

No: 2-2/2018 Fert Use (Pt) (FTS- 82716)
Government of India
Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare
(Fert Use Cell/INM Division)

Room No. 528, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi-110001
Dated the 15th May, 2020

To
Secretary (Agriculture)
Government of
(All States/ UTs)

Subject: Operational Guidelines for implementation of Soil Health Card (SHC) and
Soil Health Management (SHM) Schemes during the year 2020-21 – reg.

Sir,

I am directed to enclose Operational Guidelines for implementation of Soil Health Card (SHC) & Soil Health Management (SHM) Schemes during the year 2020-21. You are requested to furnish the list of villages along with geo-coordinates with in a week's time. The detailed training guidelines will be sent soon.

Yours faithfully,



(Dr. Gajendra Singh)
Assistant Development Officer (M)
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Encl: As above

Copy to:

1. Director of Agriculture, Government of (All States/ UTs)
2. Nodal Officer (Soil Health Card) (All States / UTs)

Operational Guidelines for implementation of Soil Health Card (SHC) and Soil Health Management (SHM) Schemes during the year 2020-21

(i) Awareness generation through training cum demonstration to the farmers:

In selected villages, training cum demonstrations will be conducted by Department of Agriculture in association with KVKs/ SAUS/ ICAR Institutions. States can also involve Krishi Sakhis, AC&ABC trained agri-entrepreneurs, selected NGOs, FPOs, Agriculture graduates in awareness generation among farmers. Fertiliser companies should also be involved in the awareness generation activities. Honorarium may be paid from the training component.

Selection of villages: The State-wise tentative target is given at **Annexure**. The following criteria for selection of villages may be adopted by the states:

- Villages that were found deficient in soil nutrients (in particular nutrients & sulphur) during cycle-II and model village's programme or villages problematic soils may be selected.
- Villages in all the districts should be taken up. The selected villages should be approachable for visit by the farmers of other villages to see and gain knowledge from the demonstrations organized on SHC recommendation.
- The average yield of major cropping system in village is less than the block / district average yield.
- Villages in which farmer's have inadequate awareness on significance / utility of soil health card.
- Villages already covered under model village programme during 2019-20 need not be covered again.
- Name of selected villages along with geo-coordinated should be made available to this Ministry.
- Around 50000 krishi Sakhis are existing in the country (under Department of Rural Development) whose services can be utilized for spreading awareness regarding SHC. The villages in which the krishi Sakhis are there should be selected on priority basis for training.
- Similarly, villages where there is presence of strong NRLM groups/ women Self Help Groups should be given priority.

(ii) Setting up of Village Level Soil Testing Labs:

Establishment of Village Level Soil Testing Labs has been taken up under Soil Health Management (SHM) scheme with the objective of employment generation for rural youth and to improve timelines in analysis of soil samples. Financial assistance for setting up of Village Level Soil Testing Labs can be availed by Agri-Clinics and Agri Business Centers (AC&ABC), Agri-prenures, Ex-servicemen, Self Help Groups (SHGs), Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), Farmer Producer Companies (FPCs), Farmer Joint Liability Groups, Farmer Cooperative Societies, PACS, Input Retail Outlets, Input Retailers and Schools / Colleges.

Financial assistance @ 75% of total cost of project (Rs. 5 lakh total cost) is provided to beneficiaries, which is shared on 60:40 bases between GOI and states (90:10 in case of NE and Hilly States). Beneficiary contribution will be 25% i.e. Rs 1.25 lakh.

It is proposed to set up 3,000 village level soil testing labs during the year 2020-21. Since Women Self Help Groups model in Jharkhand has been found successful, emphasis will be laid on these groups. Successful Women Self Help Groups need to be identified for establishing the village labs. Assistance of Rural Development Ministry will be taken in identification of Women Self Help Groups.

(iii) Enhancing Soil testing capacity through setting up of Soil Testing Labs:

107 districts have been identified in the country that doesn't have Soil Testing Lab (STLs). It is proposed to set up 107 districts in a phased manner during the next 4-5 years. 36 STLs are to be set up during 2020-21. Financial assistance @ Rs 75 lakh is provided for setting up of each lab, which is shared on 60:40 bases between GOI and states (90:10 in case of NE and Hilly States).

Monitoring:

- State needs to submit the GPS location of the village/ demonstration plot along with video clippings of the training done to the farmers of the village. The SHC portal will be used for uploading that data. Formats will be prepared accordingly by NIC in consultation with INM division.
- SLUSI, the subordinate office of INM division will also monitor the programme.
- Review meetings, EC&GC meetings.

Annexure

State-wise tentative targets under Soil Health Card & Soil Health Management schemes during 2020-21

| S. No. | States | No. of villages | New Soil Testing Labs | Village level Soil Testing Labs |
|--------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 2756 | 0 | 286 |
| 2 | Bihar | 6958 | 0 | 230 |
| 3 | Chhattisgarh | 3125 | 0 | 63 |
| 4 | Goa | 61 | 0 | 5 |
| 5 | Gujarat | 2866 | 4 | 107 |
| 6 | Haryana | 1073 | 0 | 53 |
| 7 | Jharkhand | 5045 | 5 | 113 |
| 8 | Karnataka | 4573 | 0 | 76 |
| 9 | Kerala | 231 | 0 | 66 |
| 10 | Madhya Pradesh | 8531 | 0 | 135 |
| 11 | Maharashtra | 6804 | 1 | 151 |
| 12 | Odisha | 7978 | 0 | 135 |
| 13 | Punjab | 1969 | 0 | 60 |
| 14 | Rajasthan | 6940 | 0 | 127 |
| 15 | Tamil Nadu | 2534 | 1 | 166 |
| 16 | Telangana | 1616 | 0 | 239 |
| 17 | Uttar Pradesh | 16584 | 0 | 354 |
| 18 | West Bengal | 6348 | 0 | 149 |
| 19 | Arunachal Pradesh | 866 | 5 | 48 |
| 20 | Assam | 4111 | 8 | 98 |
| 21 | Manipur | 404 | 5 | 21 |
| 22 | Meghalaya | 1061 | 2 | 18 |
| 23 | Mizoram | 129 | 2 | 11 |
| 24 | Nagaland | 222 | 1 | 32 |
| 25 | Sikkim | 70 | 0 | 14 |
| 26 | Tripura | 140 | 1 | 25 |
| 27 | Himachal Pradesh | 3205 | 0 | 34 |
| 28 | Uttarakhand | 2609 | 0 | 41 |
| 29 | A&N Islands | 87 | 1 | 3 |
| 30 | D&D and D&N Haveli | 15 | 0 | 3 |
| 31 | J&K and Ladakh | 1035 | 0 | 134 |
| 33 | Puducherry | 15 | 0 | 3 |
| 34 | Chandigarh | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| 35 | Delhi | 34 | 0 | 0 |
| 36 | Lakshadweep | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| | Total | 100000 | 36 | 3000 |