

A Brief report on World Soil Day Organized at KVK (IARI), Shikohpur, Gurgaon

Krishi Vigyan Kendra Shikohpur celebrated “**World Soil Day**” and Soil Health card distribution function on **05th Dec. 2015** at its premises. The function was graced by Dr. A.K. Shikka, DDG (NRM), ICAR as chairperson. The presence of Dr. K.V. Prabhu, Joint Director (Research), IARI and Dr. J.P. Sharma, Joint Director (Extn.), IARI made the programme glorious.

During this programme, 266 farmers from village Langra, Daboda, Teekali, Sakatpur, Raiseena, Baluda, Kankraula, Manesar, Mauzawad, Hasanpur, Jaurasi, Joniyawas, Shikohpur and other villages were present. Self Help Groups and entrepreneurs displayed different kinds of value added.

Chief guest of the function, Dr. A.K. Shikka distributed soil health cards to the farmers whose soil samples were collected and tested in soil testing laboratory of KVK & IARI. The Chief Guest in his address told that the Govt. has decided to celebrate the year of 2015 as soil health year. The 5th December is being celebrated throughout the world as “World Soil Day” to aware the farmers about soil health of their field through soil testing. He emphasized the use of plant nutrients on the basis of soil testing. He asked the farmers to apply integrated nutrient management in the field for improving soil health and reducing the pollution effect. He said that there are many diseases occurring in human and animals due to deficiency of different types of nutrients in the soil.

Dr. J.P. Sharma in his welcome address emphasized to save the soil health. He explained the importance of soil in respect of crop and human life. He also advised the farmers to use organic manure in the field for improving the soil health.

Dr. K.V. Prabhu in his address emphasized on application of soil test based balance nutrition. He explained about the new technology developed by IARI in the form of STFR meter which is a small instrument and easy to handle. He also invited rural youth to come forward for soil testing by using STFR on payment basis.

Professor R.D. Singh and Dr. Naiem Ahmed of Soil Science division of IARI gave a detail composition of soil, importance of soil in crop production, requirements of macro & micro elements of the soil related to different types of crops.

In the end, Dr. Anjani Kumar, Head KVK gave vote of thanks to the Chief Guest, JD (R), JD (E), scientists, farmers & farm women for their participation and making the event successful.



Dr. J. P. Sharma, Joint Director Extension, IARI highlighting the importance of soil health



Dr. A.K. Sikka, DDG (NRM) distributing soil health cards to the farmers