

WORLD SOIL DAY
AT
ICAR-DIRECTORATE OF CASHEW RESEARCH
PUTTUR – 574 202, D.K.,KARNATAKA

World Soil Day was celebrated on 5th December 2018 at Bharatiya Kisan Sangha Hall, Kundapura, Udupi, Karnataka. The programme was attended by 76 participants including farmers from various villages in the Udupi district of Karnataka.

Welcoming the gathering Mrs. Vidyasree, ICAR-DCR, Puttur briefed about World Soil Day programme and soil health card scheme. Dr. Shamsudheen Mangalassery (Senior Scientist – Soil Science) briefed about the soil health card programme of Govt. of India and he emphasized on the judicious application of nutrients including micronutrients, based on soil test report. He also briefed about the project on Farmer participatory soil and plant health management being undertaken by ICAR-Directorate of Cashew Research, Puttur with funding support from Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, Govt of Karnataka. One of the components of the project is to demonstrate the good agricultural practices in farmer's field in three districts namely, Uttara Kannda, Uduppi and Dakshina Kannda. Chief Guest, Mr. Satyanarayana Udupa, District Secretary, Bharatiya Kisan Sangha, emphasized on the importance of cashew as a climate resilient crop for dry areas. Mr. Venkateswara Ro, President, Coconut Producers Federation indicated the need for farmers organization for effective marketing and processing of products. Mr. Sitaram, Taluk Secretary, Bharatiya Kisan Sangha told that the farmers should take advantage of soil health card scheme and other schemes of state and central governments and should be proactive. Mr. Ramachandra Aalsey, Vice President, Bharatiya Kisan Sangha also facilitated during the occasion. The progressive cashew farmer, Mr. Chandra Shekhar Udupa explained about his farming practices and how cashew can be made a profitable enterprise by adopting modern technologies. Later soil

health cards were distributed to farmers. The use of soil health cards were also explained to the farmers. A field exposure visit was also conducted and the farmers were taken to the demonstration being undertaken by ICAR-DCR, Puttur under the RKVY project. Farmers interacted with their queries and also shared their experiences during the field visit. A formal vote of thanks was given by Mr. Nirupadi, Young Professional, ICAR-DCR, Puttur.

