ICAR-NBSS&LUP celebrates 44th foundation day with zeal

Staff Reporter

ICAR-National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning (NBSS&LUP) celebrated its 44th foundation day with its five regional centres amidst COVID-19 pandemic on Monday through virtual platform. All the invitees including NBSS&LUP staff attended the celebration.

Dr Ashok Dalwai, Chief Executive Officer, National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA), was the chief guest. Dr S K Chaudhari, Deputy Director General (Natural Resource Management), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi, was the guest of honour. Dr P Chandran, Director of NBSS&LUP, welcomed all the dignitaries and briefed about the Bureau’s achievements during the past one year.

Dr Ashok Dalwai appreciated the strides made by the Bureau. He listed out challenges related to Land Use Classification, Land Use Policy, Forest Conservation, Carbon Sequestration, and Water Resources in Agriculture. The effects of climate change on agriculture and food security were discussed. Dr S K Chaudhari appreciated the efforts made by the Bureau in research areas and emphasised that the traditional soil survey methods needed to be replaced with modern methods using remote sensing tools and techniques. He opined that the plan for development of Bundelkhand ravines, especially rainfed areas, could be developed with the joint efforts of the Bureau and NRAA.

Water harvesting potential of the region needs to be explored for this purpose, he added.

The publications brought out by the Bureau were released on this occasion. The dignitaries also bestowed the Best Employee Award in different categories including Young Scientist, Best Technical Officer (Senior), Technical Officer (Junior), Best Administrative Officer, and Best Supporting Staff. The employees who won medals during ICAR Central Zone Tournament were also felicitated. The participants included officials from all parts of the country. Dr NG Patil, Head, Land Use Planning, proposed a vote of thanks.