



Conference Report

Indian Society of Soil Science 82nd Annual Convention, December 11-13, 2017

The year 1935 was notable for many reasons, one of them being the formal inauguration of Indian Society of Soil Science on January 3, 1935 at Presidency College, Calcutta. The First president of this society was Sir Bryce C Burt, the then Agricultural Commissioner in the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research with Prof J N Mukherjee as its first Secretary. Dr S K Chaudhuri is the present president with Dr D R Biswas as its secretary.

Every year an annual convention cum annual general meeting is held at different chapters of the society. This year the 82nd Annual convention was organised by Kolkata chapter at Amity University, Rajarhat, New Town, Kolkata. On December 11th 2017 we witnessed the inaugural ceremony of this convention which was preceded by registration of the delegates. The session started with 35th Prof. J.N.Mukherjee-ISSS Foundation Lecture by Dr. B. Venkateswarlu who enlightened us with “The New Frontiers of Soil Microbiology” with Dr. S.S.Khanna as the chairman for this lecture.

In the afternoon session, various oral presentations were delivered by different delegates who gathered for this event from all over the country. The oral presentations were divided into several sessions which included a) Soil Fertility b) Soil Chemistry c) Soil Biology d) Soil and Environment; and Soil and Water conservation e) Soil Engineering and Technology f) Soil Physics g) Soil classification; Soil evaluation and Land use planning; Soil Degradation Control, Remediation and Reclamation.

These oral presentations are followed by poster presentations on various topics like influence of

crop residue on carbon sequestration, effects of organic and inorganic fertilizers on soil properties etc. A special lecture by Dr A K Sikka, IWMI, New Delhi on “Managing Water-Land-Energy and Food Nexus for Sustainable Development”, with Dr J C Katyal, as the chairman of the lecture. An enlightening performance to conclude the day was delivered by the dance performers during the cultural programme.

On 12th December 2017, the session started with 44th Dr. R.V.Tamhane Memorial Lecture by Dr R K Rattan on “Quo Vadis Zinc Research: Golden March with Green Revolution” with Dr. G. Dev as its chairman, which was followed by a Special Symposium on “Soil Nutrient and Water Management Interventions towards Doubling Farmers’ Income.” which was delivered by Dr S K. Chaudhuri and Dr A K Patra; Dr P K Mishra, Dr Man Singh and Dr Gopal Kumar; Dr Himanshu Pathak and Dr K S Reddy; Dr A S Panwar and N Ravisankar; Dr J P Mishrawith Dr Tapas Bhattacharyya as its chairman and Dr A K Patra as its convener. The 82nd Annual General Body Meeting of Indian Society of Soil Science concluded the day.

On 13th December 2017, the session initiated with ISSS Best Doctoral Research Presentation Award Contest with Dr M Velayutham as its chairperson and Dr B B Basak as its Rapporteur which was followed by a concluding event of the 82nd Annual Convention.

(A few photographs are in back inside cover)

Reported by
Swapna Mukherjee and
Avirup Saha, ISEC