

## Organized one-day workshop "ICAR-IISS - in the Service of Farmers" on 22 July 2019

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One-day workshop organized on "ICAR-IISS in the service of farmers". During the event, Dr. S.K. Chaudhari, ADG (SWM), ICAR, New Delhi, Dr. Rajesh Sharma, DG, Madhya Pradesh Council of Science & Technology (MPCOST), Bhopal, Dr. A. Subba Rao, Former Director (ICAR-IISS) and Dr. M. Din, Director, ICAR-CIAE, Bhopal graced the occasion.

During the inaugural session, Dr. Ashok K. Patra, Director (ICAR-IISS) welcomed the dignitaries and highlighted the institute activities and research accomplishments. He also thanked all the staff members for the whole hearted support and contribution in achieving "*Sardar Patel Outstanding ICAR Institution Award*".

Dr. A. Subba Rao, Former Director (IISS) nostalgically remembered the hallmark contribution of the institute since its establishment.

He highlighted the research activities including basic, advanced research and farmers' friendly technologies such as organic farming and various composting techniques. Dr. Rajesh Sharma, DG, MPCOST,



Bhopal vividly remembered the long association of MPCOST with ICAR-IISS and emphasized on real time weather forecasting (*kharif and rabi*), crop modelling, drought assessment and management for farming community. Dr. M. Din, Director, ICAR-CIAE, Bhopal highlighted the importance of good soils, seed and water for sustainable production and also gave an account of the importance of machinery in agriculture. He also appreciated the on-going joint collaborative work between IISS and CIAE Bhopal.

In the programme, Dr. S.K. Chaudhari, ADG (SWM), ICAR, New Delhi lauded the IISS staff members for bagging the prestigious '*Sardar Patel Outstanding ICAR Institution Award*'. He also released the SQI CAL software (software for soil quality index calculation) and distributed the appreciation certificate to members of the committee who were involved in the preparation of IISS logo and Sardar Patel Outstanding ICAR Institution Award document. He urged scientific staff and other staff members for putting their best efforts in maintaining the standards at national and international levels paving the way for international collaboration and awards. He also pointed out that the presence of this institute is already evident through different initiatives of Govt. of India such as 'Soil Health Management' and 'Soil Health Card' Schemes

across the country. He also urged Scientists for obtaining global level funding for research and getting international awards.

In the workshop, the progressive farmers from adopted villages (MGMG, Farmers FIRST and NICRA) were felicitated by certificate of appreciation. After that, a 'Kisan Gosthi' was also organized for addressing various soil related issue in the region, where experiences of IISS technologies/interventions were shared.

