

## World Soil Day 2018 celebration at Division of Soil Science & Agricultural Chemistry, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi

World Soil Day programme was jointly organized by the Division of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, ICAR-IARI and Delhi Chapter of the Indian Society of Soil Science in the Divisional Lecture Theatre, on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2018. Sixteen middle school children along with teachers from four different schools participated in this programme. The main motto was to raise awareness on this year's theme "Be the solution to soil pollution".

Dr. Nayan Ahmed, Principal Scientist and Secretary, Delhi Chapter of Indian Society of Soil Science welcomed the dignitaries and underlined the significance of this day. Dr. S.K. Chaudhari, ADG (Soil and Water Management) ICAR and President Indian Society of Soil Science graced the occasion. Dr. Chaudhari addressed the students highlighting the importance of healthy soils and benefits of *Soil Health card* scheme launched by the Government of India. Dr. B.S. Dwivedi, Head, Division of Science and Agricultural Chemistry and President, Delhi Chapter of Indian Society of Soil Science addressed the gathering and highlighted the importance of "World Soil Day". Dr. S.P.Datta, Principal Scientist made a brief presentation on "*Soils and Society*", advocating the sustainable management of soil resources and details on soil pollution and remediation measures. The lecture was followed by a quiz competition among the school children covering various aspects of soil and general awareness. Mr. A.K. Singh, DGM, SBI, Delhi, addressed the gathering and highlighted the role of SBI in spreading awareness about soil health to the farmers. Dr. J.P.Sharma, J.D. (Extn.) and J.D. (Res.) distributed the prizes, memento and participation certificates to the school children and addressed the school children on the importance of soils in our daily life. The function ended with a vote of thanks by Dr. Mandira Barman, Scientist and Jt. Secretary, Delhi Chapter of Indian Society of Soil Science.



