

Dr. Prem Kumar, Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture, Government of Bihar Visited ICAR- Indian Institute of Soil Science, Bhopal

Dr. Prem Kumar, Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Government of Bihar visited ICAR- Indian Institute of Soil Science, Bhopal on 3 February, 2018. He was accompanied by Shri. Ravindra Nath Roy, Special Secretary and Shri. Narendra Kumar Lohani, Deputy Director (Engineering), Department of Agriculture, Government of Bihar and Shri. Rajeev Choudhary, Director (Agriculture Engineering), Government of Madhya Pradesh. Dr. A K Patra, Director, IISS, Bhopal appraised Honourable Minister with mandate, achievements and activities of the institute and specifically highlighted the contribution of the institute in the ongoing Soil Health Card Mission of the Government of India. Project Co-ordinators of AICRPs on LTFE, STCR, MSNPE and of AINP on SBB briefed the Honourable Minister with the activities and achievements under the respective co-ordinated and Network projects, particularly in state of Bihar and adjoining states. Honourable Minister Dr. Prem Kumar, in his speech appreciated the scientists of the institute for their remarkable achievements in maintaining soil health and enhancement of the agricultural productivity both in Madhya Pradesh and also in the country. He indicated that agriculture sector has ocean of opportunity for improving livelihood status of farmers. He also requested the scientists to help Government of Bihar in achieving its mission of doubling the income of farmers and thereby, in eradication of poverty. Honourable Minister and other accompanying officials were also demonstrated the functioning of *MridaParikshak*, the mini lab for soil testing developed by the institute.

