

# Soil Health Card scheme improves crop yield

Fertilizers are used to increase the agricultural output. But over the years excessive use of fertilizers depletes the fertility of farm land. Soil Health card scheme is aimed to make agri-community aware about the adverse impact on the crop yield when fertilizer is used in the field in an unchecked manner. A large section of farming community in UP took advantage of Soil Health Card (SHC) scheme to

improve the soil fertility by using appropriate dosage of fertilizers in to produce foodgrains. Farmers are now more aware about the quality of their soil and are using fertilizers efficiently. The soil department collects the samples of the soil and the report is shared with the concerned farmer after conducting the lab test. So far, 4.03 crore soil health cards have been distributed.

**Urea prices reduced by 11%**  
UP government took proactive measure to provide relief to the farming community by reducing urea prices. A 45 kg urea bag which was sold at Rs 299 will now be available at retail at Rs 266.50. The 50 kg bag of urea will now be sold at Rs 295 instead of Rs 331.50. This step has been taken to achieve the target of doubling farmers' income by 2022. The state administration has

honoured the sentiments of the agricultural community. The prices were slashed by 11 percent due to reduction in additional VAT levied on natural gas. The state government has also provided sufficient quantity of fertilizers to the farming community. UP administration has distributed 24.73 Lakh Metric tonnes of fertilizers and 36.47 lakh quintal seeds in Rabi season of 2018-19.