

## National Conference organized at ICAR-NINFET, Kolkata

*3<sup>rd</sup> January, 2023, Kolkata:*

ICAR-National Institute of Natural Fibre Engineering and Technology (NINFET) in collaboration with The Indian Natural Fibre Society (TINFS); ICAR-Central Research Institute of Jute and Allied Fibres (CRIJAF), Barrackpore; National Jute Board (NJB), Kolkata; Jute Corporation of India (JCI), Kolkata; Central Wool Development Board, Jodhpur & NABARD, Kolkata has organized a 2 days National Conference on “**Natural fibre for sustainable societal development**” during January 03-04, 2023.

Dr. S.N. Jha, DDG (Agricultural Engineering), ICAR and Chief Guest of the inaugural session has praised the efforts of ICAR-NINFET in organizing this conference and urged the delegates for use of natural fibre-based products. He also suggested for strengthening TINFS through more collaboration with fibre related organizations. Dr. K Narsaiah, ADG (PE), ICAR and Guest of Honour has addressed the delegates and spoken about the application of latest technologies in the R&D of natural fibres. Dr. GS Bhatti, Executive Director, CWDB has suggested for blending of wool with other natural fibres for diversified products. Dr. Gouranga Kar, Director, ICAR-CRIJAF has spoken about sustainable production strategies of natural fibres. Dr. A Sahoo, Director, ICAR-NRC on Camel in his address has stressed upon more and more use of animal fibres in research and development.

Issues and strategies for growth and sustenance of natural fibres were presented and discussed in nine technical sessions including the poster session during this conference. The menace of plastic in connection with environmental degradation and the call for “ban on single use plastics” were also discussed in details in various themes and sub-themes during the conference. Concurrent to this conference, a farmers’ fair-cum-exhibition was also organized where KVKs, Startups, FPOs and nearby ICAR Institutes have participated.

Recent issues of journal and newsletter published by The Indian Natural Fibre Society (TINFS) and Souvenir- cum- Technical Volume of the conference were released on this occasion. TINFS awards were also distributed in this inaugural session. Exchange of Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) between ICAR-NINFET and manufacturers was a highlighting feature in this event. Technologies viz. Banana Pseudo-stem Fibre Extractor, Pineapple Leaf Fibre Extractor, Natural Fibre Grading Instruments, Jute leaf Drink, Jute Activated Carbon were licensed through this MoU. About 200 delegates representing research organization, academia, industry, startups etc. have participated in these two days event. Dr. L.K. Nayak, Organizing Secretary has coordinated this two days National Conference.

*(Source: ICAR- National Institute of Natural Fibre Engineering and Technology, Kolkata)*

## *Glimpses of the event:*



*Welcoming Dr SN Jha, DDG (AE)*



*Dr SN Jha, DDG (AE) addressing the audience*



*Address by Director, ICAR-NINFET*



*Release of Souvenir-cum-Technical Volume*



*Distribution of Awards*



*Exchange of MoUs*



*Delegates attending conference*



*Presentation of paper*



*Poster session*



*View from Planery session*