

## **ICAR-Indian Institute of Soil Science, Bhopal Celebrated International Women's Day**

The women cell of ICAR-Indian Institute of Soil Science organized the International Women's Day (IWD) program at village Borkhedi, Phanda Thesil, Bhopal District, on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2022. A one-day training cum workshop was organized to sensitize and train the farm women on "Improving the livelihood of farm women through managing soil health, waste to wealth and women nutrition" About 150 farm women, including the scientist and technical staff of the Institute, participated in the program.



Dr. Sangeeta Lenka, Chairperson, Women Cell, addressed the gathering on the importance of celebrating women's day, highlighting the theme of "DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality." The Chief Guest, Ms. Kokila Chaturvedi, M.P. Jan Abhiyan Parishad, Bhopal, emphasized the need for adapting to the advances in technological change and education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls. Dr. A.B. Singh, I/c HOD (Soil Biology), ICAR-IISS, highlighted the importance of natural and organic farming for improving soil health and agriculture sustainability. The Guest speaker, Smt. Shobha Lodhi, Smarthan center for development Barkhedi, Sehore, trained the farm women on vermicomposting. She briefed the farm women on the key benefits and features of various women-centric programs launched by the government. The resource person Smt. Purva Rai, Anchor and News Reader, Bhopal Doordarshan outlined the importance of community-based initiatives effective in mobilizing communities, empowering women, and promoting community dialogue and changes on issues of gender equality. Later, Ms. Nikita Jain, founder of "The Mushroom House," delivered on the potential of Mushroom cultivation for income and waste-to-wealth generation. The program ended with felicitating and honoring a few progressive farm women and women achievers from different fields with a memento and bouquet. Dr. Asha Sahu, Senior Scientist ICAR-IISS proposed the vote of thanks. A video containing the women employees (permanent and non permanent) and students of ICAR-IISS was released on youtube.



Source: ICAR-Indian Institute of Soil Science, Bhopal