

**Regional Evaluation-cum-Training Workshop for ENVIS Centres (Western Region),
16-17th February, 2015 at Nagpur, Maharashtra**

A 2-day evaluation-cum-training Workshop for ENVIS Centres of Western Region (i.e., those located in the states of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh) was held at Nagpur, Maharashtra hosted by ENVIS Centre at CSIR-National Environmental Engineering Research Institute during 16th and 17th February, 2015. Around 30 participants of 13 thematic as well as State/UT ENVIS Centres participated in the Workshop. The Workshop was inaugurated by the Director NEERI, Dr. Satish R. Wate. Speaking on the occasion, Dr Wate stressed on the significance of environmental information as all important policy decisions hinge on the insightful information. He congratulated the Ministry for feeling the need to establish ENVIS Scheme and hoped that ENVIS will keep serving the stakeholders and public at large for their multifarious information requirements. Shri Abhay Kumar, Deputy Economic Adviser, MoEFCC said that the Ministry has roped in distinguished experts cutting across various fields to evaluate as well as advise the Centres. Among the experts who attended the Workshop for evaluation included Shri Krishna Rao T.V.P., Dr. Rajesh Gupta, Dr. A.K. Soni and Dr. Tamil Selvan. Two parallel sessions for evaluating the activities of Thematic and State ENVIS Centres were carried out in the Workshop. The second day of the Workshop was marked by a crucial training by NRSC official Shri Arul Raj on Bhuvan portal, a geospatial portal to enable the GIS-based information in the websites of the ENVIS Centres. The Workshop concluded with a thought-provoking session by experts who shared their observations and suggestions followed by comments by coordinators of ENVIS Centres.