Pradip Dey, Ph.D.

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Presently engaged in planning and monitoring of activities of ICAR-Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute, Kolkata as well as 59 KVKs (Farm Science Centres) of Zone-V. Executed advanced **research** on GPS/GIS-based soil fertility mapping and developed nutrient plan of 173 districts of India covering 20 states. STCR-based nutrient application for enhancing yield and quality in dryland regions; soil quality index for different cropping system; bio- amelioration of spatially variable salt affected soil of semiarid region, waste water uses in non-food crops. Enumerated carbon sequestration in reclaimed alkali soils and sodic vertisols under horticulture-based, forestry-based, fodder-based and cereal-based systems. Developed conservation agriculture strategies for cereal, oilseed and pulse-based systems under reclaimed sodic

soils. The **technology** of Mridaparikshak was commercialized across India and generated more than 15% of Soil Health Cards (SHC) under the SHC Scheme of Govt. of India. ICAR-IISS has earned a royalty of more than Rs. 4 crores from commercialization of *Mridaparikshak* technology.

Patent Granted: Patent No. 347189 for Portable Soil Testing Kit for Agricultural and Horticultural Crops, granted on 21 September, 2020; the kit was commercialized also. Copyright granted (ROC no. SWI-14310/2021 dated 22 March, 2021 and Dairy no. 19250/2020-CO/SW) on Soil test crop response based fertiliser recommendation system for a targeted yield in FCV tobacco from Government of India. Executed 21 projects including 5 Externally funded, 5 Contractual and 2 Consultancy projects as PI. As Project Coordinator (STCR), given emphasis and encouraged the Scientists on the creation of Inter-disciplinary programmes and mobilization of external funding. Forty externally funded projects were processed as Chairman, Consultancy Processing Cell of ICAR-IISS, Bhopal to mobilize more than 32 crores and create the advanced facilities in the frontier areas of research.

Created new **infrastructure** as Project Coordinator (STCR) for soil test crop response studies in 21 Universities and 4 ICAR Research Institute. As Chairman, IPC, ICAR-IISS, Bhopal, helped in development of three new laboratories, namely Nano-tech Lab, Soil Biodiversity Lab and Soil and Produce Quality Lab. **Capacity building** was given impetus resulting into organization of 217 capacity building programme cum field day benefiting 12047 tribal farmers. More than 6000 FLDs were also conducted under different agro-ecological sub-regions to demonstrate beneficial effect of STCR-based nutrient management. Delivered 14 TV talks and 11 radio talks for extending technologies to farmers.

Providing Scientific Leadership to various Institutions/Societies/Associations viz., Lead, Biome Expert Group on Dryland, Ecosystem Services Partnership, Netherlands; Member of NICRA Review Team for KVKs; Editor, Journal of Soil Salinity and Water Quality, India and International Journal of Scientific and Engineer Research, USA; President (Elect) of Indian Science Congress Association (Agriculture & Forestry Sciences); Vice President, Indian Society of Soil Science, New Delhi (2020-2021); Vice President, Indian Society of Agro Physics (2014-2016); Adjunct Professor, UBKV, Cooch Behar; Member Secretary, RAC, ICAR-CSSRI (2010-12) and ICAR-IISS, Bhopal (2014-17); Member, IMC of ICAR-CSSRI, Karnal (2015-18) and CCARI, Goa (2017-20); Member Secretary, IRC of ICAR-CSSRI, Karnal. Instrumental in developing the CSSRI Vision-2030; reviewer of Biotechnology & Biological Sciences Research Council, UK; SAARC Focal Point Expert of IPNS; Soil Science Expert of Knowledge Exchange programme in Kenya sponsored by GIZ, Germany. Visited 5 countries, viz., Australia (2006), USA (2010), Kenya (2016, 2017, 2019), Bangladesh (2017) and Germany(2017).

Contributed more than 400 **publications** including 172 research papers, 14 books, 30 book chapters, 33 technical bulletins, 94 extension bulletins; 98 popular articles and other publications with major emphasis in soil and crop production sustainability.

Salient **awards and honours** include two Gold Medals, six scholarship/fellowships and 40 professional honours/recognition. Fellow of West Bengal Academy of Science and Technology, Kolkata; Fellow of Indian Society of Soil Science, New Delhi; Fellow of Indian Society and Water Quality, Karnal; Fellow of Indian Academy of Horticultural Sciences, New Delhi; Fellow of Indian Association of Soil & Water Conservationists, Dehradun; recipient of 12th International Congress Commemoration Award of Indian Society of Soil Science; delivered 7th Dr. B. Ramamoorthy Memorial Lecture, instituted by TNAU, Coimbatore; Biome Expert Group Lead, ESP (IUCN), The Netherlands; Soil Science Expert of Knowledge Exchange programme in soil conservation and rehabilitation for study visit to Kenya sponsored by GIZ, Germany. Recipient of **Social Innovator Award by the World Bank** (UN) for sustained commitment to fostering a culture of research-led performance by bringing critical international scholarship on social justice.