

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the basis on which Government claims that income of farmers has increased or is increasing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) to (c) The latest available estimates of average income per agricultural household in the country are based on the "Situation Assessment Survey of Agricultural Households" conducted by National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) during its 70th round (January 2013 - December 2013). As per the survey results, the average monthly income per agricultural household from all sources is estimated to be ₹ 6,426/.

Government has not conducted any such Survey since 2013. However, the National Statistical Commission (NSC) has decided to conduct the next Situation Assessment Survey (SAS) of Agricultural Households in the NSS 77th round (January 2019- December 2019) with reference to the agricultural year July 2018 - June 2019.

As per the available reports of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Doubling of Farmers' Income by 2022, the Committee has considered the estimates of income obtained from NSSO 70th round unit level data as the base level income. Moreover, as the base year of doubling of income by 2022 has been kept as 2015-16, the committee has derived income for the year 2015-16 at current prices and constant (2011-12) prices for the major states and for major size classes.

#### **Renovation of old soil testing labs**

2756. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Soil Health Cards distributed in the last three years;
- (b) whether crop specific recommendations about the use of fertilizers and micro-nutrients is also provided to the farmers and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether renovation and strengthening of old soil testing labs is undertaken and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) The number of Soil Health Cards distributed in the last three years and current year are:-

Cycle	Year	No of Soil Health Cards distributed (In lakh)
Cycle-I	2015-16	162.75
	2016-17	911.15
	Total Cycle-I	1073.90
Cycle-II	2017-18	441.14
	2018-19	42.61
TOTAL Cycle-II		483.75

(b) Soil Health Cards provides crop specific recommendations on appropriate dosage of nutrients to be applied for 12 parameters namely major nutrients (Nitrogen, Phosphorous & Potash) secondary nutrient (Sulphur), Micronutrients (Zinc, Copper, Iron, Manganese, Boron) and other parameters (pH, Electrical Conductivity and Organic Carbon).

(c) Yes, Sir. Financial assistance is provided under Soil Health Management (SHM) Scheme to States for strengthening of existing Soil Testing Labs @ ₹ 40 lakh per lab.

Year-wise soil testing labs sanctioned for strengthening is given below:-

Year	No. of Labs
2014-15	7
2015-16	262
2016-17	75
2017-18	103
TOTAL	447

#### **Decline in farmers' income**

2757. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that farmers who have no other sources of income than agriculture are earning only 1/3rd of minimum daily wages;