



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

National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning Campus, Amravati Road, Nagpur-440 033

Proceedings of the Executive Council Meeting of ISSLUP held on 20th August, 2014 at NBSS&LUP, Nagpur

The Members of the Executive Council of the ISSLUP met on **20th August, 2014** at NBSS&LUP, Nagpur. The following members of Executive Council were attended the meeting.

1. Dr. Arun Chaturvedi, President
2. Dr. S.K. Singh, Director & Special Invitee
3. Dr. A.R. Kalbande, Past President & Ex-Officio Member
4. Dr. K.S. Gajbhiye, Past President & Ex-Officio Member
5. Dr. S.B. Deshpande, Past President & Ex-Officio Member
6. Dr. A.K. Maji, Past President & Ex-Officio Member
7. Dr. T.N. Hajare, Vice President
8. Dr. G.P. Obi Reddy, Secretary
9. Dr. K. Karthikeyan, Joint Secretary
10. Dr. V.V. Gabhane, Joint Secretary
11. Mr. S.S. Gaikwad, Treasurer
12. Dr. N.G. Patil, Chief Editor
13. Dr. Subhash Chand, Councilor (North Zone)
14. Dr. S. Thayalan, Councilor (South Zone)
15. Dr. M.V.S. Naidu, Councilor (South Zone)
16. Dr. Krishendu Das, Councilor (East Zone)

The agenda of the meeting was as follows

1. Issues related to organization of Brain Storming Workshop in the year 2014
2. Issues related to organization of International Conference in the year 2015
3. Issues related to Publication of Agropedology
4. Issues related to Online submission and review of manuscripts
5. Issues related to publication of special theme issue of Agropedology
6. Opening of new chapters of ISSLUP
7. Publication on "Agropedology Terminology"
8. Issues related to membership drive
9. Any other matter with the permission of the Chair

At the outset, Dr. G.P. Obi Reddy, Hony. Secretary, ISSLUP welcomed Dr. Arun Chaturvedi, President, Dr. S.K. Singh, Director NBSS&LUP and Special Invitee, the past Presidents and Ex-officio members Dr. A.R. Kalbande, Dr. K.S. Gajbhiye, Dr. S.B. Deshpande and Dr. A.K. Maji and all the Executive Council members of ISSLUP. In his presidential address Dr. Arun Chaturvedi gave a brief outline on the Society activities and progress made during the last one and a half month. Director, NBSS&LUP, who is a special invitee gave his introductory remarks and informed the house that ISSLUP and Agropedology journal need to be strengthened. He also emphasized the importance of soil survey and land use planning activities to be published in Agropedology to reach more professionals.

In his introductory remarks, Dr. S. B. Deshpande mentioned the need of Land Resource Inventory (LRI) and maintenance of soil health to achieve sustainable production. Dr. A.R. Kalbande suggested to have collaboration with the State Agricultural Universities to popularize the soil survey and improve the membership from the universities. Dr. K.S. Gajbhiye informed the house that soil survey activities have to be popularized among the students and he also mentioned that there is a need to develop technical terms for the benefits of the students/working community. Dr. A.K. Maji emphasized to give importance to survey related papers to publish in Agropedology.

- Before going to discuss the agenda items of the meeting, the President asked the Hony. Secretary to present Action Taken Report (ATR) on the decisions taken in the last EC meeting held on 23rd June, 2014. The highlights of ATR are given below.

S.No.	Decisions of EC Meeting held on 23 rd June, 2014	Action Taken Report (ATR)
1	Nomination of Executive Council members for vacant posts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hony. Secretary informed the house that after detailed discussion, EC nominated the following members for the vacant positions of Executive Council and received the consent from all the nominated members mentioned below. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr. K. Karthikeyan, Joint Secretary, Hqrts, Nagpur 2. Dr. N.G. Patil, Chief Editor 3. Dr. Ashok Kumar Singh, Councilor, North Zone 4. Dr. Subhash Chand, Councilor, North Zone 5. Dr. S. Thayalan, Councilor, South Zone 6. Dr. M.V.S. Naidu, Councilor, South Zone 7. Dr. Samiron Dutta, Councilor, Eastern Zone 8. Dr. Krishendu Das, Councilor, Eastern Zone 9. Dr. P. Raja, Councilor, Western Zone 10. Dr. R.P. Sharma, Councilor, Western Zone
2	It was decided to take up the active membership drive. It was also decided that the local chapters, Executive Council members and life members of the society should take active role in mobilizing and motivating the young and talented professionals from Universities, ICAR institutes, State departments, NGO's and KVK's to become Life/Annual members of ISSLUP.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The secretary informed the house that since last week of June, 2014 to till date, 78 new Life Members have joined and the total number of Life Members of the Society has increased from 611 to 689. He informed that proactive initiatives like issuing of Life Member Certificate and prompt response to the queries are yielding the results to increase the Life Members of the Society. He sincerely requested all the Councilor Members of the Society to take-up rigorous membership drive at their respective regions to reach 1000 Life Members mark by end of December, 2015.
3	The members expressed the concern about the low NAAS rating of the Agropedology journal and decided to take all necessary steps to improve the NAAS rating from present 3.21 to at least 4.5 in coming two years.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He informed the house that for effective communication with the authors and referees of Agropedology, a new email (secretary@isslup.org) has been created. • He mentioned that when the New Council took the charge in the last week of June, 2014, we had 4 papers received in the year 2014 in hand. Due to new initiatives, in the last 7 weeks, 12 new research papers have been received and are under different

		<p>stages of review process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He also informed the house that the authors of 20 backlog papers submitted after 2010 have been contacted and out of which 8 authors have submitted their revised papers, which are presently under different stages of review process. • He also mentioned that acknowledgement and number allocation for newly submitted papers are being completed within 2 working days. Introduced the prior consent system from the referee before submit the article for review. • Introduced double blind review process to improve the quality and fair editorial process. • Introduced the sending of soft copy for review instead of hard copy to reduce time and cost.
4	The members expressed that there is need to develop full-fledged online system for submission of papers for Agropedology and editorial process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He informed the house that Trailer version of 'Online Paper Submission and Editorial Process System' has been developed using open source software for Agropedology and it is under testing stage. It will be implemented and hosted soon on ISSLUP website after necessary tests conducted.
5	It was decided to speed up the editorial and printing processes. It was also decided to identify the Reviewers for different themes of the Agropedology, who can review the papers in short duration to speed up the editorial process and publish the journal well in time.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He informed that June 2014 issue of Agropedology will be published by end September 2014. December 2014 Issue is planned to be published on time. Steps have been taken to publish more than 10 papers per issue. • He informed that papers are being sent to the Referees, who can review the papers in shorter time to speed up the editorial and publication process of Agropedology.
6	Some of the members suggested to create Associate Editor to assist Chief Editor in publication of papers and the Journal on time. It was decided to take necessary approval for the same from General Body	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He mentioned that as per the decision of the last EC meeting, a proposal will be put up for the next General Body meeting for its necessary approval to create Associate Editor to assist Chief Editor in publication of the Journal on time.
7	It was decided to include the scientists/experts from international and national background in the thematic area in the editorial committee.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He informed that EC has identified the following scientists/experts from national and international as Members of Editorial Committee of Agropedology. <p>National</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. S. Vadivelu, Former Head, NBSS&LUP (RC), Bangalore • Dr. G. S. Sidhu, Former Head, NBSS&LUP, NBSS&LUP (RC), Delhi • Dr. A. K. Srivastava, Principal Scientist, NRCC, Nagpur • Dr. H. S. Shivramu, Professor, Depart. Agronomy, UAS, GKVK, Bangalore • Dr. Vilas Kharche, Prof. Depart. SS & AC, PDKV, Akola

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. P. Chandran, Pr. Scientist, SRS Division, NBSS&LUP, Nagpur • Dr. M. S. S. Nagaraju, Pr. Scientist, RSA Division, NBSS&LUP, Hqrts, Nagpur <p>International</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. A.R. Marmut, Canada • Dr. P.K. Patra, Japan • Dr. Lallan Singh, Nigeria <p>He informed that necessary consents have received from the identified experts of editorial committee.</p>
8	<p>It was decided to activate the local chapters of Hyderabad (possibility to be explored in Department of Soil Science, College of Agriculture, Hyderabad), Kolkata (RC, NBSSLUP) and Jorhat (RC, NBSSLUP) to organize one day events on the relevant themes in the year 2014. If necessary, partial financial support will be provided from the Society to organize such events.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He informed the house that on the eve of World Population day on July 11, 2014, a public lecture was organized on “Feeding the billions with declining land resources”, which was delivered by Dr. K.R. Kranti, Director, Central Institute of Cotton Research (CICR), Nagpur and about 90 members attend the lecture. • He informed the house that he made a request to the concerned EC Members of the Local Chapters to submit the proposals to organize one day activity/organize lecture from invited speakers at the local chapters during the year 2014. He informed the house that no such proposal was received from any Chapter to take decision. • He also mentioned that a request was made to submit the proposals for consideration of EC to open new chapters. He told that four such proposal have been received one each from Bangalore, Tirupati, Udaipur and Srinagar.
9	<p>The members expressed to hold one-day Workshop at Hyderabad in collaboration with NIRD, Hyderabad. The responsibility has been given to Hyderabad Chapter to organize this workshop at the earliest.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The President informed that the concept note has been submitted to NIRD, Hyderabad through Dr. G.R. Chary, Vice President, ISSLUP for needful action.
10	<p>Some members expressed that a separate Zone may be formed for North-Eastern Region for General Body approval.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hony. Secretary informed that necessary proposal will be prepared to put up to the next General Body meeting for its consideration and approval.
11	<p>The members suggested to increase the Life Membership fee of the society from the present Rs.1500/- to Rs.2500/- and Annual Membership to Rs. 500/- from the present Rs. 100/. The proposed membership rates will come into force after getting the necessary approval from the General Body of ISSLUP.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He informed the house that the necessary proposal will be put up to next General Body meeting of ISSLUP to take appropriate decision on the proposal. He informed that till that time the prevailing membership rates will continue.

12	It was decided to upload the list of Life Members of the Society in the ISSLUP Website. It was also decided to issue the 'Membership Certificate' for the Life Members of the Society.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He informed the house that the list of 664 Life Members of the Society upto 31st July, 2014 has been uploaded in the ISSLUP Website. Requested all the Life Members to inform the changes if any in their address to the Secretary, ISSLUP to provide better services. • He informed that so far 'Life Member Certificate' has been issued to 80 Life members and majority of them are newly joined. 																								
13	It was decided to hold an ISSLUP logo on first page of each paper to be published in Agropedology in future.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He informed that steps have taken to provide the ISSLUP logo on first page of each paper from June, 2014 issue Agropedology, which is planned to publish by the end of September, 2014. 																								
14	It was decided to change the design of cover of the Agropedology. Society could invite the cover page designs from the members, who can contribute voluntarily.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He informed the house that new cover page of Agropedology has been designed and circulated to EC Members for their comments. The newly designed cover page of Agropedology will be implemented from June, 2014 issue. 																								
15	A proposal was agreed in principle by EC to bring out five Special Issues of Agropedology focusing on Land Use Planning in Rainfed/ Irrigated/ Arid/Hill and Mountain/Coastal Agro-ecosystem' to comprehensively cover the present status/issues, potentials/programme etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He informed the house that follow up action has been taken to publish a December, 2014 issue on special theme of "Agricultural Land Use Planning: Issues and Strategies". 																								
16	EC in principle agreed to bring out a Publication on "Agropedology Terminology" involving the resource persons/experts in the relevant themes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He informed that necessary steps have been taken to brought out a Publication on "Agropedology Terminology". The following Experts Committee has been formed to complete the task <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Jagdish Prasad, Pr. Scientist, SRS Division • Dr. S. Thayalan, Pr. Scientist & Head (Act), NBSS&LUP (RC), Bangalore • Dr. G. Ravindra Chary, Pr. Scientist, CRIDA, Hyderabad <p>Contributors identified</p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>1 Geomorphology</td><td>Dr. S. Thayalan</td></tr> <tr><td>2 Pedology</td><td>Dr. Jagdsh Prasad</td></tr> <tr><td>3 Agronomy</td><td>Dr. Ravindra Chary</td></tr> <tr><td>4 Soil Survey</td><td>Dr. Chandran</td></tr> <tr><td>5 Remote sensing</td><td>Dr. Rajeev Srivastava</td></tr> <tr><td>6 GIS and GPS</td><td>Dr. G.P. Obi Reddy</td></tr> <tr><td>7 Surface hydrology</td><td>Dr. N.G. Patil</td></tr> <tr><td>8 Land Degradation</td><td>Dr. R.S. Dwivedi</td></tr> <tr><td>9 Land reclamation</td><td>Dr. A.K. Mandal</td></tr> <tr><td>10 Land Evaluation</td><td>Dr. Chatterji</td></tr> <tr><td>11 Land Use Planning</td><td>Dr. T.K. Sen</td></tr> <tr><td>12 Alternative Land Use Systems</td><td>Dr. Ramamurthy</td></tr> </table>	1 Geomorphology	Dr. S. Thayalan	2 Pedology	Dr. Jagdsh Prasad	3 Agronomy	Dr. Ravindra Chary	4 Soil Survey	Dr. Chandran	5 Remote sensing	Dr. Rajeev Srivastava	6 GIS and GPS	Dr. G.P. Obi Reddy	7 Surface hydrology	Dr. N.G. Patil	8 Land Degradation	Dr. R.S. Dwivedi	9 Land reclamation	Dr. A.K. Mandal	10 Land Evaluation	Dr. Chatterji	11 Land Use Planning	Dr. T.K. Sen	12 Alternative Land Use Systems	Dr. Ramamurthy
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17	In order to hold a scientific event and General Body meeting in every year, it was proposed to hold a Brain Storming Workshop on the contemporary theme in a year and National/International Conference in the subsequent year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He informed the house that the next General Body meeting will be held in the forthcoming Brain Storming Workshop on “Land Resource Management for Livelihood Security” during first week of December, 2014. Similarly General Body meeting will be held during the International Conference, which is planned in the year 2015.
18	It was decided to invite the review articles from the experts on different themes to include at least one review article in every issue of Agropedology.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He informed that three experts have been requested to submit the review articles for regular issue of Agropedology. One expert has agreed to send the review article by end of August for June, 2014 issue.
19	It was decided to publish the ISSLUP News Letter bi-annually. All the EC members and local chapters are requested to send the relevant material to the Secretary, ISSLUP for the News Letter. All the life members of the society also requested to send their outstanding achievements if any for the News Letter.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He informed the house that necessary steps have been taken to publish ISSLUP News Letter bi-annually. A draft version of News Letter of June, 2014 has been prepared and it will be published in the month of September, 2014. • He also requested all the EC Members to send the relevant material to the Secretary, ISSLUP (secretary@isslup.org) for ISSLUP News Letters in future.
20	It has decided to hold one day Brain Storming Workshop jointly by ISSLUP-NAAS-NBSSLUP in the month of November, 2014. A proposal in this regard would to be submitted to NAAS to get the funding to organize one day Brain Storming Workshop at Nagpur.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He mentioned that draft note has been prepared for EC decision to organize the National Workshop in collaboration with NAAS on “Advances in Land Resource Management for Enhancing Livelihood Security” during 5-6, December, 2014 commemorating ‘Worlds Soils Day’ on 5th December, 2014.
21	EC in principle decided to organize International Conference on contemporary theme during October- November, 2015.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two to three themes have been floated before the EC to take the decision on organization of International Conference on relevant theme during Oct-Nov 2015.
22	EC also discussed on Fellows of ISSLUP. Meanwhile, modalities and number to be finalized for approval of the General Body.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He informed the house that necessary proposal will be put up for the next General Body meeting to take appropriate decision on the matter.
23	EC decided to use the email services effectively to send the intimations and proceedings of the EC meetings of Society for fast and effective communication.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He informed the house that new email (secretary@isslup.org) has been created for ISSLUP to route all communication related to the Society and Agropedology. He requested all the EC Members, Editorial team and Life Members to provide their email ids for past and effective communication and to provide better services in future from the Society.

The EC has appreciated the various new initiatives taken and work done in a short span of 7 weeks to strengthen the ISSLUP and Agropedology journal.

Later, the EC took up the following agenda items for discussion and after detailed decision the following decisions have taken during the meeting.

S.No.	Agenda Item	EC Decision
1	Issues related to organization of Brain Storming Workshop in the year 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EC has discussed in detail and decided to organize the National Workshop instead of Brainstorming Workshop on “Land Resource Management for Sustainable Rural Livelihoods” during December 5-6, 2014 in befitting manner to celebrate World Soil Day on 5th December, 2014 with a special session on land use policy. • EC suggested to identify the suitable resource persons to deliver talks on important themes. • It was decided to take necessary steps on priority basis to organize the National Workshop and EC authorized the President to take decisions at ISSLUP Headquarters in consultations with the available local EC members.
2	Issues related to organization of International Conference in the year 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EC has discussed some of the thrust areas for International Conference to be organized during October-November 2015. • It was decided to hold the International Conference on “Rural Renaissance through Multifunctional Land Use Planning: Perspectives and Policies” during October-November 2015.
3	Issues related to Publication of Agropedology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EC appreciated the new initiatives taken to attract more research papers and review procedure adopted. • EC has decided to widen the scope of Agropedology by including the relevant emerging areas in the broader context of soil survey and land use planning. • In order to increase the Membership, some members suggested to publish the papers, where at least one author must be a member of the Society. • EC discussed the newly designed cover page of Agropedology and decided to implement with minor changes from June, 2014 issue onwards. • EC has decided to involve more university staff in review process of Agropedology so that their involvement will be more in the society activities.
4	Issues related to Online submission and review of manuscripts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EC has appreciated the new initiatives in development of Online Paper Submission and review System for Agropedology using the open source software. It was decided to implement it at the earliest possible to receive the quality papers from India and abroad as well as to ensure effective editorial process of the journal.

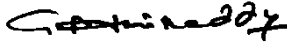
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was decided to host on ISSLUP website after necessary tests conducted.
6	Opening of new chapters of ISSLUP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Secretary informed the house that proposals from Bangalore, Srinagar, Tirupati and Udaipur have been received to open the new chapters of ISSLUP. The received proposals have been discussed in detail and EC decided to open the local chapters in these four places with immediate effect. • It was decided to send the proper guidelines to all seven local chapters (Delhi, Kolkata, Jorhat, Bangalore, Srinagar, Tirupati and Udaipur) for their effective functioning and active involvement in achieving the objectives of ISSLUP.
7	Publication on "Agropedology Terminology"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some of the members requested to include the 'soil fertility' and 'nutrient management' themes in addition to the identified 12 themes to widen the scope of the document. As decided experts will be identified on these two themes to get the terminologies. • Some of the members requested to publish the Text Book by ISSLUP on "Soil Survey and Land Use Planning" for the benefit of under graduation students.
8	Issues related to membership drive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EC appreciated the proactive initiatives taken in membership drive and requested all the EC Members and other Life Members to take up active membership drive in their respective region to reach the target of 1000 by end of year 2015. • EC also felt that as outreach programme, the local Chapters at Delhi, Kolkata, Jorhat, Srinagar, Udaipur, Tirupati and Bangalore should take active role in motivating the Professionals, Faculty, Scientists and Research Scholars and Students to take membership in the Society.
9	Any other matter with the permission of the Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some of the members asked to reduce the cost involved in printing the journal by providing soft copies to the members. • It was decided to take the consent from the members for having either hard or soft copy, accordingly Society can take appreciate decision to supply the journal to the members. • Senior members of EC suggested to increase the life membership amount from Rs.1500/- to Rs. 2000 instead of Rs. 2500/- as decided in the last EC meeting. After detailed discussion it was decided to increase the life membership amount from Rs.1500/- to Rs. 2000, Students annual member Rs. 250 and Annual Membership fee Rs. 500/-. After

		<p>necessary approval from the next GB meeting it will be implemented.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EC has approved the enhancement of Honorarium of Mr. Patre, from Rs. 4000/- to Rs. 5000/-, who is actively assisting in day to day activities of the society. • EC has decided to finalize the criteria and invite the applications for awarding the Fellowship of ISSLUP. • It was noted that the outgoing EC overstayed for more than 18 months. Consequently the newly elected EC has just 6 months before the next term. The house discussed the matter and decided that the tenure of the current EC shall end on December 2016 and advised to initiate the process of elections at least three months in advance in future. • EC also gave approval to procure two new Almirahs, one Cooler and replacement of obsolete Computer system through buy back mode at ISSLUP Secretarial Office for proper maintenance of society records and clean office environment.
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The meeting ended with the formal vote of thanks by Dr. V.V. Gabhane, Joint Secretary, ISSLUP.

Nagpur

Date: 28.08.2014


(G.P. Obi Reddy)