

ICAR-Indian Institute of Soybean Research
Khandwa Road, Indore-452001

**Press Note on Visit of Dr. A.K. Tiwari, Director, Directorate of Pulse Development, Bhopal
to the ICAR-Indian Institute of Soybean Research, Indore**

Dr. AK Tiwari, Director, Directorate of Pulse Development, Bhopal, along with Deputy Director Agriculture District Indore, Shri SS Rajput visited ICAR-Indian Institute of Soybean Research on July 15, 2021 and discussed various issues related to the various activities and measures including the research trials being undertaken for development and promotion of climate resilient technologies and practices recommended by ICAR-IISR in order to meet the needs of technologies and technical know-how for soybean farmers in the context of changing climate scenario.

During the interaction, Dr. Tiwari had a brief discussion with Director, Indian Soybean Research Institute, Dr. Neeta Khandekar, Indore and other senior most scientists which included the In-charges of various divisions Dr. Sanjay Gupta (Crop Improvement), Dr Mahaveer Prasad Sharma (Crop Protection) and Dr. B.U. Dupare (Crop Production). Dr Tiwari on this occasion shown his concern about the decline in productivity levels especially during last few years on account of adverse climatic conditions resulting in dissatisfaction among the farmers of soy state Madhya Pradesh about the profitability of soybean farming. However, he also informed that due to the increasing area of soybean in other states, there will not be any significant change in the overall area under soybean crop in the country.

Dr. Neeta Khandekar, Director, Indian Institute of Soybean Research, on this occasion informed about achievements of ICAR-IISR especially about the development of climate resilient varieties as well as practices/methods suitable as mitigating strategies in view of changing climatic conditions which included notification and release of 15 soybean varieties during March 2021 which are recommended for the farmers of different climatic zones, out of which 8 varieties have been recommended for Madhya Pradesh. According to her, seed multiplication program for these new varieties at present is underway. During the discussion, she further elaborated about the overall scenario of varietal preference given by majority of the farmers to single short duration variety i.e. JS 95-60 which of late has found not been able to cope up with the increased insect-pest load being experienced very frequently now a days. To go ahead with this, the ICAR-IISR has started promotion of other soybean varieties which also include JS 20-34, JS 20-69, and JS 20-98 in addition to latest varieties like NRC -127, NRC -130, NRC -138, NRC – 142, RVSM- 2011-35. RSC-10-46. RSC-10-52. and AMS 100-39 through organization of training and other extension programmes.

On this occasion, Dr. Tiwari, Director DPD, Bhopal as well as Mr. S.S. Rajput, Deputy Director (Agri), District Indore visited the demonstration field laid out at the experimental farm of ICAR-IISR which demonstrates the climate resilient practices & technologies as well as new climate

smart varieties having capabilities to withstand the adverse climatic conditions. He showed his happiness about the crop condition being managed after drought condition recently experienced in the *Malwa* region using the practices developed by the institute. He also expressed hope that the soybean crop will continue to contribute in the self-sufficiency “*Atmanirbharta*” in oilseed production of the country.

