

**ICAR-NATIONAL BUREAU OF SOIL SURVEY AND LAND USE PLANNING, AMRVATI ROAD, NAGPUR**

**1. Comments of Director on recommendation of QRT (2007-11)**

| <b>QRT Team Recommendations</b>  | <b>Directors comments</b>   |
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| <p><b>Land Resource Inventory (LRI) at village level</b><br/>                     Land Use Planning at village level is still could not be done by the Bureau due to insufficient information available thereon. Therefore, detailed soil survey on land resource inventory at village level on 1:10,000 scale should be undertaken in phase wise in a consortium mode. Recent advances in remote sensing should be utilized and land use planning division should take a lead role to develop land use plan at village level.</p> | <p>The project document submitted by the Bureau through NRM Division, ICAR is under active consideration at Ministry of Agriculture at present as a part of National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) Component.</p> <p>Since the LRI project is prepared as per the recommendation of the Sub-group IV (Promoting Data Access) formed under the National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA-2009) of the National Action Plan of Climate Change (NAPCC), it will be taken up for consideration and necessary funding under NMSA.</p> |
| <p><b>District Survey :</b> The district level mapping on 1:50,000 scale may be taken up only on demand-driven basis depending upon the needs of the State Government or the Planning Commission. All the soil survey reports may be published in local language and stakeholders meeting should be arranged for dissemination of information.</p>   | <p>Agreed</p>   |
| <p><b>Revival of State Level Soil Survey Co-ordination Committee:</b> State Soil Survey Co-ordination committee may be re-constituted as Land Resource Management Committee (LRMC) with representatives from all the concerned departments dealing with natural resources for better co-ordination of survey at different levels.</p>  | <p>This will be taken up on priority and job of formulation of the LRMC shall be completed with in three months time.</p>   |
| <p><b>Soil Nutrient Mapping :</b> Nutrient mapping by collecting intensive observation should be continued at the state level on demand. However, this should be thoroughly discussed at LRMC at the state level while the utility of this information, its importance and use should be ensured.</p>  | <p>The utility of the information from nutrient mapping, its importance and use will be ensured before taking up the future projects.</p>   |
| <p><b>Benchmark soils – National Benchmark Series Committee :</b> National Benchmark Soil Series Committee may be constituted for finalization of soil series at the National level and inclusion in the National Register of soil series for its use for technology development and dissemination.</p>  | <p>Agreed to constitute National Benchmark Series Committee, headed by the Deputy Director General (NRM) and comprising of the Director, NBSS &amp; LUP; six experts, one each drawn from the NBSS &amp; LUP Regional Centers' jurisdiction and Heads of the</p>  |

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|  | Regional Centres. The task will be taken up on priority and will be completed within 2 months time.   |
| <b>Soil Classification System for India :</b> The Bureau should take initiative to develop Indian Soil Classification System for the benefit of end users since the USDA Soil Taxonomy could not sustain at all levels because of its complexity in spite of sustained efforts by the Bureau.                                      | Agreed, action to be initiated to develop the <i>Indian Soil Classification System</i> , keeping in view our ancient ( <i>Vedic</i> ) scriptures on agriculture as well as the obvious benefits of the end users              |
| <b>Remote Sensing Applications :</b> Remote Sensing Applications (RSA) has to be widened in new areas of application in collaboration with Regional Remote Sensing Centers (RRSC) of each region. Training in remote sensing applications should be strengthened.  | Agreed.<br>Bureau have some collaborative projects with NRSC and RRSC and will be strengthen the ties at regional level also  |
| <b>Land Use Planning :</b> Land Use Planning is a complex activity and the Bureau could not make much headway at the national level. A model Panchayat level land use plan be undertaken in the jurisdiction of each NARP research station in order to demonstrate use of soil information for Panchayat level planning.           | Already the work on model Panchayat level land-use plan has done in some regions and will be intensified in future.   |
| <b>National Land Use Policy :</b> The Bureau should give its primary input and initiate action for the development of National Land Use Policy ensure food security, conservation of land resources and environmental stability.   | Bureau will work hard through workshop /meetings/interactions etc. to help the Govt/concerned authorities in formulating National Level policy on Land Use involving policy makers /scientists /technicians /politicians etc. |
| <b>Agro-ecological Research :</b> The 60 AESR of India developed by the Bureau needs to be revised in view of the enriched database presently available in respect of soil and climatic parameters, spread of irrigation, etc. The irrigated areas coming under each AESR need to be redefined and demarcated.                     | Bureau has initiated refinement of AESRs through NAIP Project –Component 4.   |
| <b>Basic Research :</b> Basic research in soil survey, soil taxonomy rationale, soil carbon and crop modeling in relation to climate change should be continued and better coordination among divisions and centres and Hqrs and dissemination of information at all level is recommended to facilitate factual land use planning. | Agreed and steps will be taken for dissemination of the research output as per recommendation.  |
| <b>Soil Museum :</b> The QRT observed that the Bureau should have a state-of-art soil museum at each Regional Centre as well as the National Soil Museum at the Headquarters. Accordingly, this facility should be upgraded.   | Agreed and needed to have a state-of-art soil museum at each Regional Centre as well as the National Soil Museum at the Headquarters  |
| <b>Human Resource Development :</b> Trained manpower in Pedology and Soil Survey needs to be developed for India as well as for South Asian countries. Therefore, creation of “Centre of Excellence” in soil survey and pedo-informatics was recommended.  | Agreed –to be initiated in XII Plan.  |
| <b>PG Education :</b> The collaborative project of PG Education in Land Resource Management  | Agreed.   |

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| with PDKV, Akola and other SAUs needs ICAR's approval. Such programmes should be taken up with other SAUs.  |  |
| <b>Linkages with SAUs for faculty improvement:</b> The Bureau must make serious effort to ensure extension of its support to the State Agricultural Universities for the purpose of developing the faculty at SAUs level as well as to cater the future needs in respect of capacity building in Pedology, Soil Survey/Soil Classification, and so on.                    | Agreed   |
| <b>Administrative Matters</b>   |  |
| <b>Revival of the Regional Centre, Nagpur :</b> Bureau is engaged in soil resource mapping at different levels and soil survey of central region is lagging behind due to closure of Regional Centre at Nagpur. Therefore, revival of regional centre at Nagpur to map approximately 75 mha in the states of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh is recommended. | This is important and essential.   |
| <b>Merging of Divisions at the Headquarters of the Bureau :</b> The Division of Remote Sensing Applications and Cartography and GIS Sections are very closely linked in their operational structure and therefore the two sections should be merged with Division of Remote Sensing Applications for better cohesion, efficiency and functional advantage.                | Agreed – and this is very pragmatic approach.  |
| <b>Printing Section :</b> The Printing Section is under utilized due to non-availability of facilities and manpower and therefore may be closed phase wise with redeployment of existing staff.   | Agreed and the job will be completed by the end of 2013.   |
| <b>Infrastructure :</b> The building at Regional Centre at Delhi is in derelict condition and needs a new building immediately for upkeeping of the instruments and working condition of the staff of the centre.   | Agreed<br>The master plan for the construction of IARI building/infrastructure has been cleared by the MCD and our building plan and revised estimate have also been finalized by CPWD. The fund provision has been kept in XII plan SFC for approval of the council to start the construction of the office building. |
| <b>Manpower requirement of the Bureau:</b> The Mandate of the Bureau being Soil and Land Resource Mapping, the QRT felt that the services of Geologists and Geomorphologists is required for interpretation of geology, geomorphology and soil relationship.  | Agreed.  |