

Unified Soil Information System of India being developed; NBSS&LUP hosts meet

■ Staff Reporter

UNIFIED Soil Information System of India (UNSISI) is being developed in the country so as to have complete data of type of soil at a click of the button. In this regards, soil and crop scientists came together for deliberation on finalising modalities for the ambitious project of Government of India (GoI) that would help in long term crop planning in view of looming climate change threat. In this regard, ICAR-NBSS&LUP hosted a two-day meeting on development of UNSISI.

The meeting commence on Thursday onwards and chief guest was Dr S K Chaudhari, Deputy Director General (NRM), ICAR, New Delhi, who conveyed the importance of a unified soil information system for all stakeholders.

The guest of honour Dr Prashant Kumar, Deputy Surveyor General, Survey of India, Dehradun, spoke about the soil database, utilisation of SOI portal for better delineation of boundaries for site-specific locations for survey and their utilisation on common portal.



Experts deliberating on preparation of UNSISI at NBSS&LUP.

The other guest of honour Dr A Velmurugan, Assistant Director General, NRM Division, ICAR, New Delhi, emphasised on the collaboration and convergence in bringing the UNSISI. "When we have some information scattered then we should coordinate. To bring different tasks on specific products on a common platform and communicate to the State departments to match with the requirements and with

land records. Use of geospatial framework on soil spatial data can be used to enhance carbon sequestration, and mitigate the climate change. The data quality should match the global standards for effective and timely dissemination of the solutions for the stakeholders," he said.

Dr G P Obi Reddy, Head, RSA Division, NBSS&LUP briefed about the programme activities and Director, ICAR-

NBSS&LUP Dr N G Patil put forth the preliminary status of soil database on a single platform for the end users.

Dr P P Adhikary, Senior Scientist, proposed a vote of thanks. About 70 delegates from 7 ICAR institutes, 11 State Agricultural Universities (SAUs), Survey of India, National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC), SLUSI (GoI) and two private partners participated on the first day.