

## **Shri. Manoj Ahuja, Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India visited ICAR- Indian Institute of Soil Science, Bhopal on 03/09/2022**

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Shri. Manoj Ahuja, Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India, visited ICAR- Indian Institute of Soil Science, Bhopal on 03/09/2022. At the outset, Dr. Ashok K Patra Director, ICAR IISS welcomed the distinguished guest and briefed about the research achievements of the institute and the on-going research works under various Divisions and Project coordinating units. Honourable Secretary, has visited the ongoing field experimental units of Free Air Carbon Enrichment (FACE) experiment, Fly Ash experiment (NTPC), Conservation Agriculture (CRP on CA) experiment and Nano Sensor development project. He interacted with scientists and discussed in brief on the expected outcomes of various experiments conducted at the institute. He has requested for scalable technologies which are ready for transfer to farmer's field. During the interaction with the scientists, Secretary has emphasized on the commercialization of the developed technologies and instructed to submit a list of potential technologies which can be commercialized. He also stressed upon development of a commercial model at farmers field for crop residue management through introduction of microbial decomposition and conservation agriculture techniques. He urged for commercialization of Nano rock phosphate and mechanical coating of seeds with efficient strains of biofertilizers. He emphasized on the development and standardization of sensor-based technologies for irrigation and nutrient management for field applications. He instructed for submission of a policy paper on scalable technologies from the institute.

The meeting was attended by Shri Ajit Kesari, Additional Chief Secretary (IAS), Govt. of M.P., Shri Rajeev Chaudhary, Director, Agricultural Engineering, Govt. of M.P., Smt. Ritu Chauhan, Additional Collector, Mandi Board, Govt. of M.P. and Shri B.M. Sahare, Deputy Director Agriculture, Govt. of M.P. Besides this senior officials from the institute, state and line departments also attended the meeting. The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chair.



