



Soil Science News

Quarterly Newsletter of Soil Science Society of Pakistan

سوائل سائنس سوسائٹی آف پاکستان

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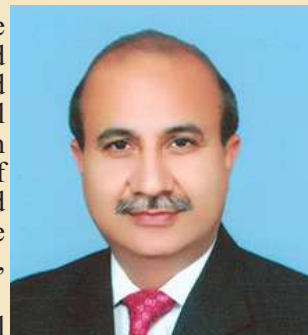
Head Office: Land Resources Research Institute, National Agricultural Research Centre, Islamabad Pakistan

Presidential Message: Civilization depends on the soil more crucially than ever, because numbers are increasing exponentially while available soil resources are diminishing and deteriorating. This has created a compelling need to educate the next generation of aspiring soil and environmental scientists and activists, and through them, the general public – regarding the soil in all manifestations, in nature and in relation to the life of humans. The Soil Science Society of Pakistan (SSSP) provides leadership to meet the next generation soil management challenges. Membership of the SSSP is a valuable component of one's professional career. Whether he works in public and private academic and research/development sector, he will find colleagues to share with and the information he needs to succeed. And, wherever he is on the career ladder -- student just starting out, steadily climbing, or at the top -- membership helps him advance his professional career.

We, at the SSSP, are proud to inherit the most vibrant, active, consistent and productive professional society in the country with excellent record of professional/academic activities. It regularly holds its elections after every two years, organizes an international congress regularly, and publishes an HEC-recognized and ISI/Scopus-indexed journal "Soil & Environment" and many other activities. The Society, with the courtesy of Pakistan Science Foundation, has initiated appreciation for the 'Best Cited Paper' in the 'Soil & Environment' and 'Best Innovation and Best Research Poster' in the area of Soil and Environmental Sciences. The society also intends to facilitate the members by providing them the option of On-line new/renewal of membership and up-date his credentials. The society has also planned to highlight/emphasize the activities of the colleagues in the field and motivate them to play more active role in the activities of the Society.

The executive has decided to organize more frequent activities for better peer-to-peer networking, keeping updated on important research and applications, more visibility and recognition, better career development and advancement and providing efficient advocacy and support to the members. Of course, all these achievements may be possible only with the help and cooperation of the honorable members/colleagues. I, along with the other members of the Executive Council, will always welcome any suggestion for the uplift and strengthening of the society.

May Allah, the almighty, bless you all...



Professor Dr. Zahir A. Zahir
President, Soil Science Society of Pakistan



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Oath Taking Ceremony - EC 2021-22

Oath Taking Ceremony of newly elected Executive Council (EC 2021-22) of Soil Science Society of Pakistan was held at New Senate Hall, University of Agriculture



Faisalabad on March 1, 2021 and the chief guest was Prof. Asif Tanveer, VC, Univ. Agri., Faisalabad. The ceremony was started with recitation of Holy Quran and followed by a Nae't Sharif. The outgoing General Secretary, Dr. Ghulam M. Jamro, congratulated the newly elected EC



and ensured active support. On behalf of outgoing EC, he thanked the Election Committee – Dr. M. Bashir Butt, DG, Agriculture (AJ&K), Mr. M. Almas Abbasi, Soil Chemist, AJ&K and Dr. S. Andleeb, Asstt. Prof., Univ. of AJ&K, Muzaffarabad, for holding transparent, free and fair election. Prof. Dr. M. Kaleem Abbasi, outgoing President, welcomed the Chief Guest, participants and thanked the host of the ceremony. He highlighted the activities of the Society performed during his tenure. The Chief Guest administrated the oath and afterwards, newly elected General Secretary, Dr. Ghulam M. Jamro, on behalf of incoming EC, thanked the honorable members for trusting and electing them for the tenure of 2021-22. Then, incoming President, Prof. Dr. Zahir A. Zahir, appreciated the efforts of outgoing EC. He ensured that present EC will broaden the spectrum of the Society by developing strong linkages between academia, research, and industry. He also acknowledged the VC and management of Univ. for providing the logistic support. The Chief Guest, Prof. Dr. Asif Tanveer praised the role of the Society in the uplift of professional activities related to soil science and allied fields in Pakistan.



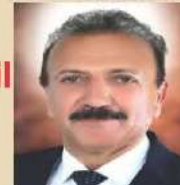
Group photo of Executive Council with Chief Guest and participants

President



Prof. Dr. Z. A. Zahir
Director, ORIC,
Univ. of Agri., Faisalabad

Past President



Prof. Dr. M. K. Abbasi
Vice Chancellor
Univ. of AJK, Muzaffarabad

Executive Council 2021-22

Vice Presidents



Dr. Abid Niaz,
Assoc. AC
AARI, Faisalabad



Dr. J. A. Shah
Principal Scientist
NIA, Tandojam



Dr. M. Musrat
Asstt. Prof.
Univ., Agri. Peshawar



Mr. H. Kakar
AC(Soils)
ARI, Quetta



Dr. M. Mahmood
Assoc. Prof.
Univ. Poonch, Rawlako

G. Secretary



Dr. G. M. Jamro
Assoc Prof.
Sindh Agri. Univ., Tandojam

J. Secretary



Mr. Sair Sarwar
PSO
NARC, Islamabad

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Islamabad

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Mr. M. Asif Ali
Sale Manager
Engro, Fertilizer



Ms. Ifra Saleem
ARO, AARI
Faisalabad



Dr. A. Shaheen
Asstt. Prof.
Univ. Poonch
Rawalakot



Dr. S. M. Bhatti
Assoc. Prof.
Sindh Agri. Univ.
Tandojam



Mr. Noora Jan
PRO (SC)
Sugar Crops Res.
Instt. Mardan



Mr. A. Jamali
Lecturer
Balochistan Agri.
College, Quetta



Hafiz M. Haider
M.Sc Student
The Islami Univ.
Bahawalpur

Seminar/webinar/field day

Farmer's Field Day – Productivity Enhancement of Sugarcane

A field day was organized by Land Resources Research Institute, NARC, Islamabad at Sawarian, Mardan under a PSDP development project “Productivity Enhancement of



Sugarcane” on June 3, 2021. The project is aimed to demonstrate the impact of potash and micronutrients application on sugarcane yield. Director General NARC, Project Director, Sugarcane NARC, Director LRRI, Director Agri. Ext. Deptt. Mardan, KPK, Director Agri. Res. Deptt. Mardan KPK. Provincial Res. & Extension officers, Scientists from NARC and a large number of farmers (more than 300) participated and shared their sugarcane productivity enhancement knowledge and experience. It was well organized field day and all the farmers and officials appreciated and demanded that such an activity must be extended to all the provinces to disseminate the technology among farming community; so



that the farmer could be able to understand and implement on their own fields. In this seminar, it was emphasized that the Farmers can get 1500 to 2000 mounds per acre sugarcane yield by using the demonstrated technologies.

In the first session of the seminar, scientists and farmers lightened the positive impact of potash and micro-nutrients on sugarcane yield and quality. After the first session, there was a field visit of the experimental sites.

World Environment Day – Ecosystem Restoration

Department of Soil and Environmental Sciences, MNS University of Agriculture, Multan celebrated the World Environment Day on June 07, 2021 by organizing an international webinar. The keynote speakers were Prof. Ed Barrett Lennard, Murdoch University, Perth, Australia; Dr.



Hafiz Muhammad Warris, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Jiujiang, China; and Dr. Mohsin Nawaz, MNS-UAM. The

Chief Guest of the webinar was Prof. Dr. Riaz Hussain Qureshi, Ex. Vice Chancellor, UAF, and Guest of Honor was Prof. Dr. Javed Akhtar, Dean Faculty of Agriculture, UAF and Director ISES, UAF. There was also a poster and video competition on the theme of WED-2021 “Ecosystem Restoration”. More than 100 students participated in the competition.

Promotion/appointmnt/posting



Professor Dr. Zahir Shah, Dean (Rtd.), Faculty of Crop Production, The University of Agriculture, Peshawar and past president, Honorary Member and Fellow of Soil Science Society of Pakistan has been appointed as Vice-Chancellor, University of Chitral, Gilgit Baltistan.

Mr. Nabi B. Jamro, Principal Scientist, has assumed the charge of Director, Orchards Nutrients Management Institute, Mirpurkhas.

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Kaleem Abbasi, Vice Chancellor, University of Azad Jammu & Kashmir and past president and Fellow of Soil Science Society of Pakistan has been given another four-year tenure as Vice Chancellor, University of Azad Jammu & Kashmir.



Prof. Dr. Allah W. Gandahi, Deptt. of Soil Science, Sindh Agriculture University (SAU) Tandojam has been re-appointed as Principal, Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Agricultural College Dokri (a subsidiary of SAU Tandojam).

Prof. Dr. Qamaruddin Chachar, Department of Crop Physiology, has been appointed as Dean, Faculty of Crop Production, Sindh Agriculture University Tandojam from 3rd June 2021 till 7th August 2022, the date of his superannuation.

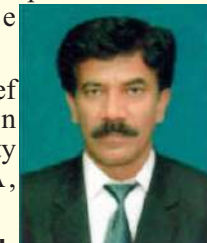


Prof. Dr. Zia-ul-Hassan Shah, Department of Soil Science, Sindh Agriculture University Tandojam has been assigned to work as Advisor, Planning and Development to Vice Chancellor Since April 2021.

Dr. Mahboob Ali Sial, Deputy Chief Scientist, has taken over the responsibility of Director, NIA, Tando Jam.



Mr. Sanaullah Solangi, Senior Scientist, Cotton Research Institute, Agriculture Research Center Tando Jam, has been



Promotion/appointmnt/posting

posted as Deputy Director (Tech-IV) at Directorate General, Agriculture (Research) Sindh, Tando Jam.



Mr. Khalil A. Magsi (Soil Survey Research Officer) and **Mr. Niaz A. Kalhoro** (Assistant Soil Survey Research Officer) has been transferred (on attachment



basis) from Ministry of National Food Security and Research, Islamabad to Pakistan Agricultural Research Council for further posting at Southern Zone Agricultural Research Centre, Karachi.

Dr. Abdul Khaliq, Associate Professor, Department of Soil & Environmental Sciences, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Poonch Rawalakot has been promoted as Professor and appointed as Dean, Faculty of Medical & Health Sciences University of Poonch Rawalakot.



Dr. Nasir Rahim, Associate Professor, Department of Soil & Environmental Sciences, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Poonch Rawalakot has been promoted as Professor.

Dr. Mohsin Zafar, Asstt. Prof., Department of Soil & Environmental Sciences, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Poonch Rawalakot has been promoted as Associate Professor.



Dr. Majid M. Tahir, Assistant Professor, Department of Soil & Environmental Sciences, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Poonch Rawalakot has been promoted as Associate Professor.

Ms. Shabana Ehsan, Agricultural Officer (Lab.), Toba Tak Singh has been transferred to Soil

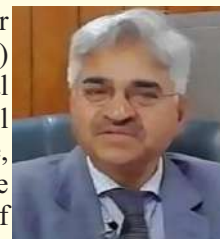
Bacteriology Section, Agri. Biotechnology Research Institute, Ayub Agricultural Research Institute (AARI), Faisalabad and has assumed the charge of Scientific Officer/Assistant Research Officer.



Ms. Aneela Riaz, Scientific Officer, Soil Bacteriology Section, Biotechnology Research Institute, AARI, Faisalabad has been transferred to Soil and water Testing Laboratory, Nankana Sahab.

Ms. Hafsa Zafar, assumed the charge as Scientific Officer (Lab), Soil and Water Testing Laboratory, Faisalabad after availing PhD study leave.

Mr. Aftab Ahmad Sheikh, Senior Scientist, (BS-18+ Rs.165/SP) working against the post of Principal Scientist (HQ) Institute of Soil Chemistry & Environmental Science, Kala Shah Kaku is hereby given the look after charge of Chief Scientist/Director, Soil Salinity Research Institute, Pindi Bhattian.



Dr. Abid Subhani, Principal Scientist (Soil Chemistry), Soil and Water Conservation Research Institute, Chakwal is hereby assigned the look-after charge of the post of Chief Scientist/Director (BS-20) on 02-03-21 at Soil and Water Conservation Research Institute (SAWCRI),

Chakwal.

Dr. Muhammad Nasim, Senior Scientist/Agriculture Chemist (Pesticide/BS-18+Rs.165/SP), Pesticide Quality Control Laboratory, Bahawalpur is hereby assigned the look-after charge of the post of Principal Scientist (BS-19) (Soil Fertility), Soil & Water Testing Laboratory, Bahawalpur.



Dr. Ghulam Rasul, Senior Scientist (BS-18), Provincial Reference Fertilizer Testing Laboratory, Raiwind, Lahore is hereby given the look-after charge of the post of Chief Scientist, Provincial Reference Fertilizer Testing Laboratory, Raiwind.



Dr. Tanveer ul Haq, Chairman, Department of Soil and Environmental Sciences, MNS University of Agriculture, Multan has been promoted as "Professor". Previously, he has served Nuclear Institute of Agriculture and Biology, Faisalabad; University of Agriculture, Faisalabad, Sub-campus D.G. Khan.

Dr Safdar Bashir, Assistant professor (TTS), University of Agriculture Faisalabad Sub Campus Depalpur, Okara joined Ghazi University, Dera Ghazi Khan as



Associate Professor and assumed the charge of Chairperson, Department of Soil and Environmental Sciences.

Dr Shahid Hussain, working at Department of Soil Science, Bahauddin Zakariya University, Multan, has been promoted as Tenured Associate Professor of Soil Science.



Mr. M. Aslam Mengal and **Mr. A. Waheed Bugti** appointed as lecturers, Department of Soil Science, University College, Dera Murad Jamali. Mr. Mengal completed M. Sc. (Hons.) from Department of Soil



Science, Sindh Agriculture University Tando Jam and Mr Bugti from Soil Science Institute, PMAS Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi.



Dr. Irfan A. Saleem, Scientific Officer (Lab.), Soil and Water Testing Lab., Mandi Baha-ud-Din is hereby given the look after charge of Senior Scientist/Agri. Chemist, Soil and Water Testing Lab., Gujranwala.

Dr. Faraz Ahmad, Scientific Officer (Lab.), Soil and Water Testing Lab., Sargodha hereby given the look after charge of Senior Scientist/Agri. Chemist.

Mr. Muhammad Zahid, has been appointed as Agriculture Officer at Kahuritta circle, District Kotli, Agriculture Department, Government of Azad Jammu & Kashmir



Ms. Nighat Musa, has been appointed as Agriculture Officer at Mong, District Sudhnuti, Agriculture Department, Government of Azad Jammu & Kashmir

Congratulation from the desk of Soil Science News.

Awards

Dr. Javed A. Shah, Principal Scientist, Soil and

Environmental Sciences Division, Nuclear Institute of Agriculture, Tando Jam has earned 'Chairman Distinguished Service Award (Gold Medal)' on the eve of 28th May, Youme-Takbeer (PAEC Day) 2021, for his outstanding contributions and achievements towards PAEC programme.



Congratulation from the desk of Soil Science News.

Ph. D. Degree

Dr. Ifra Saleem, Scientific Officer, Soil Chemistry Section, Institute of Soil Chemistry and Environmental Sciences, AARI, Faisalabad has completed her PhD on "the potential and efficiency of nano-K diammonium phosphate to improve crop yield" and her supervisor was Dr. M. Amer Maqsood, Associate Professor, Institute of Soil and Environmental Sciences, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad. She was HEC Ph. D. scholar under Indigenous Ph.D. Fellowship Program, HEC, Islamabad. She conducted part of her Ph. D. thesis research at Dalhousie University, Nova Scotia, Canada for a period of six months under a HEC funded International Research Support Initiative Program for PhD scholars.



Congratulation from the desk of Soil Science News.



SOIL SCIENCE SOCIETY OF PAKISTAN

**Call for
SSSP
Awards**

2021

The Executive Council of Soil Science Society of Pakistan has decided to recognize and reward soil scientists of Pakistan for their active contribution in academics, research and development.

Awards will be given in the following categories:

**SSSP Innovation
Award**

**SSSP Best Research
Paper Published**

**SSSP Best Research
Poster Award**

Last Date for Submissions:
June 25, 2021

For eligibility criteria and application procedure
please visit <https://sss-pakistan.org/>

Sponsored by: **PAKISTAN SCIENCE FOUNDATION**

Retirements

Dr Shahid Javid, Director/Chief Scientist, Soil and Water Conservation Research Institute, Chakwal retired from government services on 14-3-2021 by attaining the age of superannuation. He did B. Sc. (Hons) Agri and Master from University of Agriculture, Faisalabad in 1982 and 1984, respectively. He did his Ph. D. from The



University of Reading, England, UK.

He started his professional career as Assistant Research Officer from Soil Chemistry Section, Ayub Agricultural Research Institute Faisalabad. Subsequently, he was selected as AAC and AC and served at different institutes and provincial Reference Fertilizer Lab Raiwind, Lahore. Lately, he performed the duties of Director/Chief Scientist at Soil and Water Conservation Research Institute Chakwal. In 2021, he was promoted as Principal Scientist (BS-19) and Posted at Soil and Water Testing Lab. for Research, Lahore.

Dr. Javid worked on many issues of national interest and successfully executed national and international research projects. He generated valuable data and published in various peer reviewed Journals of national and international repute, conference proceedings and reports.

He served Soil Science Society of Pakistan voluntarily as Vice President, Treasurer and Councilor.

Dr. Saleem Akhtar, Principal Scientist, Soil Bacteriology Section, AARI, Faisalabad. He retired from the Govt. service by attaining the age of superannuation. He did B. Sc. (Hons.), M.Sc (Hons.) and Ph. D. from the Univ. of Agri., Faisalabad in 1985, 1987 and 2010, respectively. He joined Agriculture Department (Research) as ARO in 1988 and posted at Biotechnology Research Institute, AARI, Faisalabad. Dr. Akhtar worked as Assistant Microbiologist and Microbiologist. He developed salt tolerant plants using different biotechnological tools. He promoted as Principal Scientist (BS-19) and posted at Soil Bacteriology Section, Agri. Biotechnology research Institute. He retired from the Govt. job on 08-03-2021 by attaining the age of superannuation.



Mr. Muhammad Ashraf, Principal Scientist (BS-19)/Agricultural Chemist/ District Officer, (SF), Soil and Water Testing Laboratory, Vehari has retired from government job on 02-05-2021. He did M. Sc. (Hons) in Soil



Science from University of Agriculture, Faisalabad in 1987. He joined Agriculture Department as Asstt. Agri. Officer and worked as Assistant Agri. Chemist, Agri. Chemist as well. He worked as Director at Regional Agriculture & Economics Development Centre (RAEDC). He performed his duties with loyalty and full devotion.

Mr. Yousif Memon, Chief Scientist/Director, Nuclear Institute of Agriculture (NIA) Tando Jam has retired from services on the date of his superannuation - 28th February 2021. After retirement, he has assumed the charge of Advisor to Member Agriculture, Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission for the period of one year.



Dr. Naimatullah Bughio, Principal Scientific Officer/Director, PARC-National Sugar and Tropical Horticulture Research Institute, SARC, Thatta, has retired from government service on 27th February 2021 by attaining the age of superannuation.



Dr. Bughio did M. Sc. (Hons.) in Soil Science from the Sindh Agriculture University, Tandojam in 1986. He joined Fauji Fertilizer Company as an Assistant Technical Services Officer-II for a short period of time and then joined PARC, Islamabad in September 1986 as Scientific Officer and was posted at National Agricultural Research Centre, Islamabad.

In initial years, he contributed in introduction and calibration of multi-element soil tests and establishment of local P, Zn, and B plant analysis diagnostic indices for wheat, chickpea, lentil, mustard and sorghum. In 1999, he did Ph. D. from The University of Tokyo in the field of Applied Biological Chemistry (Plant Molecular Physiology and Plant Nutrition). He has published large number of research articles in reputed journals, most of impact factor, and was also recipient of Research Productivity Award from Pakistan Council for Science and Technology, Islamabad.

Mr. Shahbaz Ahmad, Senior Scientific Officer, Land Resources Research Institute, National Agricultural Research Centre, Islamabad has retired from PARC job on 31-03-2021. Mr. Shahbaz joined Pakistan Agricultural Research Council, Islamabad as ASO in earlier eighties after obtaining B. Sc. degree. He, continuously, worked very hard in the field of Biological Nitrogen Fixation and established a semi-automatic inoculum unit at NARC,



Islamabad. He, with his senior colleagues, developed and commercialized bio-fertilizer named 'Biozot'. He also played an active role in solving the problems of scientific community.

Obituary

Prof. Dr. Safdar Ali, Dean (Rtd.) Faculty of Crop and Food Sciences, PMAS-Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi couldn't survive a heart attack. Dr. Ali obtained his Ph.D. in Soil & Water Conservation from Oregon State University, USA. He joined Department of Soil Science of PMAS-Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (Then Agriculture College, UAF) in the year 1980 as Lecturer and 2004 he became professor.



Sheikh M. Akram, Director, Soil and Water Conservation Research Institute, has died on 30 March, 2021. Sheikh Akram joined Agriculture (Research) department in earlier eighties after obtaining M. Sc. (Hons.) from University of Faisalabad. He served in different positions at Chemistry Section, AARI, Faisalabad, Soil and Water Testing Laboratory, Lahore and at other stations as well. Presently he was working in TARA group. He was a very humble person.



Malik Khadim Hussain, Agricultural Officer (Rtd.), Pesticide Quality Control Laboratory, Multan has passed away on 29 May, 2021. Earlier, he has served at SAWCRI, Chakwal as Asstt. Research Officer, at Soil and Water Testing Laboratory, Multan as Agricultural Officer (Lab). He was a nice and thorough gentleman.



Prof. Dr. M. Anwar Baig, Principal (Rtd.), Institute of Environmental Sciences and Engineering, National University of Science and Technology, Islamabad has passed away on June 11, 2021. He was graduated from University of Agriculture, Faisalabad and Ph. D. from University of Arizona, USA.



The Society records with a deep sense of grief and sorrow the sad demise and prays for the departed souls.

Publications

Bioremediation Science: From Theory to Practice. 2021. A. Rakshit, M. Parihar, et al. (Eds.); CRC Press, USA.

Renowned scientists around the world working on the above topics have contributed chapters in this edited book. They have addressed the scope of the inexpensive and energy neutral bioremediation technologies. The book

Renewal of Memberships and Updating Mailing Address

All the honorable members are requested to contact **Dr. Muhammad Iqbal**, Treasurer SSSP for renewal/new membership and updating mailing addresses at:

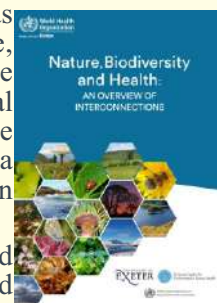
treasurer@sss-pakistan.org
miqbalkhalid@gmail.com
 03066074833

provides state of the art description of various approaches, techniques and some basic fundamentals of bioremediation to manage a variety of organic and inorganic wastes and pollutants present in our environment. The book is easy to read and language can be readily comprehended by aspiring newcomer, students, researchers and anyone else interested in this field. The scope of the book extends to environmental/agricultural scientists, students, consultants, site owners, industrial stakeholders, regulators and policy makers.



Nature, Biodiversity and Health: an overview of interconnections. 2021. Published by WHO/Europe.

In recognition of the International Day for Biological Diversity on 22 May, WHO/Europe has published its first report on nature, biodiversity and health together with the WHO Collaborating Centre on Natural Environments and Health at the University of Exeter (UK). It includes a chapter on soil, agriculture, nutrition and food security.



Urbanization, land use, global trade and industrialization have led to profound and negative impacts on nature, biodiversity and ecosystems across the world. The ongoing depletion of natural resources not only affects environmental conditions but also has an enormous impact on the well-being and security of societies. This report provides an overview of the impacts of the natural environment on human health.

Soil and Environment Portal

Soil Science Society of Pakistan has developed a "Soil and Environment Portal" to highlight and publicize the innovative and outstanding research findings in the areas of Soil and Environment Sciences. All the scientists working in these areas are requested to share 100 words summary of research along with pictorial if any to Dr. Ghulam Murtaza Jamro, General Secretary, SSSP at:

general.secretary@sss-pakistan.org
gjmjamro@gmail.com
 03070364559

Salient Activities of Soil Science Society of Pakistan (SSSP) During 2019-20

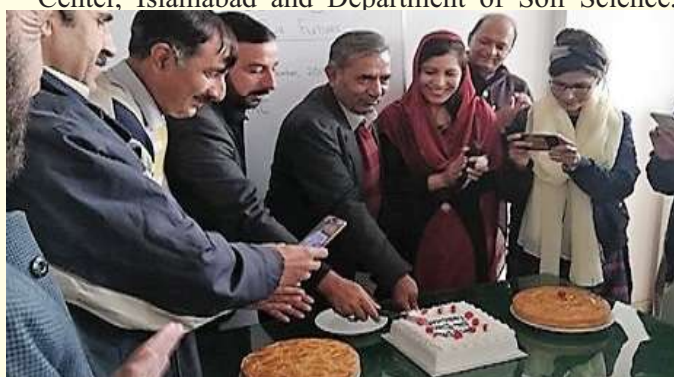
- Organized wonderful 18th International Congress of Soil Science (ICSS-2020), February 11-13, 2020 at Sindh Agriculture University Tandojam after 16 years. During congress, two plenary and 16 technical sessions were conducted. Agriculture exhibition, gala musical night and two post congress tours (Thatta and Tharparkar) were also arranged.



- Three seminars were organized at different institutes/parts of the country including National Agricultural Research Center, Islamabad, University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Muzaffarabad and Agriculture University, Peshawar. Three seminars were planned at Gilgit, Bahawalpur and Rawalpindi respectively but these seminars were postponed due to COVID-19 restrictions.



- World Soil Day was celebrated at Land Resources Research Institute, National Agricultural Research Center, Islamabad and Department of Soil Science,



Sindh Agriculture University, Tandojam in December



2020.

- Gold Medal Award for recent graduates of Soil Science initiated. Seven recent graduates of Soil and Environmental Sciences belonging to University of



Agriculture Faisalabad, The Agriculture University Peshawar, Sindh Agriculture University, Tandojam, University of Sargodha, Islamia University Bahawalpur, Baluchistan Agriculture College, Quetta



and University of Poonch Rawalakot received medals during ICSS-2020.

- EC continued SSSP awards for notable soil scientists of Pakistan. EC approved two honorary memberships, four fellowships and four services to society awards during 2019-20. Awards were given to nominated scientists during congress.
- All the students who came from different parts of the country and AJ&K except Sindh and presented oral or poster during congress received travel grants.
- Soil & Environment Journal received HEC X category.
- SSSP Office located at Land Resources Research Institute, National Agricultural Research Center, Islamabad renovated, installed new furniture and equipped with computer facility.
- Developed/upgraded new SSSP website.
- Soil and Environment Portal created on SSSP website to highlight and publicize the innovative and outstanding research findings in the areas of Soil and Environment Sciences
- Call for 1st Web-Based National Directory of Soil and Environmental Scientists was given
 - Published SSSP Newsletter regularly
 - Organized regular SSSP EC meetings.
 - At the end of tenure, EC received 1.2 million rupees funding (funding will be utilized by incoming EC) from Pakistan Science Foundation for two seminars, initiating new awards, Membership of International Union of Soil Science, Journal support and website maintenance.

News and Views for next issue of the 'Soil Science News' may be conveyed to the Associate Editor/Society office bearers of your chapter or to Editor.