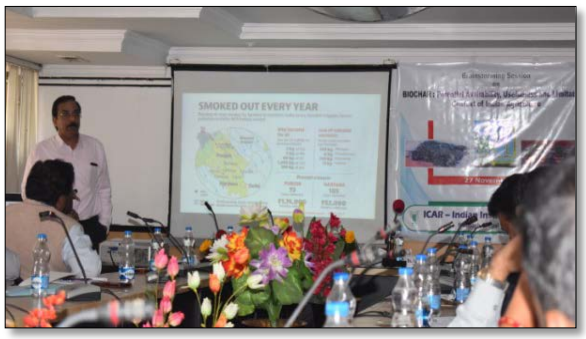
A Brainstorming Session on

Biochar: Potential Availability, Usefulness and Limitation in the Context of Indian Agriculture

Organized by

ICAR-IISS, Bhopal on 27 Nov. 2019



ICAR-IISS, Bhopal organized a brainstorming session on **Biochar: Potential Availability, Usefulness and Limitation in the Context of Indian Agriculture** on 27 November, 2019. Brainstorming session was started with the opening remark of Dr. Ashok K Patra, Director IISS Bhopal, who highlighted the importance of biochar and its relevance in Indian agriculture. Professor Dinesh Mohan from the School of Environmental Sciences, JNU, New Delhi made a detailed presentation on "Biochar Research in Global Perspective". He talked about biochar, its origin, production technology, characterization and its role in soil amendment, climate change mitigation and remediation of polluted soil, water and environment. He also stressed on problem of residue management in India and recommended that biochar could be a potential technology for carbon sequestration and climate change mitigation. He further emphasized that biochar technology being a carbon negative may be deployed in variety of application in agriculture and urged upon the scientists to take up long term biochar research as it has got tremendous potential for soil carbon sequestration and soil health improvement. Two status papers were also presented on this occasion followed by a panel discussion. Dr. A. Subba Rao, Former Director, ICAR-IISS, Bhopal and Chairman of the session emphasized the need for popularization and adoption of biochar among the farmers. There was unanimity among the Panel Members that biochar was a carbon negative material for soil health improvement and climate change mitigation. There were participants from CRIDA, Hyderabad; TNAU, Madurai, Tamil Nadu; CIAE, Bhopal and from Industry among the Panel Members. The Panel deliberated on various issues such as biomass/feedstocks and their availability; production and quality of biochar; protocol for production of quality biochar and doses of biochar application, economics, safety measures for production, processing and application; impact of biochar on soil, crop, animal and human health.