

**Government of Tripura
Directorate of Information & Cultural Affairs**

S-4448

Agartala, the 20 March, 2017

A Press Statement as received from Agricultural Deptt.

Government of Tripura

“On 19th March, 2017 Shri Radha Mohan Singh, Union Minister, Agriculture spoke about some issues relating to Agriculture such as Soil Health Management, issue of Soil Health Cards, organic farming under PKVY and MOVCD and opening of new KVKs in the new four Districts. The factual position was reported by the Principal Secretary and assured that necessary follow up action will be taken and utilization certificates will be submitted within 31st March, 2017.

With reference to the Soil Health Management, the testing and issue of Soil Health Cards started in the state much before the Soil Health programme of the Government of India in 2015-16. A total of 34,409 samples against the target of 32736 have already been tested and a total of 84788 Soil Health Cards have already been distributed. Balance will be distributed within April, 2017.

An amount of Rs. 1.33 crores released under PKVY for organic farming was fully spent and utilisation certificates already submitted. During 2016-17, Rs. 3.09 crores released and utilisation certificates will be submitted within 31 March 2017.

Against Rs. 3.70 crores released for organic farming under MOVCD during 2015-16 utilisation certificates already submitted for Rs. 3.61 crores. During 2016-17, only Rs. 2.08 crores is received and utilisation certificate will be submitted in April, 2017.

Regarding opening of new KVKs in the newly four districts persuasions are being made since April, 2013 and after about 4 years sanction is received only on 22nd February 2017. It is pertinent to mention here that 4 new districts was created in Tripura in the year 2011-12 only.

In the fishery sector an amount of Rs. 10.23 crores was received in 2012-13, Rs. 9.03 crores in 2013-14, Rs. 11.11 crores in 2014-15. This was drastically reduced to Rs. 4.16 crores due to poor flow of fund under RKVY from 2015-16. During 2016-17, Rs. 12.58 crores is released including Rs. 8.67 crores under Blue revolution programme. The misrepresentation of facts by the Union Minister of Agriculture appears to be politically motivated.”
