

ICAR-CSSRI, Karnal Celebrated 52nd Foundation Day

ICAR-Central Soil Salinity Research Institute (CSSRI), Karnal celebrated its 52nd Foundation Day on 1st March, 2020. On this occasion, Chief Guest Dr. S. K. Chaudhari, DDG (NRM), ICAR, New Delhi delivered the foundation day lecture. He said that special focus needs to be placed on managing salinity and water quality problems in climate vulnerable districts of India. He observed that excess iron and other heavy metals are increasingly becoming serious concerns in some salt-affected areas of India; an issue that warrants the attention of salinity researchers. He observed that remunerative non-food crops should be identified for the productive utilization of huge amounts of municipal and industrial waste waters. He said that while several technologies have been developed for managing localized impacts of salinity, a lot needs to be done to manage salinity on landscape and regional levels. He observed that farmers in salt-affected areas need to be provided viable high value land use options with focus on horticultural crops. He exhorted the scientists to think innovatively and to adopt a 'measurement to management' approach for solving the varied problems being faced by the farmers in salt-affected areas.



Dr. Gurbachan Singh, Ex-Chairman Agricultural Scientist Recruitment Board presided over the function and expressed satisfaction over the current pace of technology development and dissemination to manage salt-affected soils. However, he said that more attention needs to be paid for bringing waterlogged saline soils under cultivation through a stakeholder approach. On this occasion Dr. Y. P. Singh, Principal Scientist, ICAR-CSSRI-RRS, Lucknow was conferred CSSRI Excellence Award for the year 2018. Sh. Akshay Kumar and Smt. Anita Mehta were awarded from technical and administrative category for the year 2019



Earlier, Dr. P. C. Sharma, Director ICAR-CSSRI, Karnal welcomed all the dignitaries and highlighted salient achievements of institute including total area reclaimed, role of institutional technology

and science in supporting national and state policies and overall farmers' development. A total of 250 scientists and other staff were present during this function.