	772332	772332
Kerala	118022	118022	0	0	0	0	110871	107904	228893	225926	

Ladakh	0	0		0	0	3306	931	2897	1898	6203	2829
Madhya Pradesh	168454	168454		183443	168208	555480	465296	1190918	1144843	2098295	1946801
Maharashtra	0	0		206153	206153	256553	240246	301000	497012	763706	943411
Manipur	4147	4147		7800	7800	164	0	411	346	12522	12293
State	2020-21		2021-22	2022-23		2023-24		2024-25		Total	
	Samples collected	Sample tested & SHCs generated	Samples collected	samples collected	Sample tested & SHCs generated	Samples collected	Sample tested & SHCs generated	Samples collected	Sample tested & SHCs generated	Samples collected	Sample tested & SHCs generated
Meghalaya	10022	14195		0	0	13000	13000	24999	24999	48021	52194
Mizoram	0	0		2857	2857	5170	5170	29825	29727	37852	37754
Nagaland	0	0		14800	14800	14800	14752	110977	110977	140577	140529
Odisha	119093	142078		454062	325484	100012	14163	498835	498763	1172002	980488
Puducherry	3006	3006		0	0	3000	3002	3000	3000	9006	9008
Punjab	19196	19196		202826	168745	119626	87944	247777	139485	589425	415370
Rajasthan	0	0		154429	154429	273004	268578	344818	341022	772251	764029
Sikkim	0	0		3000	3000	15000	15035	60000	60000	78000	78035
Tamil Nadu	357000	357000		134050	134050	250400	250264	400000	400000	1141450	1141314
Telangana	165527	165527		0	0	0	0	142896	141440	308423	306967
Tripura	6816	6816		20075	20000	16848	15211	36683	36661	80422	78688
Uttar Pradesh	28109	28109		593449	392257	485035	485022	826000	826000	1932593	1731388
Uttarakhand	122167	81876		57424	25305	52368	52368	100570	100913	332529	260462
West Bengal	0	0		0	0	332990	326095	392474	378096	725464	704191
Total	1637832	1683900		3802893	4222363	4331634	4113138	8968304	8963485	18740663	18982886

Source: SHC Portal.

Annexure-II

Year-wise consumption/sale of urea and other fertilizers during the last five years (2021-22 to 2025-26)

(In`000 tonnes)

Year	UREA	DAP	MOP	Complex	SSP	Total
2020-21	35050.49	11918.45	3431.81	12582.38	4488.92	67472.05
2021-22	34173.17	9264.26	2392.97	12137.92	5676.43	63644.75
2022-23	35725.60	10531.04	1631.87	10730.84	5017.76	63637.11
2023-24	35780.94	10973.03	1645.28	11679.95	4544.29	64623.49
2024-25	38792.47	9629.04	2202.54	14971.91	4928.49	70524.45

Source: iFMS portal
