



INDIAN SOCIETY OF SOIL SURVEY AND LAND USE PLANNING (ISSLUP) NEWS LETTER

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June, 2014

Indian Society of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning (ISSLUP) will hold NATIONAL SEMINAR

ON

SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LAND RESOURCES FOR LIVELIHOOD SECURITY

*With Special Session on
Land Use Policy*

January 28-30, 2015

at



**National Bureau of Soil Survey
and
Land Use Planning (ICAR),
Amravati Road,
Nagpur-440 033**

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Govt. of India releases Draft National Land Utilisation Policy (2013)

Department of Land Resources, (Ministry of Rural Development; Government of India) has released the first draft of a National Land Utilisation Policy (2013) framework for land use planning and management.

The draft policy document examines the current land use planning and utilisation trends and the guiding principles for the National Land Utilization Policy. Emphasis has been laid on identification of Land Utilisation Zones (LUZ's) and Land-Use Management areas in addition to the implementation approach for the policy.

It is also for the first time, land use has been considered as a holistic issue the policy document discusses the linkages between various land use types. The National Land Utilisation Policy also suggests an implementation strategy taking into consideration the fact that "land and its management" is a State subject.

The policy says that the land in the country will be divided into Land Utilisation Zones (LUZs) based on the predominant use of the lands. Such LUZs will be subjected to land use planning in the form of Regional Development Plans for the entire region and Development Plans or Master Plans for the specific areas within the LUZ. Various land uses will be reflected in these plans, as per a standard land use classification system, based on which further development will be guided.

- a) Predominantly Rural and Agricultural Areas;
- b) Areas Under Transformation;
- c) Predominantly Urban Areas;
- d) Predominantly Industrial Areas;
- e) Predominantly Ecological Areas, Landscape Conservation & Tourism Areas, Heritage Areas; and
- f) Major Hazard Vulnerable Areas.

For the purpose of land management, the Land Utilisation Zones are to be divided into various "Land-use Management Areas" (LMAs) to ensure protection, regulation, control and guided development or even reserve lands in accordance with legal provisions and priority needs of various sectors.

Each State Government shall prepare the State Land Utilisation Policy (SLUP) within a period of one year from the date of publication of the National Land Utilisation Policy, having due regard to the National Land Utilisation Policy and incorporating state-specific requirements.

ISSLUP holds National Seminar

A two day National Seminar on "Managing Land Resources for Sustainable Agriculture" was organized by Indian Society of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning (ISSLUP) and National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning (NBSS&LUP), Nagpur during October 12-13, 2012 at NBSS & LUP Campus, Amravati Road, Nagpur. A total of 156 delegates participated. Three memorial lectures were delivered by the eminent Scientists in India.



Dr. S. V. Govindarajan Memorial Lecture was delivered by Dr. A. K. Singh, Former DDG (NRM), ICAR, who dwelt upon "Soil survey - need for a paradigm shift" in the memory of Late Dr. S.V. Govindarajan. Dr. A.K. Singh highlighted the importance of soil information system and maintenance of land quality for raising agricultural production to meet the needs of growing population on a sustainable basis.

Dr. J. L. Sehgal Memorial Lecture was delivered by Dr. Y.V.N. Krishna Murthy, Director, Indian Institute of Remote Sensing, Dehradun. Dr. Murthy pointed out the data generated in NNRMS programme, State Remote Sensing Centre with state line Departments and Satellite Data from AWIFS of 180 m resolution to Cartosat-I of <1 m resolution for modeling in GIS.

Dr. B.B. Roy memorial lecture was delivered by Dr. S.C. Datta, IARI, New Delhi. He explained the dynamic nature of P in soil-plant continuum with additional feature of P-added through fertilizer. He critically assessed the challenge of changing solution P-levels to attain optimum production.

NBSS and LUP Launches an Ambitious Land Resources Inventory (LRI) Programme

The pressure on land resources is ever increasing with the kinds of demand that is ever growing with the unprecedented growth in human population and livestock. There are various other sectors which further add to this and as a result of which per capita availability of agricultural land in the country is declining day by day. This calls for the use of large scale database as a reference and creation of important thematic maps like soil resources and land use to address various aspects related to land use planning. National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning (ICAR), Nagpur has planned to undertake a country level project on "Land resource inventory on 1:10000 scale for optimal agricultural land use planning and development of national Geo-portal on soils using geo-spatial techniques" in cooperation with NRSC/ISRO in phased manner.

A database on soil and land use characteristics will be developed by conducting soil survey on 1:10000 scale and other data required for land use planning will be collated from different sources.

In the first phase, 60 blocks representing different agro-ecological sub regions with an area of 3.3 million hectares of cultivable land of the country have been selected

Expected output

Block-wise land resource information system (LRIS) of selected blocks on 1: 10000 scale and uploaded on NBSS&LUP (ICAR) Geoportal as well as Bhuvan. The project will be implemented in a phased manner and is planned to be completed in 5 years.

Notice

All the life members are requested to send information for inclusion in NEWS LETTER such as awards, retirements, promotions, events, recognition etc. The information may be mailed to secretary, ISSLUP.

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One day seminar organized by ISSS Kolkata Chapter in collaboration with ISSLUP, Nagpur.

A one day seminar on “Soil Management Options for Integrated Farming towards Better Livelihood Security” was organized by ISSS Kolkata Chapter in collaboration with the ISSLUP, Nagpur and IPNI, Kolkata on 28th January, 2014 at NBSS & LUP, Kolkata. Prof S P Mukherjee, Emeritus Professor, University of Kolkata was the Chief Guest and inaugurated the Seminar. Dr S K Singh, then Head, NBSS & LUP, Regional Centre, Kolkata was the Chairman of the Organising Committee while Dr K Das, Principal Scientist, NBSS & LUP, Kolkata acted as the Secretary. About 100 delegates from different ICAR Institutes, SAU's, State and Central Govt along with students participated in the seminar.



PERSONALIA

Dr S K Chaudhari Joins as Asst. Director General (SW&M) At ICAR, New Delhi

Life member of the society Dr. S. K. Chaudhari joined as ADG (SW&M), NRM Division of ICAR in January 2014. Earlier he was serving at CSSRI, Karnal as Head Division of Soil and Crop Management. He has been an outstanding soil scientist with research interest in water management. The society congratulates him on his appointment and wishes him a grand success during his tenure.



Dr. S.K. Chaudhari

Dr S K Singh Joins as Director, NBSS and LUP, Nagpur

The society is pleased to inform that its life member Dr S K Singh has joined as Director, NBSS and LUP, Nagpur. Prior to this appointment, he was serving as Regional Head of NBSS and LUP, Kolkata Centre. He has made immense contributions to the field of soil survey and land use planning. The society is confident that he will provide dynamic leadership to the Bureau and wishes him a successful stint.



Dr. S. K. Singh

President's Message



Dr. Arun Chaturvedi

I distinctly remember the sultry September afternoon in 1986 when the participants in the first National meeting of the soil surveyors and land use planners at the National Bureau of Soil Survey & Land Use Planning, Nagpur decided to form a Society to serve the long-felt need to create a platform where various research and educational issues in land use planning could be addressed. I was later assigned the position of Joint Secretary in the second year of the society when Dr. J.L. Sehgal took over the reins of the society and guided its destiny. The society has come a long way since then.

At the outset I take this opportunity to thank the Members of the Society for having elected me as President at a time when land and land use related issues are at a crossroad. The Bureau is emphasizing on a flagship project initiating detailed soil and land resource mapping at a 1:10,000 scale. This is at par with re-inventing the wheel because of the massive area to be covered within the shortest possible time. I am sure our colleague scientists are striving hard to achieve the gigantic task.

One of the major handicaps in this massive task is non-availability of trained manpower in the field of soil survey and mapping. This is a result of declining interest in the field of pedology which

needs to be revived again. And this is where ISSLUP should be playing a pivotal role. Unfortunately, issues concerning land use have recently been in news for all the wrong reasons. For a long time there is a perception that we have no shortage of land and that India is a vast country. The increasing population and conflicting demands of land use has shattered this impression. Matters have come to such importance that President of India in his inaugural address to the joint session of the parliament has emphasized that my government will have land use policy within a period of one year. Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of India, New Delhi has already circulated a draft land utilization policies in September 2013.

Serious discussion is necessary before this draft is converted to executive policy document. We have decided to have a special session on this document (land use policy) during the forthcoming National Seminar on “**Sustainable Management of Land Resources for Livelihood Security**” to be held during January 28-30, 2015 at Nagpur. There is a serious need for the draft document to be examined from the perspective of land as a natural resource and not merely an anchorage space as perceived by many.

I solicit your co-operation and active participation in the upcoming workshop and a fruitful association with the society for the next two years.

(Arun Chaturvedi)

Published by :

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