

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3822
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 11TH AUGUST, 2026

REVIEW OF SOIL HEALTH CARD ISSUANCE

3822. DR. KALANIDHI VEERASWAMY:

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

- (a) the total number of Soil Health Cards (SHCs) issued to farmers under the Soil Health Card Scheme, State-wise, including Tamil Nadu;
- (b) the frequency and coverage of soil testing conducted in the last three years, and number of farmers receiving recommendations based on soil test results;
- (c) whether the Government has observed gaps in issuance, renewal, or accuracy of SHCs, particularly for small and marginal farmers;
- (d) the measures being taken to increase awareness among farmers about the use of SHCs for optimal fertilizer application and soil nutrient management;
- (e) whether any follow-up support, training or financial incentives are provided to farmers adopting recommendations from SHCs; and
- (f) the steps being taken to improve digital tracking, laboratory infrastructure, and timely delivery of SHCs across all States?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) to (c): 26.26 crore Soil Health Cards (SHCs) have been generated/issued to farmers in the country under the Soil Health & Fertility Scheme since inception of the scheme i.e. 2014-15 till date. State-wise details of issue of SHCs, including Tamil Nadu are at **Annexure-I**. Total 8313 Soil Testing Labs (1267 Static Soil Testing Labs, 168 Mobile Soil Testing Labs, 6197 Mini Soil Testing Labs and 681 Village Level Soil Testing Labs) have been established under the scheme. During the last three years from 2023-24 to 2025-26,

2.42 crore soil testing have been conducted and 2.42 crore SHCs have been generated/issued to farmers including small & marginal farmers in the country.

(d) & (e): Under the Scheme, around 7.17 Lakh demonstrations, 130627 farmer's training programmes and 7,425 farmer's mela have been organized to enable farmers to follow recommendations in the SHC. In addition, 70,002 Krishi Sakhis have been trained to support farmers in using SHCs among other issues. School soil health programme was started in 2023-24, wherein students participate in soil sample collections, testing, SHC generation and providing advisory to farmers. Under the programme 2015 soil labs have been established in schools to spread awareness of SHC in children & thereby their families. SHC also provides recommendations specific for natural farming and organic farming. 19.37 lakh soil samples of natural farmers have been collected since, 2025-26 till date and 14.57 lakh SHCs have been generated thereof. Beneficiary linked schemes of agriculture including National Mission on Edible Oils-Oilseeds and Mission for Aatmanirbharta in Pulses also encourage farmers to generate SHC and follow the recommendations.

Rural Agriculture Work Experience (RAWE) Programme, a component of the Student READY (Rural Entrepreneurship Awareness Development Yojana) provides undergraduate agriculture students with practical exposure to village and farming. These students disseminate improved agricultural technologies through extension. From 2021–22 to 2025–26, the programme covered 1,05,329 undergraduate students from 62 agricultural universities. Low-cost technologies such as yellow sticky traps, pheromone traps, seed treatment, vermicomposting, integrated farming systems etc All these extension activities seek to address the gaps in issuance, renewals & use of SHCs by farmers, including small & marginal farmers. Soil health & Fertility Scheme covers the cost of SHC, and same is provided to the farmers free. Government bears Rs. 300 for generation of each SHC and same is provided to farmers free of cost. No financial incentives are provided to farmers adopting recommendations from SHCs.

(f): Farmer can digitally track generation of SHC once sample is collected by entering mobile number through soil health card portal <https://soilhealth.dac.gov.in/soilhealthcard> . After generation of SHC, it can be also downloaded from the portal. Under the scheme financial assistance is provided to states for setting up of soil testing laboratories. Rs. 75 lakh per laboratory is provided for setting up of static/mobile soil testing laboratory whereas Rs. 1.5 lakh is provided for setting up of Village Level Soil Testing Laboratory. Total 8313 Soil Testing Labs (1267 Static Soil Testing Labs, 168 Mobile Soil Testing Labs, 6197 Mini Soil Testing Labs and 681 Village Level Soil Testing Labs) have been established under the scheme. Citizen charter has been prepared and issued on 25.10.2023 for timely delivery of SHCs to the farmers. As per citizen charter, entire activity of soil sample collection, testing, generation of SHC and issue of recommendations to farmers should be completed within 25 days (30 days in case of hilly & north eastern states) of sample collection.

Annexure-I

State-wise details of Soil Health Cards generated under Soil Health & Fertility Scheme since inception i.e. 2014-15 till date

(In Numbers)

S. No.	States/UTs	Number of Soil Health Cards issued to Farmers
1	Andaman & Nicobar	53548
2	Andhra Pradesh	16247087
3	Arunachal Pradesh	217606
4	Assam	4402295
5	Bihar	15824822
6	Chhattisgarh	10160966
7	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	15797
8	Goa	92587
9	Gujarat	15359628
10	Haryana	10411716
11	Himachal Pradesh	1639073
12	Jammu & Kashmir	2288059
13	Jharkhand	1569112
14	Karnataka	18099620
15	Kerala	3569784
16	Ladakh	5575
17	Madhya Pradesh	21382112
18	Maharashtra	28523314
19	Manipur	253318
20	Meghalaya	529395
21	Mizoram	99926
22	Nagaland	478954
23	Odisha	6386575
24	Puducherry	46221
25	Punjab	3108467
26	Rajasthan	20439948
27	Sikkim	210453
28	Tamil Nadu	15621730
29	Telangana	11242403
30	Tripura	411011
31	Uttar Pradesh	41184919
32	Uttarakhand	2020485
33	West Bengal	10739004
Total		262635510

Source: SHC Portal
