Hon’ble Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Shri Radha Mohan Singh launched Soil Health Card Mobile application on the occasion of World Soil Day - 5th December 2017 in Jhajjar, Haryana.

**Soil Health Card Mobile App Launch**

**Kendrai Krishi Minitri Ne Jhajjar Mein Dilgaya Darthi Man Ka Saheht Sughane Ke Sankalp**

**Kendrai Krishi Minitri Ne Mobial Ekn Kiny Laych**

Hon’ble Agriculture Minister Shri Radha Mohan Singh addresses farmers on the occasion of World Soil Day in Jhajjar, Haryana
On the occasion of World Soil Day, Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Radha Mohan Singh said that the objective of SHC is to provide information about the Soil Health to 120 million farm holdings in the country.

The Agriculture Minister stated it while addressing farmers on the occasion of World Soil Day in Jhajjar, Haryana today. It is worth mentioning that every year World Soil Day is celebrated on 5th December. In India, Soil Health Card scheme was launched in February 2015 in Rajasthan. The Minister said that Soil Health Card mobile App has been launched today to help the farmers.

The app will benefit field-level workers as it will automatically capture GIS coordinates while registering sample details at the time of sample collection in the field and indicate the location from where the sample has been collected.

This app works like other Geotagging apps developed for the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana. The app contains farmers’ details including name, Aadhaar card number, mobile number, gender, address etc. The Minister said that SHC informs farmers about nutrients status of the soils along with the recommendation on appropriate dosage of nutrients to improve soil health and fertility. A farm will get the soil card once in every 2 years so that nutrients deficiency can be regularly detected and improved. He said that the imbalanced use of fertilizers damages the fields and reduces production.

The Minister informed that in the first phase (2015-17) 100 million SHCs have been distributed so far. The aim of the Ministry is to provide SHC to all 120 million farm holdings by December, 2017. The second phase began on May 1, 2017, and will continue for the year 2017 to 2019.

The Agriculture Minister said that the key features of Soil Health Card include a uniform approach to collect samples and test them in the laboratory, covering all the land in the country and renew SHC every two years. This scheme is being implemented in collaboration with State Governments. GPS based soil sample collection has been made compulsory to monitor the changes in soil and to prepare a systematic database to compare them with the past years’.

The Minister further said the online registration of samples and test results are uploaded on the National Portal of the Soil Health Card. Based on the test results, the system automatically calculates the recommendations.