

### **PM Modi to launch soil health card scheme next week**



PM Narendra Modi will next week launch a central scheme in Rajasthan that aims to provide soil health cards to over 14 crore farmers in three years to check overuse of fertilisers in farm lands. The PM is set to launch the scheme on February 19 at Suratgarh in Ganganagar district, agriculture minister Radha Mohan Singh said. The cards will carry crop-wise recommendation of fertilisers required for farm lands, thereby helping farmers in identifying health of soil and judicious use of soil nutrients. India has total cultivable land of 14.1 crore hectares and the government plans to take 2.48 lakh samples from all states and test the quality of soil in three years. Samples in irrigated areas will be drawn in a grid of 2.5 hectares.