

87th Annual Convention of Indian Society of Soil Science Concluded at ICAR-IISS, Bhopal

5th October 2023, ICAR-IISS, Bhopal

The 87th Annual Convention of Indian Society of Soil Science (ISSS) was held during 3-6 October, 2023 at ICAR- Indian Institute of Soil Science, Bhopal. More than 400 delegates comprising of scientists, teachers, researchers, students and farmers from all over the country took part in the event. Shri Kamal Patel ji, Hon'ble Minister, Farmers Welfare and Agriculture Development Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh inaugurated the convention and



emphasized on soil health to maintain human and animal health through natural farming. He reminded the audience of the damage inflicted on the land and water resources of the country by imbalance and excessive use of fertilizers and pesticides to crops and called upon the scientists to work for nature based agriculture. During the convention, Dr. Himanshu Pathak, Secretary (DARE) and Director General (ICAR), stressed upon the urgent need for both research and awareness about soil among different stakeholders. Dr. Pathak appreciated the work of Indian Society of Soil Science, the establishment of a centre of excellence for fertilizer research, increased research on climate-resilient soil for agricultural purposes, research on soil for horticultural crops, and greater awareness of the proper use of fertilizer. Dr. Suresh Kumar Chaudhari, Deputy Director General (Natural Resource Management), who was the Guest of Honour, highlighted the significance of climate change mitigation and climate-resilient agriculture. He also stressed upon the role of society in promoting soil health and education. Dr. SP Datta, Director of ICAR-IISS, emphasized the importance of soil for the survival of living beings. He also referred to ancient texts such as Rig Veda and Manusmriti to highlight the importance of soil. The convention saw participation from about 400 delegates from different parts of the country, who made different deliberations on various aspects of soil science. The convention has brought out very useful recommendation covering aspects of soil research and millet production. The convention was supported by ICAR, Madhya Pradesh State Agricultural Marketing (Mandi) Board, NABARD, Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative, ITC, KRIBHCO Fertilizers Limited, etc. At the end of the event, Dr. AK Biswas, Organizing Secretary, expressed his gratitude and appreciation on behalf of the organizers by proposing a vote of thanks.

