

**Research Advisory Committee:****RAC Members [06-12-2017 to 05-12-2020]**

The members of Research Advisory Committee are as under.

<p><b>Dr. V. N. Sharda</b> Former member, Agricultural Scientist Recruitment Board (ASRB) Flat No. - 202, Tower No. - 3 A, Suncity Parikarama Housing Complex, Sector - 20, Panchkula - 134 116, (Haryana) Email id: <a href="mailto:vnsharda2@gmail.com">vnsharda2@gmail.com</a>, Mobile No.-9810505328</p>	Chairman
<p><b>Dr. M. N. Jha,</b> Former Head, Soil Science Division, FRI House No.-11, Vasant Vihar, Phase -II Dehradun-248006, Uttarakhand Email: <a href="mailto:m.yogimn2003@gmail.com">m.yogimn2003@gmail.com</a>, Mob No. - 91-9412055048</p>	member
<p><b>Dr. R. K. Panda</b> Professor &amp; Head of the School of Infrastructure (Civil Engineering) and Dean (Research &amp; Development) IIT, Bhubneshwar, Toshali Bhawan, Bhubneshwar -751007, Email.id:<a href="mailto:rkpanda@iitbbs.ac.in">rkpanda@iitbbs.ac.in</a>: <a href="mailto:rkpanda56@gmail.com">rkpanda56@gmail.com</a> Mob: +91-7894435400</p>	member
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<p><b>Dr. M. C. Nautiyal,</b> Former Dean CF&amp;HA Lane - 4, Doon Enclave, Nakraunda Road, Harrawala, Dehradun-248001, Uttarakhand Email: <a href="mailto:mcnautiyal@rediffmail.com">mcnautiyal@rediffmail.com</a>, Mob: +91-9412076770</p>	member
<p><b>Dr. R. L. Shiyani</b> Professor and Head (Agril Economics) Block No: B-109, Radha Krishna Nagar, Vanthali Road, Junagarh -362001, Gujarat Email: <a href="mailto:rlshiyani@yahoo.com">rlshiyani@yahoo.com</a> , Mob: +91-9427228486</p>	member
<p><b>Sh. Matbar Singh Kandari</b> 33/1, Shastri Nagar, Lane No. 3 DehraDun-248009, Uttarakhand, Mob:-8433084175</p>	member
<p><b>Sh. Ram Sharan Nautiyal</b> 183-Rajpur Road, Dehradun-248009, Uttarakhand</p>	member
<p><b>Dr. S. K. Chaudhary</b> ADG (SWM), ICAR KAB-II, Pusa, New Delhi-110012, Email: <a href="mailto:adgswm@gmail.com">adgswm@gmail.com</a>,</p>	member
<p><b>Dr. P. R. Ojasvi</b> Director, I/C ICAR-Indian Institute of Soil and water Conservation, 218-Kaulagarh road, DehraDun, Uttarakhand-248195 Email id: <a href="mailto:directorsoilcons@gmail.com">directorsoilcons@gmail.com</a>,</p>	member
<p><b>Dr. Gopal Kumar</b> Senior Scientist ICAR-Indian Institute of Soil and water Conservation, 218-Kaulagarh road, DehraDun, Uttarakhand-248195 Email id: <a href="mailto:gkcswcrti@gmail.com">gkcswcrti@gmail.com</a>, 9409545159, 7033401808</p>	member secretary

## Management Committee:

50<sup>th</sup> meeting of Institute Management Committee was held on 29/01/2019 at the Institute Head Quarters, Dehra Dun. The following Members were present in the meeting.

Name of the Member	Status
Dr. P.R. Ojasvi, Acting Director, ICAR-IISWC, Dehra Dun	Chairman
Dr. N.K. Sharma, I/c Head, Division of Soil Science & Agronomy, ICAR-IISWC, Dehra Dun	Member
Dr. Harsh Mehta, I/c Head, Division of Plant Science, ICAR-IISWC, Dehra Dun	Member
Dr. K.S. Reddy, Pr. Scientist, ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad	Member
Dr. V.K. Bhatt, Acting Head, ICAR-IISWC, Research Centre, Chandigarh.	Member
Director, Agricultural & Soil Conservation, Nanda –Ki-Chowki, Prem Nagar, Dehra Dun, Uttarakhand	Member
Director, Soil Conservation, Shimla-5, Himachal Pradesh	Member
Dean, Uttarakhand University of Horticulture and Forestry, Tihari Garhwal, Uttarakhand	Member
Sh. Anuj Guleria, Vill. Ten Pur, PO. Ambadai, Vikashnagar, Dehra Dun	Member
Sh. Surya Vir Malik, Vill. Uddalhedhi, PO. Mangalore, Hardwar	Member
Sh. K. K. Sharma, Sr. Finance & Accounts Officer, ICAR-NBPGR, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi	Member
Sh. S.K. Gajmoti, Chief Administrative Officer, ICAR-IISWC, Dehra Dun	Member Secretary

The meeting was chaired by Dr. P.R. Ojasvi, Acting Director of the Institute. The Chairman apprised the committee members of the establishment, mandate, research achievements and other related activities, initiatives undertaken by the institute viz. Tribal Sub Plan, Transfer of Technology, Consultancy Projects, Training Programmes.

## Institute Research Committee (IRC):

Institute Research Committee meeting was held at Institute Head Quarters Dehra Dun during 23-28 April 2018, wherein all the scientists, from Head Quarters as well as Research Centres, participated for reviewing the progress of research projects and finalising the research programme for the year 2018-19.

## Quinquennial Review Team (QRT):

Quinquennial Review Team constituted for the period 2012-to- 2017 submitted the final report. The details of members of QRT and salient recommendations made are as under.

Name	Address	
Dr. Pratap Narain	Ex-Vice-Chancellor, RAU, Bikaner 13, Raj Vihar, P.O. New Forest, DehraDun-248006, Uttarakhand <a href="mailto:pratapn45@gmail.com">pratapn45@gmail.com</a>	Chairman
Dr. M.V. Ranghaswami	Dean Agril, Engg. Bannar Amnan Institute of Technology, Sathmagalan -638401, Tamilnadu <a href="mailto:mrvswami@gmail.com">mrvswami@gmail.com</a>	Member
Dr. Basudev Behera	Head, Agronomy Division, OUAT, Bhubaneswar, College of Agriculture, Odisha University of Agriculture & Technology, Bhubaneswar -751003, Odisha <a href="mailto:bdbehera1@rediffmail.com">bdbehera1@rediffmail.com</a>	Member
Dr. S.P.S. Kushwaha	S.P.S. Kushwaha Humboldt House, 62- Hari Vihar. Vijay Park, Chakrata Road, DehraDun-248001, Uttarakhand <a href="mailto:spskushwaha@gmail.com">spskushwaha@gmail.com</a>	Member
Dr. G.R. Maruthi Sankar	A-410 CJN Sai Golden Land Mark, ECC Road, Whitefield, Bangalore, 560059, Karnataka <a href="mailto:gmsankar2009@gmail.com">gmsankar2009@gmail.com</a>	Member
Dr. H. Mehta	I/c Head, Division of Plant Sciences, IISWC, DehraDun 248195, Uttarakhand <a href="mailto:harshmehta41ddn@gmail.com">harshmehta41ddn@gmail.com</a>	Member Secretary

## Recommendations:

- The IISWC and its 8 Centres have 1198 ha area, of which only 350 ha happens to be under cultivation, which is very small by any standard, particularly when on-farm research studies are required to be conducted in field size gauged plots or in micro-watersheds. Besides, the Institute is compelled to pay high lease rates or surrender some of the areas to State Forest Department which are currently under long-term watershed hydrological studies. There is a great need of long-term hydrological data to develop the models for conservation agriculture. This issue needs to be resolved at the ICAR level for making sufficient area available for research purposes.
- Soil and Water conservation activities are expensive. Small and marginal farmers can hardly afford to undertake land management required to protect their land from degradation due to water and undercutting, if the land is situated near the ephemeral streams. The QRT, therefore, recommends that high priority should be given to develop cost-effective soil and water conservation measures or else, partially subsidize such measures *in-lieu* of environmental protection.
- The QRT also feels that the Institute needs to take up climate change resilient soil and water conservation and cropping practices research. Hence, it could gear-up to develop agronomic practices, bio-engineering/engineering measures for cost-effective *in-situ* rain water conservation, run-off harvesting and its management.
- Centres expressed their desire to use Remote Sensing, Geographic Information System and Global Positioning System for their day-to-day project work. There could be a state-of-art laboratory at Headquarters and a working facility at each Centre. This would facilitate creation of local to national level seamless natural resources spatial database as well as integration/ modelling. The QRT therefore, recommends that this facility should be created on priority basis with matching budgetary provisions.
- The Institute can introduce medicinal and aromatic plants, tree borne oil seeds, nutritive fodder crops and grasses along with existing crop plans on marginal and degraded lands for maximizing and sustaining the monetary returns and improving the livelihood of farmers.
- There is need for developing efficient utilization of land use systems by exploring alternative land uses with trees, bushes, Agro-forestry, Horticulture and other enterprises for maximizing the returns of small and marginal farmers over a period of time. The QRT recommends that there is potential for traditional minor millets in hilly areas/ tribal area of Koraput. However, value addition and market chains need to be taken care of the IISWC.
- The QRT emphasised that efforts of ravine Centres at Agra, Kota and Vasad should be coordinated with Kota as the Lead Centre to tackle the management problems of ravines by utilizing small-ruminant animal-based farming systems. Accordingly, collaborative research in these three Centres (Vasad, Kota and Agra) along with Datia should be taken up on priority. The QRT also recommends that there is a need to integrate livestock component with the existing farming systems for maximizing farm income. Hence, profitable Integrated Farming Systems in the Institute/ Research Centres may be developed.
- Of late, there is lot of emphasis on Watershed Management in the Country. There is a need to create/ identify benchmark watersheds in different regions for documentation of long-term data collection, research and management of watersheds, which could be made available in the public domain.
- The impact of watershed management on improvement of ground water level and its quality should be monitored even after completion of the watershed project. The QRT suggested that an efficient groundwater recharge simulation model should be developed by utilizing the long-term spatio-temporal data.
- The QRT recommends creating a dedicated cell for Transfer of Technologies with budgetary and manpower provisions for expediting the technology transfer to farmers/ stakeholders.

- The position of the scientists, technical and administrative staff is a major impediment for the smooth functioning of the institute. About 25 to 30 % of positions were vacant during the review period. In an Institute, where training of manpower takes a lion's share, the research and development projects are likely to suffer adversely. Poor manpower at Datia, Koraput and Udhagamandalam Centres is a matter of concern that needs to be addressed urgently. The ratio of scientists and technical staff has reduced from 1.7 (2012-13) to 1.1 (2016-17). The QRT strongly recommends that vacant positions should be filled up on priority or else the Institute is allowed to keep the manpower on contractual basis.
- The quality of research is not judged by the number of studies conducted by a scientist or even the number of review publications made in low impact factor journal. Soil and water conservation is a field oriented work and perhaps it is difficult to bring out of large number of papers from development kind of research. The QRT feels that the assessment of scientists/technical staff should take into consideration value of the field research for which some norms are required to be developed.
- The IISWC, Dehradun has multi-location regional Centres situated at far flung areas, viz., Udhagamandalam (Tamil Nadu), Koraput (Odisha), Ballari (Karnataka) and remote locations like Vasad (Gujarat) and Datia (MP). Due to this the pre-audit clearances and sanctions from Dehradun get delayed, hampering timely execution of works at Centres particularly in respect to Tribal sub-plan and Development Projects operative in remote areas. In view of this, the QRT recommends that more financial powers should be delegated to the Heads of the Centres.
- In all Centres, scientists expressed difficulties in executing the development works in watersheds for want of government-registered contractors. Further, no registered contractors come forward to execute works in the remote areas of watersheds. The QRT feels that the rules may be relaxed and the Institute permitted to execute the works through the beneficiaries of the watersheds and paid under the supervision of the Institute staff.
- The IISWC is a premium institute in the country involved in basic, strategic and applied research on soil and water conservation. There are several research institutes dealing with water resource research in the country, viz., CWC, CGWB, NIH, Hydrology Departments of IITs, WTC, IIWM and All India Coordinated Research Project on Water Management. The basic research on soil erosion due to water, a major cause of land degradation and desertification, is somewhat overshadowed.