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title: Need to allocate adequate funds to create awareness about soil health among farmers in Tamil Nadu.

SHRI K. PARASURAMAN (THANJAVUR): Hon. Speaker Madam, Under the able guidance of our hon. Chief Minister *Puratchi Thalaivi Amma*, I would like to draw the attention to the Minister of Agriculture with regard to soil resource. In order to preserve soil resources awareness cause in the world, the United Nations Director for Food and Agriculture Organisation, Jose Graziano Tacilva had announced that the year of 2015 is declared as the "World Soil Resource Day". Every Year, December 5th is celebrated as a World Soil Day. On that day we all take our responsibility to ensure protection of soil resources.

Soil contains 25 percent air, 25 percent water, 45 percent minerals and 5 per cent bacteria. To form the surface of the 2.5 depth's soil, thousand of years is required. It is good to see flourish and blooming in agriculture. Depending on the top of the soil, crop reaches the yield. Crores of bacteria, lakhs of Actinomyces bacteria are living on the top of the soil. Sir, in 1.4 tonne per acre crop land earthworms live. Earthworms create rich soil to the tune of 15 tonne per year. In India, 45 percent of the land is used for cultivation.

Our hon. Prime Minister launched the "Soil Health Card Scheme" for the benefit of the farmers in India. This step to issue Soil Health Cards to farmers will ensure that they are aware of the quality of soil so that they can use right fertilizers.

Our hon. Chief Minister *Puratchi Thalaivi Amma* implemented many pioneering schemes in Tamil Nadu like the Social Security Scheme for Farmers and their Dependent Family Members of Farmers. This scheme is offering various welfare benefits to farmers.

Hence, in order to preserve the soil resource, I humbly request the Central Government to allot adequate funds to create awareness about soil health among farmers in Tamil Nadu.