The 3 days conference on Farmers First for Conserving Soil and Water Resources (FFCSWR-2019) for Eastern Region ended on Feb. 08, 2019 at Sunabeda, Koraput, Odisha

The 3 days conference on Farmers First for conserving soil and water resources (FFCSWR-2019) for Eastern region ended on 8th Feb 2019 with felicitation of a total of more than 50 leading and innovative farmers practicing soil and water conservation measures from Eastern states (Bihar, Chhatishgarh, Jharakhand, Odisha, West Bengal).

Dr. D. Mandal Secretary, IASWC in his address highlighted about the importance of soil and water conservation and this conference.

In this occasion, Dr. Rajendra Singh, Water man of India was the chief guest, and Er. J.M. Sahu (Sukai Engine Division), HAL, Shri Hemanta Kumar Panda, Director and CEO, Directorate of Soil Conservation and watershed Development, Bhubaneswar, Shri Bisweswar Rath, Technical Expert, NRAA, New Delhi, Shri Gadadhar Paride, Administrator-Cum-Farmer, Koraput were guest oh honours.

Dr. Rajendra Singh, Waterman of India was the chief guest on this occasion. While speaking on the occasion, the chief guest, Dr. Singh expressed gratitude to the farmers of the country for their immense contribution in turning India from a food begging to food exporting country.

He further congratulated them for record food grain production in India.

Dr. Singh also highlighted about the important of river linking, However, he also expressed the harmful effect of River linking on ecology. He told different methods to stop mass migration of people from rural to urban area. He also emphasized on the use of indigenous technology to save natural resources. He emphasized on conservative knowledge, which will an aid to conservation of nature.

He praised IASWC Dehradun for the unique experiment of bringing farmer’s innovation and experience to a common platform shared by researcher, policy makers, NGOs and other stakeholders and for selecting the tribal district of Koraput, Odisha as venue for the FFCSWR-2019.

While addressing the gathering, Dr. P.K. Mishra, President, Indian Association of Soil and Water Conservation, Dehradun stressed upon cultivation of vegetables, cash crop and post harvest processing along with restoration of degraded land for higher and sustainable income.

He congratulated all the Awardees specially farmers of eastern Region, and praised them for their contribution towards conservation of natural resources.

On this occasion, four important publications namely, 1-Alley cropping for resource conservation in degraded high lands of Eastern Ghats of India (Technical bulletin), 2-Weather Trends with special reference to drought at Datia of Bundelkhand Region (MP) (Technical
Bulletin), 3-Blue green water harvesting techniques for enhancing land and water productivity in rain-fed regions (Technical bulletin), 4-Souvenier of FFCSWR-2019 were released.

Apart from this, about 25 exhibition stalls from different industries, research organizations, state government departments, and NGOs participated in the FFCSWR-2019 were facilitated and -- best poster award were given to different scientists.

The programme concluded with the vote of thanks by Dr. Gopal Kumar, the Joint Secretary, IASWC Dehradun and with his commitment to follow-up the suggestion made including involving more farmers, popularizing their success stories.