



# CSIR IN MEDIA

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## **CSIR-CFTRI empowers banana farmers to convert waste from stems to wealth**

### **CSIR-CFTRI**

Centre of Scientific and Industrial Research-Central Food Technological Research Institute (CSIR-CFTRI), Mysuru, is now focussing on banana farmers to help them create a robust market value chain and to improve sustainability of farming by converting waste to wealth. Approximately 30 tonne of waste has been generated per acre in one crop season from its stem alone. The proposed model is expected to give substantial income per acre from banana stem wastes with least capital investment.

The institute has asserted to work on establishing semi-processing units through farmers and self-help groups (SHGs) with the support of government and various agencies, transfer of technology to agri enterprises, and training and creating a network amongst them for ensuring proper returns to farmers and growers.

Banana growing farmers in the region of Hadinaru village, Nanjangud taluk in Mysuru district, raised concern on waste generated on-field during banana cultivation. To add commercial value to this waste, the Academy of Scientific & Innovative Research (AcSIR) students of the institute took up the task and initiated interactions with farmers of Hadinaru village.

The banana fibre also finds use in high quality security/ currency paper, packing cloth for agriculture produce, ships towing ropes, wet drilling cables and so on. Whereas the juice extracted from stem has many medicinal benefits.

Accordingly, two tonne of waste stem was brought from fields to CSIR-CFTRI and the fibre extraction, stem juice and bio-compost preparation was demonstrated in the institute to farmers.

Farmers groups, buyers, processors along with officials of NABARD, Mysuru, and technologists from CSIR-CFTRI attended the workshop. The WMM model was unveiled by Prof. Rajasekharan.

According to N Aravamudhan, AGM, NABARD, Mysuru, there would be schemes and subsidies available from NABARD for farmers.

Sharing an innovation roadmap for banana stem juice, Prof. Rajasekharan said that going by its nutritious content, efforts were on to explore marketing it to beverage industries specifically designed for sportsmen. The institute was also researching on possible products that can be made from banana fibre.

Accordingly CSIR-CFTRI proposed a WMM (Waste to Wealth) model wherein, the waste generated from fields could be used for fibre extraction, stem juice production using CSIR-CFTRI technologies and for vermi-composting. This model completes the sustainability cycle by bringing income to farmers from waste via fibre, juice and organic manure production, according to Prof. Ram Rajasekharan, director, CSIR-CFTRI.

Fibre extracted from stem can be blended easily with cotton fibre or other synthetic fibre to produce blended fabric & textiles. It is mainly used by cottage industry in southern India at present.

## NDMC SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH NEERI TO DEVELOP SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANTS

**CSIR-NEERI**



In a bid to develop green areas and revamp big and small parks under its jurisdiction, the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) has signed an agreement with National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) to develop 12 sewage treatment plants (STP).

A senior NDMC official said that the council has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the agency that has an expertise in the field and the project will help increase the green cover in NDMC areas and curb dust pollution..

"NEERI has an expertise in this field and the treatment plants will help NDMC to irrigate its parks. At times, we do not undertake any redevelopment project for our parks because of scarcity of water. But these plants, when installed, will help in revamping our big and small parks which will eventually help in increasing the green cover. NEERI is conducting a study on the locations, which will be fit for installing these plants and after they wrap up their research, NDMC will initiate installation of these plants," said a senior NDMC official.

There are 200 small parks in several colonies under NDMC and five big parks including Lodhi Garden, Nehru Park, and Sanjay Jheel, where the footfall is huge.

"In the first phase, 12 STPs will be installed across our area. Each plant will have a capacity of treating sewage water ranging from 50,000-1 lakh litres. All these plants will be connected to all our parks which will help the horticulture department to maintain the parks. These plants will be installed at schools also and after reviewing the first phase, we will expand it to other areas as well. The agreement that has been signed between the two parties has a clause that NDMC will bear only pumping cost which is economic and NEERI will bear the cost of the project," said the senior official.

He further said that barren lands that have no use under NDMC areas will be developed into green areas under the same project. "We will identify barren lands across our jurisdiction and we will develop them into green areas. Dust pollution is a menace across the capital and developing green area is important to ensure we are able to curb dust pollution," said the senior official.

NDMC has already taken up a plantation drive during a period of six weeks and has set a target of planting 2 lakh trees across their area. A senior official said that around 60,000 trees have been planted after the initiation of the drive.

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<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/delhi/NDMC-signs-agreement-with-NEERI-to-develop-sewage-treatment-plants/articleshow/53323393.cms>

Mayank Manohar | TNN | Jul 21, 2016

## **PhD research centre: NU team to inspect Neeri next week**

**CSIR-NEERI**

Students who are panicking for not being able to register themselves with the National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (Neeri) for PhD need not worry anymore. The institute is in the process of completing the procedural requirements for being recognized as a 'place for higher learning and research for PhD' as per the new norms and guidelines for filling PhD registration forms online.

Neeri has already completed all the paper work required from the institute and guides. However, a Nagpur University (NU) team is yet to verify infrastructure like library, laboratory, staff and financial status of the institute to certify it as a 'place for higher learning and research for PhD'. Neeri officials met the NU officials on Wednesday and completed all the formalities for making way for the inspection.

"It is just a matter of time and procedural formalities. Neeri has complied with all the procedural requirements. Today Neeri team met the NU officials. University has assured a visit to the institute next week to certify the institute," JS Pandey, science secretary and head of climate change division at Neeri, told TOI .

Many students who called up TOI about the issue said that instead of simplifying the registration, the online process has made the procedure more cumbersome. "While filling forms, there were many columns seeking information like institute's registration number, status of guides etc which we were not aware of. Also, not all subject options were there in the form like biochemistry, physics, biotechnology, electronics etc. We approached the NU. We were then told to fill offline forms. But after that we still had no response from the university and hence the panicking," said a student.

The Board of College and University Development (BCUD) director at NU Dinesh Agrawal too assured that the issue will be resolved in about one month's time. "Neeri is a national laboratory of central government. There is no question at all of verifying its credibility. But as per the new UGC norms, NU has to follow the procedure for PhD registration whether it is being done online or offline. A committee headed by former pro-VC of NU, M Yenkie, will visit Neeri next week and submit its report to the BCUD. The report will be put before the academic council of the university for clearance. This would take about four weeks," said Agrawal.

However, all these procedural requirements have cost the students six months. But Agrawal doesn't see this as a delay at all. He says the students can continue with their research work even as the procedure is completed. "NU was following an MOU for research with Neeri signed in the 1980s. But after UGC made it mandatory that the place where students conduct their research should be recognized by the university, the new procedure has to be followed. Neeri has already paid the required fees of Rs50,000 and completed all the paper work," said Agrawal.

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<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/nagpur/PhD-research-centre-NU-team-to-inspect-Neeri-next-week/articleshow/53328130.cms>

Snehlata Shrivastav | Jul 22, 2016

## Science teachers training prog

### CSIR-NIEST

A two-day training programme of Science teachers was opened today at CSIR: North East Institute of Science and Technology (NEIST), Lamphelpat.

The training programme is sponsored by Royal Chemistry India Foundation, New Delhi and CSIR: NEIST Jorhat.

Education (S) Director N Praveen, Science and Technology Director Uttam C Laishram, Manipur Science and Technology Council (MASTEC) Director Th Surendranath, Vimala Oak of the Royal Chemistry India Foundation and CSIR:NEIST Imphal Principal Scientist Dr H Birkumar attended the inaugural function as presidium members.

Speaking at the gathering, N Praveen said that there are around 7000 Science teachers in Govt schools of the State.

Due preparations have started to impart training to around 300/400 Science teachers, specially those who teach in Classes IX and X. The training programme is specifically organised so that teachers can teach Science subjects to students with easier and better approaches.

Informing more teachers' training programmes would be organised in the coming days, Praveen said that the existing teacher-student ratio in the State is 1:25 .

<http://e-pao.net/GP.asp?src=Snipp2..220716.jul16>

The Sangai Express | Imphal | July 21, 2016

## Monsoon break phase in increasing

CSIR-NIO

<http://epaperbeta.timesofindia.com/Article.aspx?eid=31811&articlex..>

**The Times of India**

**Title : 'Monsoon break phase is increasing'**

**Author : Sudha Nambudiri**

**Location :**

**Kochi**

**Article Date : 07/22/2016**

# | 'Monsoon break phase is increasing'

**Sudha.Nambudiri**  
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**Kochi:** Kerala is the gateway for the southwest monsoon. As it enters the Indian Ocean, it begins to gain strength and hits the state on June 1. But in the month of July it intensifies causing havoc and replenishes nature's bounty.

But that's changing. Scientists and climatologists say that there is a change in the climate of Kerala as the quantity and distribution of rainfall in monsoon has come down. "While the date for monsoon onset is June 1, the earliest date noted is May 11, 1918. The biggest delay was in 1972 when it hit the state on a June 18. The earliest onset recorded recently was May 18 in 1990," said M R Ramesh Kumar, National Institute of

Oceanography, Goa.

The time it takes to cover India varies from year to year. Normally, it takes 45 days, but in 2013, it took only 16 days. The monsoon took 76 days to cover the subcontinent in 2002, he said. Researchers tracking monsoon say that after an active rainfall, there is a break period for some time. "We have noted that from 1901-2014, there has not been any significant changes in monsoon but the break phase is increasing," he added.

This rainfall has impacted the agricultural calendar as well. "The impact is more on the plantation crops which will soon have a bearing on food security. The intensity of climatological drought is increasing, though it falls under heavy rainfall zone. The maximum, minimum and mean tem-

peratures and temperature ranges are increasing. The rate of increase in temperature across the high ranges is probably high because of deforestation. It indicates that the high ranges and coastal belts in Kerala are vulnerable to global warming and climate change. The paddy productivity is likely to decline due to prolonged monsoon," said Gopakumar, former scientist with Kerala Agricultural University.

A study by a team of scientists led by Roxy Mathew Koll at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology in Pune points that the monsoon has shown a declining trend in the past six decades. Rapid warming in the Indian Ocean, land use changes and increased air pollution have resulted in this change.

## Hindi workshop organised at CSIR-IICT

CSIR-IICT

### सीएसआईआर में हिन्दी कार्यशाला आयोजित



हैदराबाद, 20 जुलाई-(मिलाप ब्यूरो) भारतीय रासायनिक प्रौद्योगिक संस्थान, हैदराबाद (सीएसआईआर) में वर्ष 2010 से नियुक्त कर्मचारियों के लिए हिन्दी कार्यशाला का आयोजन किया गया।

कार्यशाला के आरंभ में संस्थान के वरिष्ठ हिन्दी अधिकारी डॉ. एस. नसीमा ने प्रतिभागियों का स्वागत करते हुए कार्यशाला के उद्देश्य व महत्व की जानकारी दी। प्रथम सत्र में कमालुद्दीन (उप-निदेशक, हिन्दी शिक्षण योजना, हैदराबाद) को कार्यशाला के अतिथि वक्ता के रूप में आमंत्रित किया गया। कार्यशाला के दौरान कमालुद्दीन ने

‘राजभाषा हिन्दी के नियम एवं हिन्दी भाषा के उद्भव व विकास’ विषय पर अभिभाषण प्रस्तुत किया। साथ ही विषय संबंधित विस्तृत जानकारी देते हुए राजभाषा के प्रभावी कार्यान्वयन संबंधित प्रतिभागियों की अनेक समस्याओं का सरल एवं रोचक ढंग से समाधान किया। कार्यशाला में वैज्ञानिक, तकनीकी तथा प्रशासन के कर्मचारियों ने भाग लिया।

कार्यशाला के दूसरे सत्र में नीता बेटिगेरि (उप-निदेशक, हिन्दी शिक्षण योजना, हैदराबाद) को अतिथिवक्ता के रूप में आमंत्रित किया गया। उन्होंने ‘मसौदा लेखन, पारिभाषिक

शब्दावली तथा पत्र लेखन व पत्राचार’ विषय पर अपना वक्तव्य देते हुए प्रतिभागियों से अभ्यास करवाया। अवसर पर सभी कर्मचारियों को हिन्दी में कार्य करने के लिए प्रेरित किया गया। प्रतिभागियों ने अपने दैनिक कार्य में हिन्दी का प्रयोग करने का संकल्प लिया। अंत में वक्ता और प्रतिभागियों के बीच सवाल-जवाब का सत्र चला। इसमें अतिथि वक्ता ने प्रतिभागियों की शंकाओं का निवारण किया। हिन्दी अनुभाग में कार्यरत भवानी के धन्यवाद ज्ञापन के साथ कार्यशाला संपन्न हुई।