CIRCULAR


Ref: 1. Circular even no dated 18-10-2019

Attention is invited to the reference cited. Working instructions were issued for the implementation of the pilot project ‘Development of Model Villages’ under the Soil Health card scheme during 2019-20. Under the programme, soil sample collection will be from individual farmer holding with farmer participation. One village per block is to be adopted for holding based soil testing, to organize demonstrations (1 ha each) for each adopted village and organization of farmer melas for awareness creation. Villages that were found deficient in soil nutrients during cycle-I and II were selected for implementation of “Development of Model Villages.”

The Government of India is conducting the concurrent monitoring of the programme. The monitoring team has informed that the process of soil sample collection is going on at a slow pace in the districts where the team has visited. In the review meeting of Assistant Soil Chemists, it came to notice that the number of soil samples reached laborataroies is very low. This reveals that even the collected samples are not reaching the laborataroies.

As per the guidelines of scheme, the demonstrations under the programme are to be conducted on the basis of soil analysis data. Once the collection and analysis of the soil is delayed, it will be impossible to complete the scheme in stipulated time.

Under these circumstances following instructions are issued for strict compliance.

1. Strict instructions should be given to all officers involved in the process of soil sample collection to complete the activity within one week positively.

2. It should be ensured that the soil sample collection and farmer registration will be done by staff of Krishi Bhavans with the help of contract staff of ATMA, LEADS, VDP, etc. If necessary, the service of Agricultural Assistants of other Krishi Bhavans should be utilized.
3. It should be ensured that the collected soil samples reach the laboratories with out any delay.

4. The progress of analysis of soil samples, generation and printing of Soil Health Card should be strictly monitored at the district level.

5. Utmost importance should be given for the distribution of the soil health cards. Keeping the SHCs undistributed at STLs or Krishi Bhavans should be dealt with seriously.

6. The Demonstration plots should be laid out based on the soil analysis data. It should be ensured that all the instructions given in the guidelines issued earlier are strictly adhered to.

7. The Principal Agricultural Officer / Project Director, ATMA should give prime importance for the implementation of the programme in the district and the progress of the soil sample collection and soil analysis should be reviewed in detail.

8. Any hindrance faced in the implementation of the scheme should be brought to the immediate notice of the undersigned.

Sd/-

Additional Director of Agriculture (Planning) i/c

To:

The Director, Department of Soil Survey and Soil Conservation.
All Principal Agricultural Officers
All Project Directors, ATMA
Chief Soil Chemist
Assistant Soil Chemists of all DSTLs and MSTLs
All Assistant Directors of Agriculture
IT section for publishing in the website
TA to Director of Agriculture
Planning Section