

# [***Rajnath Singh announces soil health card initiative for Chhattisgarh farmers***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6BHB-PSM1-DXJR-H2TG-00000-00&context=1516831)

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**Body**

RAIPUR: Defense Minister Rajnath Singh stated on Saturday that the farmers of Chhattisgarh will receive ***soil health*** cards under the ***Soil Health*** Card scheme, a flagship initiative of the Government of India aimed at improving ***soil health*** and fertility of farmlands, within a year. Addressing a farmers’ convention, which saw the participation of over one lakh farmers, in the state capital Raipur, the Union Minister said, “The Union government has distributed over 23,000 crore ***soil health*** cards to farmers across the nation, and Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai has promised me to provide ***soil health*** cards to farmers of Chhattisgarh within a year.”The ***Soil Health*** Card (SHC) is a significant government initiative in India aimed at assessing the ***health of soils*** and providing farmers with customized recommendations to improve ***soil*** fertility and productivity. The scheme was launched in February 2015 by the Government of India under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.The Union Minister stated that development has returned to track in Chhattisgarh within just 100 days since the formation of the BJP government in the state. Corruption was rampant during the Congress government for five years.

Under the leadership of Vishnu Deo Sai, Chhattisgarh will now progress rapidly. “I am well acquainted with Chhattisgarh. I am familiar with Chhattisgarhi culture. This state is the stronghold of farmers. If we want to shape the destiny of the state, we must shape the destiny of the farmers. We have full confidence in the capabilities of the people of Chhattisgarh. Congress ruined the state. I am the son of a farmer and also a villager. Only a farmer can produce gold from the land. Villages, the poor, and farmers, the dignity of mothers and sisters is the commitment of our party. They should rise,” Rajnath said."Today, 25 crore people of India have been brought out of poverty because of the policies of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Under Modi ji's leadership, the government will not let a single makeshift house remain. Everyone will be provided with a permanent house. Every household will have access to water from taps," Rajnath said.The people of Chhattisgarh have demonstrated their awareness by changing the government in Chhattisgarh, he said."The price of one bag of urea fertilizer here is Rs 300 per sack while in the US, its price is Rs 3000. Modi has guaranteed that farmers' troubles will not increase at any cost. Modi has called the “Mota Chawal’ in Chhattisgarh 'Shri Anna'. The BJP government will purchase this rice from Chhattisgarh and export them abroad in case of surplus production," he said.The agricultural budget before 2014 was Rs 25,000 crore, which is now Rs 1.25 lakh crore. “The crop insurance scheme has been implemented. Congress was offering a minimum support price of 1040 rupees for wheat. We will provide Rs 2125 per quintal,” he said."He said that the BJP government is arranging for solar lights. Electricity will be generated from the sun. We will provide free electricity up to 300 units for farmers. Their electricity bill will become zero. Only the double-engine government can fulfill the promise," he said.Earlier, Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai said that the Bharatiya Janata Party is the party of farmers. Congress never thought about the farmers. BJP has taken various measures to increase the income of farmers, including providing them with Kisan Credit Cards and implementing crop insurance schemes.The Chhattisgarh government is standing on the guarantee of Prime Minister Modi. We are implementing many major decisions within two and a half months. The decision to build 18 lakh houses was taken in the first cabinet meeting. On Dec 13, the oath was taken, and on Dec 14, we took this decision. “We have already given more than 12 lakh farmers the pending bonus of more than two years. On Atalji's birthday on Dec 25, we transferred 3716 crore rupees. We have purchased rice at a rate of 3100 rupees per quintal. The difference amount will also be given in one go on March 12,” he said. For Reprint Rights: timescontent.com

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