

## **SOIL HEALTH CARD**

### **The main objectives of the scheme are:**

- To issue soil health cards every two years to all farmers of the State, so as to provide a basis to include nutrient deficiencies in fertilization practices.
- To strengthen soil testing facilities and provide soil test based recommendations to farmers for improving soil fertility and economic return to farmers.
- To develop crops specific nutrient management in the districts for enhancing nutrient use efficiency.
- To facilitate and promote use of soil amendments for reclamation of alkaline soils for improving their fertility and crop productivity.
- To promote use of micro nutrients for improving efficiency of fertilizer use.

### **Guidelines for implementation of “Soil Health Card” scheme:**

- In irrigated area one soil sample at 2.5 ha grid for marginal and small holdings, one sample each holding for semi-medium, medium & large holdings. In rainfed area one sample at 10 ha grid for marginal, small, semi-medium & medium holdings, one sample each holding for large holding.
- Soil samples should be processed following standard procedures and analyzed for various parameters namely pH, electrical conductivity (EC), organic carbon (OC), and available P, K, S and micronutrients.
- Soil health card is field-specific detailed report of soil fertility status and other important soil parameters that affect crop productivity. Besides, soil health, it also provides an advisory on soil test based use of fertilizers and amendments.

- Soil Health Card contains the details of Soil Fertility, dosage of fertilizer application in crops, soil amendments for saline or alkaline soil and recommendation on integrated nutrient management.

GoI flagship scheme Soil Health Card is being implemented in Telangana State since 2015-16. During Cycle-I: (2015-16 & 2016-17) total target for collection & analysis is 10.34 lakhs and the targeted samples were collected and analyzed. The Soil health cards distributed to the farmers is 55, 53,982.

During Cycle-II: (2016-17 & 2017-18) total target for collection & analysis is 9, 73,970 & the target for Soil health card printing & distribution: 55,45,220. Target for collection & analysis during 2017-18 is 4,87,627. The no. of samples collected as on 20.07.2017 is 2.73 lakhs and the analysis of soil samples & distribution of soil health cards is under progress.

\*\*\*\*\*