UNION MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS' WELFARE AND DG, ICAR VISIT ICAR-IISS, BHOPAL

Bhopal | 5 November 2026

Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Shri Bhagirath Choudhary, visited ICAR-Indian Institute of Soil Science (ICAR-IISS), Bhopal, and reviewed the institute's research activities and technologies for sustainable soil management.

During his interaction with scientists, the Hon'ble Minister expressed concern over the deterioration of soil health due to excessive use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides and its implications for agricultural sustainability and human health. He emphasized the importance of soil testing, balanced fertilizer application, efficient nutrient management and natural farming for maintaining soil fertility and improving agricultural productivity.

Dr. M. L. Jat, Secretary (DARE) and Director General (ICAR), reviewed the institute's research programmes and emphasized the need to align scientific research with farmers' needs and the national vision of Viksit Bharat 2047. He encouraged scientists to develop practical, science-based solutions that reduce excessive fertilizer use while maintaining crop productivity and improving soil health.

Earlier, Dr. A. K. Nayak, Deputy Director General (NRM), reviewed the institute's ongoing research projects and provided suggestions for strengthening research outcomes and field-level applications.

The visit was attended by Dr. Rajbir Singh, DDG (Agricultural Extension); Dr. C. R. Mehta, Director, ICAR-CIAE; Dr. M. Mohanty, Director, ICAR-IISS, along with Heads of Divisions, Project Coordinators, scientists and staff members.

The dignitaries also reviewed the institute's technologies and research initiatives aimed at improving soil health, promoting balanced nutrient management and supporting sustainable agriculture.



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