



ICFRE-INSTITUTE OF FOREST BIODIVERSITY, HYDERABAD Report on World Soil Day 2023

The ICFRE-Institute of Forest Biodiversity celebrated *World Soil Day* on 5th December 2023 in collaboration with the School of Agricultural Sciences (SOAS), Malla Reddy University (MRU), Hyderabad. As a part of the program, ICFRE-IFB Hyderabad signed an MoU with SOAS, MRU, Hyderabad, and also conducted a drawing competition and awareness program for the Agricultural students. The current year's theme is “**Soil and Water: A Source of Life**”. The main objective of the celebration was to create awareness about the importance of Soil and Water are essential resources for sustaining life on Earth. A total of 328 students participated in the program.

The program was inaugurated by lighting the lamp by the chief guest and other dignitaries. The Programme started with the welcome address by **Dr. M. Anjaneyulu, Registrar, MRU, Hyderabad**. He expressed his views on the current year's theme, Soil and Water: A Source of Life.

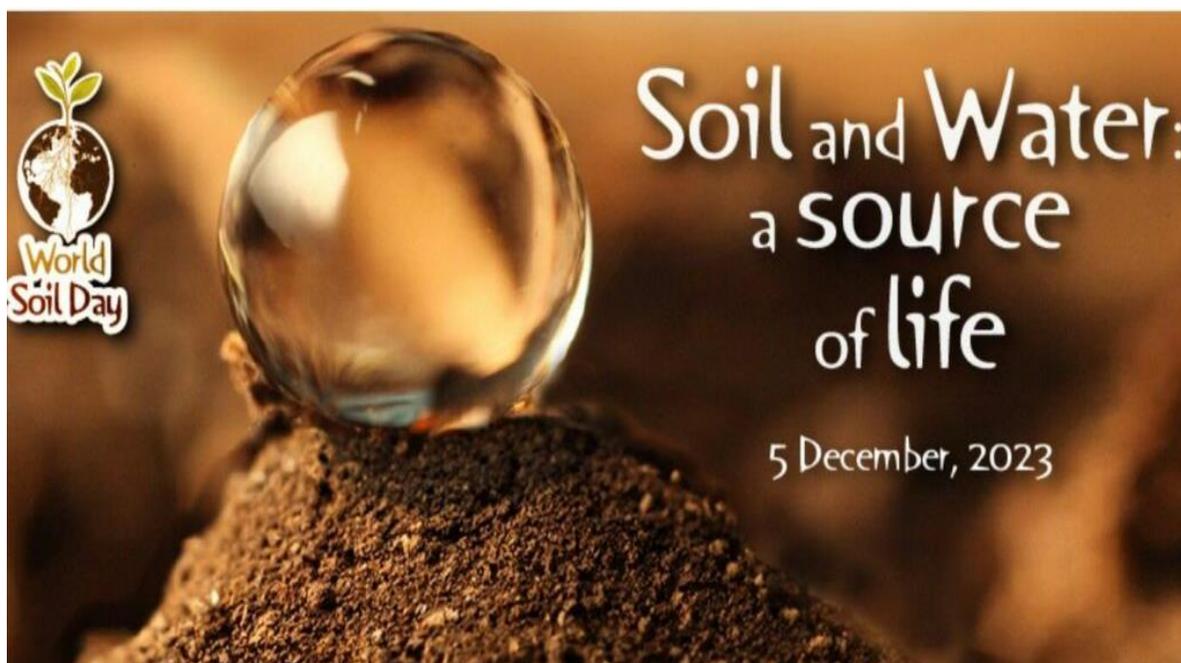
The Guest of Honor **Shri E. Venkat Reddy, IFS, Director, ICFRE-IFB** emphasized the importance of the Role of Soil and Water in Biodiversity conservation. He explained that Soil and water provide the foundation for food production, ecosystems, and human well-being. Soil plays a crucial role in preserving clean water and regulating the climate. He also explained about the ICFRE-IFB research related to Soil Health Cards in Telangana & Odisha.

The Chief Guest Dr. G. Padmaja, Ex. Director, Polytechnique, PJTSAU, explained the importance of the World Soil Day celebrations and the current year's theme, Soil and Water: A Source of Life. She highlighted the role of agricultural students in Soil and Water resource utilization and sustainable development. Dr. Ruby Patel, Sc-B, ICFRE-IFB delivered a lecture on Soil: A life supporting natural resources.

After the presentation, the ICFRE-Institute of Forest Biodiversity, Hyderabad, and School of Agricultural Sciences (SOAS), Malla Reddy University, Hyderabad signed a MoU to promote and accelerate the progress of various disciplines of forestry and agroforestry research, education, training, and extension.

The program was concluded with the distribution of prizes to the winners of the drawing competition to the students and with a vote of thanks by Dr. C. Sudharshana, SOAS, MRU, Hyderabad.

The overall program is coordinated by A. Sasidhar, TC, Shri D. S.S. Prasad, TC & Shri E. Manikanta Reddy, TC, ICFRE-IFB.



Glimpses of the Program



