Indian Institute of Soil Science Celebrated its 39th Foundation Day

ICAR-Indian Institute of Soil Science (IISS), Bhopal celebrated its 39th Foundation Day on 16th April, 2026. Dr PN Takkar, Founder Director was the Chief Guest. Dr A Velmurugan (Assistant Director General, Soil and Water Management, ICAR, New Delhi) graces the function in online mode. On this occasion, the former Directors of the Institute, Dr CL Acharya, Dr AK Patra as well as Dr Pradip Dey (Director, ATARI, Kolkata)graced the function as special guests in online mode. Dr Takkar witnessed the 39th foundation day and expressed his happiness and appreciated the progress and achievements made by the Institute during these almost four decades. He advised the scientist to do innovative, novel and strategic research work on soil science issues such as nutrient transformation, best management practices, minimal use of fertilizers, enhancing nutrient use efficiency etc.Dr A Velmurugan (ADG, SWM, ICAR, New Delhi) appreciated the contributions made by former Directors, scientists and staff in the development and progress of the Institute. He stated that Institute is a national level institute so need to focus on research and extension, capacity building etc for younger scientists by keeping in mind the national priorities and goals. Dr Velmurugan urged upon the scientist to develop newer technology to find out an alternative source to chemical fertilizers such as biofertilizers, azolla, green manuring, liquid fermented organic manure (LFOM) etc to minimize the use of fertilizers.

Dr Monoranjan Mohanty (Director, ICAR-IISS, Bhopal) welcomed Dr PN Takkar, the Founder Director, Indian Institute of Soil Science for his gracious presence today. Dr Mohanty stated the mission, mandate, objectives and achievements of the Institute on pan India level. He further stated that the Institute is engaged in sustainable and resilient agriculture so that soil health can be conserved for future generations. He highlighted the Institutes achievements in basic and fundamental science pertaining to development of advance tools and techniques such as generation of soil spectra, e FARM, biofertilizers, maps developed for soil organic carbon (SOC) and micronutrients etc. He emphasized that the research and technology transfer by the Institute to the farmers through various schemes such as tribal sub plan (TSP), scheduled caste sub plan (SCSP), Firmer FIRST, Conservation Agriculture project etc. He also projected the newly created lab and infrastructure facilities in the Institute for meeting out the national priorities and goal.

On this occasion, the best workers in administrative, technical and supporting staff were also awarded. The MoUs between private incubatee and ICAR-IISS under soil tech innovation hub (STIH) were exchanged, today. The dignitaries also released the landmark publications by the Institute for the benefit of resaerchers, scientists, students and farmers. In this function, about 100 participants including scientists, students, and staff of the institute actively participated in this event.



Dr M Mohanty welcomes Dr PN Takkar



Dr PN Takkar (Former Director, IISS) addressing the gathering



Exchange of MoU between private incubatee and ICAR-IISS under STIH