



NINFET

Newsletter



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EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Dr N. C. Pan

EDITORS

Dr. L. Ammayappan
Dr. L.K. Nayak
Dr. N. Mridha

PHOTOGRAPHY

Sh. K. Mitra

PRINTER

Semaphore Technologies Pvt. Ltd.
Ph. +91 9836873211

DIRECTOR'S DESK



Our nation has been blessed with a wide range of natural fibres due to diverse climatic conditions and these natural fibres yield residuals biomass which further diversify their utilization for the development of value added products. Natural fibres also play a crucial role in our national economy in terms of employment generation as well as in foreign exchange.

R & D works on natural fibers has been increased recently due to widespread awareness on the environment as well as ever depleting trend of petroleum supplies. To satisfy the customer needs and the replacement of energy consuming synthetic products, the importance has been given on the production of natural fibres and their products. To increase the awareness, institute is continuously promoting the natural fibers in different platforms throughout the year.

In-fact Institute has associated with other organization to arrange events for discussion the important issues of the world. During this period, institute has conducted 3 self-sponsored training programs; 05 training programs on Jute Handicrafts under ABI, 12 training programs on various topics & 2 workshops under SCSP, ICAR sponsored winter school, 4 NFSM sponsored training programs, 26 FLD on accelerated retting, seven FLD on power ribboner, 06 MGMG programs and participated in one exhibition for the benefit of natural fibres' stakeholders.

I also congratulate our staff members for their association to get first prize in "Ganesh Shankar Vidyarthi Hindi Patrika Puraskar award for the year 2017-18" as well as second prize in "Rajashree Tandan Rajbhasha Puraskar award for the year 2017-18" on promoting official language Hindi. I also congratulate Dr. Avijit Das, Principal Scientist (Biochemistry) for his contribution to get Nanaji Deshmukh ICAR Award for Outstanding Interdisciplinary Team Research in Agricultural and Allied Sciences 2018- Crop & Horticultural Sciences. I also congratulate our institute's sports team to win the champion in Table Tennis (Team event) during ICAR Sports Tournament of Eastern Zone 2019 at CRRI, Cuttack.

I am sure that outcome of institute's dissemination will surely create more awareness on natural fibers among the stakeholders. It is my privilege to release the newsletter of our institute and I am appreciating the efforts taken by the editorial team for bringing this newsletter in time.

Dr. Nimai Chandra Pan

DIRECTOR

INSTITUTIONAL ACTIVITIES

INTERNATIONAL YOGA DAY

Institute has celebrated International Yoga day on June 21, 2019 in its premises and staff members have participated in a yoga session conducted by invited yoga trainers. They have taught and demonstrated different Asanas, Mudra, Pranayam and Meditation to all the staff members, which is need to create an awareness of Yoga.



Director addressed the gathering



Instruction by Yoga trainer



Yoga practices by institute staff



Demonstration of various asanas

INSTITUTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

The 71st meeting of the Institute Management Committee was held on July 02, 2019 with chairmanship of Director. Dr. Ratan Tiwari, Principal Scientist, IIWBR, Karnal, Dr. S.Satpathy Principal Scientist, CRIJAF, Sh. Soumik De Sarkar, Sh. Sanatan Sarkar, Dr. G.Bose, Head, MP Division, Dr. A.N.Roy, Head, ToT Division, Dr.B. Saha, Head QE & I Division, Dr. S. N. Chattopadhyay, Principal Scientist, Sh. Amitabh Singh FAO, and Sh. Navin Kumar Jha SAO have attended the meeting. Dr.S.N.Chattopadhyay had a scientific presentation on Home textile from Jute/ banana blended fabric which was appreciated by all the members. All members expressed satisfaction over the action taken by the Institute over recommendations of the 70th IMC Meeting, settlement of the audit paras and on budget utilisation in the current financial year. IMC Chairman also briefed the achievements in R&D activities, training programs, extension activities, on-going SCSP programs, MGMG programs, patent details, consultancy works and the research publications by the Institute. Sh. Navin Kumar Jha, SAO & member secretary has coordinated the meeting.



Chairman addressed the meeting



Gathering of IMC members

SWACHHTA HI SEWA PAKHWADA

Institute has organized Swachhta Hi Sewa Pakhwada from September 11, 2019 to October 02, 2019. During this period, essay competition, debate, painting competition for school students and quiz competition for institute staff members were conducted. To follow the philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi's life and importance of cleanliness, institute staffs have conducted a cleanliness drive in a nearby market place by highlighting the importance of Swachhta scheme, made cleanliness in the market place and also distributed jute based hand bags to local people for making awareness to avoid "Single use plastic". Staff members also took pledge to maintain a cleanliness in the office area as well as to communicate the importance of the cleanliness among the public.



Awareness on cleanliness by staff



Cleaning at public place by staff

The concluding session of Swachhta Hi Sewa Pakhwada was celebrated in this institute along with 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. Staff members of the institute, local school students along with teachers have attended the program. Dr.N.C.Pan, Director highlighted upon the teaching of Mahatma Gandhi on cleanliness. All activities taken up by the institute during the Pakhwada was presented by Dr. R.Naiya.



Distribution of jute bag



Pledge on cleanliness among staff



Director addressing in the closing ceremony



Chief guest's address



Essay competition



Open quiz competition

Chief guest Sh.Chandra Gopal Sharma, Ex Deputy General Manager of Eastern Railway, Kolkata in his address emphasized upon the Vision of Mahatma Gandhi for a clean India. He also stressed to avoid single use plastic and expressed that, NINFET has the capacity to popularize technologies, which can minimize the use of plastic in daily livelihood. There was an open quiz competition on Life of Mahatma Gandhi and Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan followed by distribution of prizes to the winners who participated in different competitions.

VIGILANCE AWARENESS WEEK

The Vigilance Awareness Week has been observed from October 28 to November 2, 2019 with the theme of "Integrity-A way of Life". To spread awareness on vigilance among the staff members as well as among school students various activities like lectures, speech, debate, essay writing and quiz on vigilance have been conducted during the period. It was commenced with the pledge taken by staffs on October 28, 2019 followed by a lecture and power point presentation on integrity in our life by Dr. Biplab Saha, Vigilance Officer.



Pledge taken by staff on vigilance week



Quiz competition on vigilance



Essay competition on vigilance



Prize distribution by chief guest

Mr. Bishwa Bandhu Chakravarty, DSP of CBI, Kolkata has graced the chair as chief guest in the valedictory program on November 02, 2019. He has enlightened the audience by his speech and followed by an open interaction with the audience. He has mentioned that honesty is telling the truth to other people and integrity is telling the truth to oneself. While corruption has become the global phenomenon affecting all strata of society, it is imperative that the public must be sensitized and motivated towards efforts at weeding out corruption through practice of integrity and honesty.

■ EXPOSURE-VISIT-CUM TRAINING PROGRAM

Institute has organized Exposure-visit-cum training programs on “Jute Grading with Digital Instruments” and “Preparation of NINFET-Sathi” under Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan (SCSP). Thirty (30) farmers of scheduled caste community from Balagarh Block, Hooghly District, West Bengal has attended these programs. Dr. N.C. Pan, Director addressed the gathering and emphasized on the utilization of natural fibers in the context of banning of single use plastics by the Government of India. He also stressed upon the scope of institute developed new grading instruments and NINFET-Sathi retting technology for the better management of jute and Mesta crops.



Mr. S. Karmakar spoken on the occasion



Dr. D.P. Ray demonstrated the grading system

Dr. Laxmikanta Nayak, Principal Scientist and Chairman, SCSP has explained about the feature of SCSP for the upliftment of scheduled caste farmers. Mr. Subrata Karmakar, a progressive farmer applauded the activities of the institute and expressed his satisfaction over use of NINFET-Sathi for retting of Jute. He also opined that use of NINFET-Sathi technology has earned around Rs.700-800 extra income per quintal during this jute growing season. The detailed activities of the Institute was presented in a video presentation followed by demonstration and training with Jute grading Instruments followed by visits to NINFET-Sathi Preparation unit. Dr. D.P. Ray, Principal Scientist & Member-SCSP program has coordinated the program.

■ FIRST PROGRAM ON CONSTITUTION DAY

On the occasion of the “Constitution Day”, various programs were arranged by the institute. On November 28, 2019, in the first program Dr. N.C. Pan, Director addressed the gathering and focused the importance of our constitution and read the preamble of the constitution in English followed by Dr. A K Thakur, Principal Scientist, in Hindi. A lecture on Awareness of Constitution Day has been delivered by Mr. R D Sharma, Asst. Director (OL) to make homage to the maker of the constitution.



Dr.N.C.Pan addressed the gathering



Sh. R.D.Sharma delivered the presentation



An panoramic view of the gathering

On the same day, a parallel celebration of the “Constitution Day” has undertaken in Satyapol Village, Nadia District where a total 101 progressive farmers (8 women and 93 men), Gram Panchayat members, Secretary of Co-operative Society have attended the program. Dr. S. Debnath welcomed all the farmers and highlighted the importance of the constitution day. Ms. Swarnali Mukherjee, Asst. Administrative Officer read out the Preamble of the Constitution in Hindi followed by Dr. Rina Niya, Asst. Chief Tech. officer in Bengali.



Dr. S.Debnath addressed the gathering



Dr. R.Naiya read the preamble



Ms. S.Mukerjee spoke on the occasion



Dr. R.K.Ghosh spoke on the occasion

Dr. R.Naiya,, ACTO discussed about the importance of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan and Dr. R K Ghosh, Scientist spoken on the Indian agriculture, agricultural pollution and marketing aspects. A quiz competition was organized by Dr. R. K.Ghosh in the area of Indian Constitution and Agriculture. Dr.S.Debnath, Principal Scientist and Nodal Officer-Constitutional Day Celebration Committee has coordinated the program.

6TH DR. P.B. SARKAR MEMORIAL LECTURE

6th Dr. P.B. Sarkar memorial lecture was held on December 02, 2019 in the institute and institute staff members, ex-employees of the institute, academic persons and industry personnel have attended the program. Dr. N.C. Pan, Director welcomed all the delegates and highlighted the important contribution of Dr. P.B.Sarkar for the growth of the institute and research works on jute. Dr.S.N.Chattopadhyay, Principal Scientist has read the life sketch of Dr. P.B. Sarkar and important milestones of his illustrious career. Dr.Ashim Kumar Roy Chowdhury, Ex-Professor and Head of Department, Government College of Engineering and Textile Technology, Serampur, West Bengal and presently Principal of KPS Institute of Polytechnic, Belmuri, has graced the occasion as chief guest and delivered a lecture on Greener approaches in the textile industry. Dr. Choudhury has elaborately discussed on the sources of pollution from textile industry and how to combat it with advanced technologies using safe chemicals and effective effluent treatment protocols. Dr. L. Ammayappan, Principal Scientist has coordinated the program.



Tribute to Dr. P.B.Sarkar



Felicitaton to Dr. A.K. R. Chowdhury

CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM

ICAR sponsored 21 days winter school on "Advances in product diversification and waste utilization of natural fibers" was inaugurated on December 03, 2019. Prof. (Dr.) Purnendu Biswas, Honourable Vice Chancellor, West Bengal University of Animal & Fishery Sciences, Kolkata has graced the inaugural session as Chief Guest and urged the participants for more interactions with experts during the course program and disseminating the knowledge gained for the benefit of stakeholders. Dr.N.C. Pan, Director has briefed about the various R & D initiatives taken at the institute for value addition and product diversification in natural fibers.

Dr. L.K. Nayak, Course Director has welcomed the participants and highlighted upon the objectives of the winter school. A book with the compilation of lectures to be delivered by the experts during the winter school has been released by the dignitaries. Twenty eight participants (17 Male and 11 Female) from different parts of the country have participated in this Winter School. They belonged to thirteen (13) disciplines like Textile Manufacture, Textile Chemistry, Textile Clothing, Agricultural Engineering, Agronomy, Plant Genetics & Breeding, Plant Physiology, Soil Science, Soil Chemistry, Agricultural Structure & Process Engineering, Forestry, Agricultural Microbiology and Plant Pathology.



Address by the chief guest



Release of winter school' compilation



Winter school participants with staff members



Dr. S.R.Kalbande, outside expert delivered lecture

All participants have learnt about the recent advances in product diversification and waste utilization of natural fibers through lectures and demonstrations by the experts. Participants also presented the research activities that involved in their parent organization through PowerPoint presentation. This sharing of knowledge has helped all participants to know the specialized research area each one working which helped each other for future collaborations. In total thirty two (32) lectures were delivered by the experts from the institute and four (04) outside experts; followed by twenty two (22) practical demonstrations on extraction of textile grade fibre, extractors and diversified products.

During the exposure visits, the trainees have visited ICAR-CRIJAF, Barrackpore; Jute Handicraft Units and an Industrial visit to Hasting Jute Mill, Rishra, Hooghly. An examination with 64 objective type questions was conducted to evaluate course. All the 28 participants were divided into six groups and respective group presentations was made on various areas related to the main topic of the winter school. All the participants have given good feedback to the overall organization of the winter school including accommodation and food. Dr. K.K.Satapathy, Former Director of the institute graced the valedictory occasion and distributed the certificates to all participants. He also wished them for their successful completion and stressed them to implement the knowledge gained during the program to their parent institutes as well as to make inter-disciplinary projects for sustaining the natural fibers. Dr. L.Ammayappan, Principal Scientist & Course Co-Director, Winter School has coordinated the program.

CELEBRATION OF SWACHHTA PAKHWADA

Institute has observed “Swachhta Pakhwada” week during December 16-31, 2019 and different activities were organized like banner display on cleanliness, Swachhta Pledge, cleanliness drive in the institute campus, digitization of office records, tree plantation, awareness campaigning at MGMG adopted village, celebration of Farmer’s Day at village, awareness campaigning regarding avoid of single use plastic and cleanliness drive at local market place, drawing competition among local school students and essay writing competition on cleanliness among staff members.



Road show on Swachhta Pakhwada by staff



Cleanliness activities by staff at institute' campus



Prize distribution to winners



Essay competition for school children

On the occasion of the closing ceremony on December 31, 2019 Director welcomed the dignitaries and stressed upon cleanliness drive to be taken for our institute and towards society. Dr. R.Naiya, Nodal Officer, Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan had delivered a presentation on “Swachhta Pakwada at a glance at NINFET” in which she highlighted the different activities undertaken. Sh. Ujjal Pal, a worldwide solo campaigner to promote tree plantation by bicycle, has graced the function as Guest of Honour. He presented a message on tree plantation to fulfill requirements of basic need that to eat food and fresh air to breadth and informed that we need trees to control our climate and to maintain biodiversity. Dr. Anjana Guha Thakurta, Associate Professor of Netajinagar, Day College, Bengali Department has graced the program as Chief Guest. She addressed the audience about the clean environment and stressed the responsibility of each citizen to keep our globe clean and green. She also highlighted the impact of single use plastic on our environment. The students of local schools have participated in the drawing competition in which theme was “Swachhta Abhiyaan”. The winners from school students and staff members have been appreciated by awards. Dr. R. Naiya, Nodal officer has coordinated the program.

■ SECOND PROGRAM ON CONSTITUTION DAY

On the occasion of Farmers' Day Celebration, under Swachhta Pakhwada and Constitution Day, Institute has organized a program on Fundamental Duties at one of the adopted village Mathura, Bodai, Amtala, 24 Parganas North, West Bengal under Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav program on December 23, 2019. Dr. Sanjoy Debnath, Principal Scientist and Nodal Officer, Constitution Day Celebration committee and MGMG, Dr. Biplab Saha, Head QE&I Division, Dr. Avijit Das, Principal Scientist and Dr. Rina Niya, ACTO and Nodal Officer Swachh Bharat Mission have participated.

Dr.B.Saha addressed the farmers and briefed about the different institute activities, importance of Constitution Day and discussed the Fundamental Duties under the Article 51A of the Indian Constitution. Discussion was also made about the technologies developed by the institute, importance of farmers' cooperation towards organic farming, action to be taken to control the global warming for sustainable agriculture. A quiz on agricultural fibre crops, Constitution of India, Global warming, organic farming was conducted for farmers followed by prize distribution to the winners. Dr. S. Debnath has organized and coordinated the program.



Dr. B.Saha addressed the gathering



Prize distribution to winners

FRONT LINE DEMONSTRATION ON POWER RIBBONER

Front line demonstration of improved power ribboner under National Food Security Mission (2019-20) for dissemination of the technology through extraction of barks/ ribbons from jute/mesta plants were conducted at seven different places covering three jute growing districts of West Bengal in collaboration with KVKs, and Farmers clubs of West Bengal.

Date	Village	Block	District	No of Participants
August 14, 2019	Darapur	Haringhata	Nadia	50
August 16, 2019	Ruppur	Ranaghat	Nadia	45
August 19, 2019	Gosaichor	Ranaghat - I	Nadia	75
August 24, 2019	Bhabanipur	Haringhata	Nadia	60
August 26, 2019	Ranigachi	Bhangur - I	24 Parganas (S)	45
September 07, 2019	Purbo Bishnupur	Chakdah	Nadia	55
September 12, 2019	Panpur Keutia	Barrackpore - I	24 Parganas (N)	60



Demonstration at Darapur



Demonstration at Ruppur



Demonstration at Gosaichor



Demonstration at Bhabanipur

About 390 jute/mesta growing farmers have participated in the FLDs during deliberation and they have operated the machine for extraction of ribbons from green jute/ Mesta plant. After extraction, jute/mesta ribbons were retted in vertical hanging condition on bamboo in open ditch and pond. It is observed that the retting was completed within 6-8 days whereas in conventional method, the whole plant was retted in 15-18 days. Their queries on ribboning capacity, fibre quality, cost of machine, labour requirement, power consumption and weight of the machine were answered satisfactorily. The details of the FLD are given above.

TRAINING PROGRAM UNDER ABI

Ten (10) days skill development training program on "Manufacture of jute Handicrafts" under Agri-Business Incubation (ABI) project, ICAR-NINFET, Kolkata have been organized in different parts of the eastern region to have more entrepreneurs in the field of jute based handicrafts as well as to make awareness on natural fibers.

The project staff members along with the respective officers of the training place have coordinated the program. After successful completion of the program, Dr. A.N.Roy, PI-ABI have distributed the certificates and briefed the trainees about the market demand of jute goods & entrepreneurship opportunities in this sector.

Area of training	Place	Period	No of participants
Manufacture of jute Handicrafts	Bagdogra, Siliguri, West Bengal	June 26 to July 7, 2019	20
Manufacture of jute Handicrafts	Shibmandir, Siliguri, West Bengal	June 26 to July 7, 2019	20
Manufacture of Jute Handicrafts	KVK Nadia, Gayeshpur, Nadia, West Bengal	September 2-18, 2019	20
Manufacture of Jute Handicrafts	KVK-Sambalpur, Odisha	November 27 to December 7, 2019	20
Manufacture of Jute Handicrafts	KVK-Bargarh, Odisha	November 28 to December 7, 2019	20



Training at Siliguri



ABI team with trainee at Sambalpur



Interaction of Dr. A.N.Roy, PI, ABI with trainee



In-charge, KVK-Bargarh addressed the gathering

SELF-SPONSORED TRAINING PROGRAMS

During this period, institute conducted three numbers of self-sponsored basic and advanced training on Jute Handbags/ Shopping Bags and Handmade Paper from Jute.

Area of training	Period	No of male participant	No of female participant
Hand-made paper from Jute	May 27-31, 2019	07	02
Hand-made paper from Jute	June 17-21, 2019	06	02
Jute Hand/ Shopping Bags	June 17-29, 2019	05	06



Demonstration on pulp preparation



Demonstration on testing of paper



Training on Jute bag preparation



Successful completion of a training

INSTITUTE TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT UNIT ACTIVITIES

Institute Technology Management Unit of the institute has conducted two ITMC meetings on April 04, 2019 and September 18, 2019 respectively. ITMU is also facilitated the documentation process of patentable / non-patentable technologies , commercialization of the technology and overview the liaison between Patent Office as well as in the process of new patent filing and follow up old cases.

Patent Filed

- Ray, D.P., Ammayappan L., Debnath, S., Ghosh, R.K., Mondal D., and Chakraborty, S., 2019. Jute biocomposite comprising compatibilizer treated jute fibrous material with induced hydrophobicity and a method of manufacture, E-filed on June 24, 2019 (E-1/26479/ 2019-KOL)
- Ray, D.P., Ghosh, R.K., Saha B, and Sarkar A, 2019. Retting accelerator composition for retting of whole jute and mesta plants and the process of retting involving the same, E-filed on May 25, 2019 (201931020813)



An ITMC Meeting



Trademark

A trademark for “Retting accelerator composition for retting of whole jute and mesta plants” under 4259315 for Class 1 & 4259316 for Class 42 were registered The Trade Mark Registry at Kolkata

MoA signed

M/s. Deep Micro System, Bhandardaha, P. O. Antisara, Singur, Hooghly- 712 223, West Bengal has signed a MoA with the institute for the commercialization of technology (Patent No-246007 and Patent application No. 283/

KOL/2006 dt 29.03.2006) for the development of Electronic Fibre Bundle Strength Tester for Jute (Semi-Auto) on July 28, 2019 .

■ NFSM SPONSORED TRAINING PROGRAMS

Four (04) national level training on “Production and retting technology of Jute/Mesta/Ramie/Sunnhemp including other related aspects” sponsored by National Food Security Mission (NFSM) - Commercial Crops have been successfully conducted in July 9-11, 2019; July 17-19, 2019; July 24-26, 2019; and August 1-3, 2019 respectively. In each training program, twenty-five trainees from different jute growing districts of West Bengal, Bihar, Tripura & Uttar Pradesh have participated.



Director addressed the gathering



Demonstration during training

Lectures with suitable demonstrations have been delivered in each training program. In one program, Dr. S.K. Biswas, Ex-Director, Directorate of Jute Development graced the occasions as chief guest and highlighted upon the production scenario of jute & allied fibers in India. Sh. Jintu Das, Deputy Director, Directorate of Jute Development graced the occasions as guest of honour and spoken about the importance of quality jute fibre for getting better price in the market. Dr. N.C. Pan, Director praised the participants after completion of the training program and stressed to implement the technologies to the field for the betterment of natural fibre farmers.



Participants with resource persons in a training program

■ MERA GAON MERA GAURAV PROGRAMS

Under MGMG, Institute has adopted 25 villages at five different districts i.e. Howrah, Hooghly, 24 Parganas North, 24 Paraganas South and Nadia) to carry out the different demonstration and training programs on developed technologies. Each district has five different villages and respectively monitored by one coordinator and the overall function was monitored by Dr. Sanjoy Debnath, Nodal Officer.

Awareness program/ interactive meet	Village	Staff participated	Number of farmers
Prospects of Jute mulch on June 20, 2019	Satyapole, Srikrishnapur, Haringhata, Nadia.	Dr. S. Debnath Dr. M. Bhowmick Dr. N. Mridha Dr. D. Das	90

Awareness program/ interactive meet	Village	Staff participated	Number of farmers
Jute mulch for weed control and moisture conservation on June 20, 2019	Ariala, Mirhati, Barasat 1, 24 Parganas (North).	Dr. M. Bhowmick Dr. N. Mridha Dr. D. Das	50
Jute-based product diversification on 13.8.2019.	Aida, Guptipara, Balagarh, Hooghly	Dr. Biplab Saha Dr. D.P.Ray Dr. R.K.Ghosh	100
Demonstration of accelerated retting of jute on August 20, 2019	Ichchapur and Balagarh, Hooghly	Dr. R. K. Ghosh	120
Demonstration of Jute ribboning machine cum awareness programme on use of jute carry bag on August 24, 2019	Bhawanipur, Srikrishnapur, Haringhata, Nadia.	Dr. S. Debnath Dr. A.K. Thakur Dr.V.B. Shambhu Er. H. Baite.	75
Use of jute carry bag instead of plastic bags & Use of jute mulch in cultivation of horticultural crops instead of plastic mulch' on September 19, 2019	Adopted villages of Nadia	Dr. A.N. Roy Dr. S. Debnath Mrs. A. Majumdar	

GLIMPSES OF MGMG PROGRAMS



Interaction with farmers at Satyapole



Lecture by Dr. M.Bhowmick



Interaction with farmers at Ariala



Demonstration on jute retting



Awareness on jute mulch & carry bag



Awareness on jute carry bag

■ IRC MEETING

NITI-V Institute Research Council (IRC) Meeting was held on September 21 & 23, 2019. Dr. P. K. Das, Former Professor, Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya, Mohanpur, Kalyani, Nadia, Dr. T. K. Guha Roy, Former Deputy Director, IJIRA, Kolkata, Dr. Sunil Kumar Sett, Former Professor, Department of Jute Fibre Technology, University of Calcutta and Dr. Debasis Nag, Former Director, ICAR-NIRJAFT, Kolkata were the External Expert of this meeting. Four new ad-hoc projects proposal, four on-going ad-hoc projects and progress of twenty two on-going research projects were discussed. After thorough discussion, four new research projects were approved.

■ FRONTLINE DEMONSTRATION ON ACCELERATED RETTING

Twenty six (26) frontline demonstrations were conducted by the institute for NINFET-Sathi under the National Food Security Mission-Commercial Crops (Jute). The formulation contains nutrients without any microbial consortia; however but the accelerator can enhance the microbial growth at a suitable pH so that it accelerates the rate of retting. Different organizations like universities, KVKs, NGOs and Govt. of India organization have collaborated with the institute to organize the FLD programs. All programs were conducted as per the specified guidelines and carried out under the direct supervision of respective scientist of the institute. The FLDs were conducted at 26 different places mainly in farmers' field, Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVKs) and NGOs at Hooghly, North 24 Parganas, Burdwan, Murshidabad and Malda districts of West Bengal. The farmers were selected by the collaborative agencies that are mainly either jute growers or associated with jute. The FLDs conducted at remote villages of Malda and Murshidabad have received an overwhelming response and large numbers of local people along with farmers were gathered in the demonstration sites.

S.No	Place	District	Date	Participants
1	Barrackpore	North 24 Parganas	02.08.2019	50
2	Tona	Balagarh, Hooghly	13.08.2019	120
3	Hamjanpur	Hooghly	13.08.2019	125
4	Inchura	Hooghly	13.08.2019	90
5	Tilaipara	Malda	16.08.2019	55
6	Rajdole	Malda	16.08.2019	65
7	Mangalpura,Kharikadanga	Malda	17.08.2019	125
8	Hukabhanga	Malda	17.08.2019	75
9	Niroil	Malda	18.08.2019	65
10	Narsinghabati	Malda	18.08.2019	120
11	Dahar Tiorno	Hooghly	20.08.2019	116
12	Beleswar	Hooghly	20.08.2019	102
13	Kalyanpur	Purba Bardhaman	20.08.2019	65
14	Dyamorgachha	Hooghly	24.08.2019	85
15	New Inchhura	Hooghly	24.08.2019	85
16	Badshanagar	Murshidabad	02.09.2019	65
17	Badshanagar	Murshidabad	02.09.2019	60
18	Purbapara	Murshidabad	03.09.2019	85
19	Sonatikuri	Murshidabad	03.09.2019	75
20	Sonatikuri	Murshidabad	03.09.2019	120
21	Pareshnathpur	Murshidabad	04.09.2019	92
22	Pareshnathpur	Murshidabad	04.09.2019	105
23	Pareshnathpur	Murshidabad	05.09.2019	85
24	Sarbangapur	Murshidabad	05.09.2019	65
25	Dubtala	Murshidabad	15.09.2019	120
26	Rajpur	Murshidabad	15.09.2019	95

In each FLD programme, 0.25 hectare crop area was covered; in which half portion of the harvested whole jute plants (2-3 quintals) were used for Accelerated Retting Technology, while the remaining half portion was retted simultaneously by conventional retting for comparison. The retting process was conducted in open ditch, cemented tanks and road side nullah. The plants were arranged in tank in reverse direction and dusted with retting accelerator @ 0.2 kg/ per quintal of green jute plant (per bigha green jute yield 50 quintal). It is observed that the accelerated retting has completed within 8-12 days with better fibre quality (1-2 grade improvement).



Awareness on NINFET-Sathi



Demonstration in a village



Lecture on NINFET-Sathi



Successful completion of FLD

PARTICIPATED IN AN EXHIBITION



Institute developed R&D products & Technologies were displayed in Exhibition Aspiration 2019 at Aurobindo Institute of Culture, Kolkata during December 12-23, 2019. Visitors enquired the various products & different technologies. Information on different institute technologies / products and training programs has been distributed through brochures and flyers.

PARTICIPATION IN TEZ-2019

Institute nominated twenty three contingents for participating in the eastern zone tournament held at ICAR-National Rice Research Institute, Cuttack during November 18-22, 2019. Contingents have participated in the team event as well as single even i.e., Volley ball (Smashing), Volley ball (Shooting), Football, Kabaddi, Badminton, Table tennis, Carom (single), Chess (Single), 800 M running, 1500 M running, Cycling, 4X100 relay, Long Jump, Shot put, Javelin and Discus throw. All players were performed well and reached semi-final in Kabaddi, Quarter final in Football and Fourth position in Chess and proudly to inform that institute got the champion in the Table Tennis (Team event) with the following team members Sh. Amit Das, Sh. Sudipta Bhowmick, Sh. Syco Manna, Sh. Robin Das and Sh. Sourav Pal. All contingents were appraised by Dr. N.C.Pan, Director and Dr. G.Bose, Chairman

of the selection committee for their active involvement and team spirit. Sh. Sudipta Bhowmick, Chief-De-Mission and Sh. Robin Das, Team Manager has coordinated the program for Tournament of Eastern Zone 2019.



ICAR-NINFET contingents for TEZ-2019



Triumphant contingents

PROGRAMS UNDER SCHEDULED CASTE SUB-PLAN

Skill development training programs for ten and twelve day's duration on "Manufacture of Jute Handicrafts" and "Manufacture of Jute Bags" under Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan (SCSP) have been organized successfully in different parts of West Bengal during the period. Twenty (20) scheduled caste category farmers in each training program associated with agro-based craft works have participated and benefited.

Training Place	Duration	Area
Sargachi Ramakrishna Mission, Murshidabab	June 1-12, 2019	Manufacture of Jute Handicrafts
CISH, Malda	June 3-14, 2019	
Bidhannagar-I, Siliguri	June 13-24, 2019	
Bidhannagar-II, Siliguri	June 13-24, 2019	
Kharibari-I, Siliguri	June 13-24, 2019	
Kharibari-II, Siliguri	June 13-24, 2019	
Bagdogra, Siliguri	June 26 - July 7, 2019	
Shibmandir, Siliguri	June 26 - July 7, 2019	Manufacture of Jute Bags
Ram Krishna Mission (RKM), Sargachi	June 1-12, 2019	
ICAR-CISH, Regional Station, Malda	June 3-14, 2019	
ICAR-NINFET, Kolkata	September 16-26, 2019	
ICAR-NINFET, Kolkata	November 15-26, 2019	Agro textiles
Saya Syamal KVK, Arapanch, Sonarpur	November 19, 2019	
Nadia KVK, Gayeshpur	November 21, 2019	

A QUICK LOOK ON SCSP PROGRAMS



Felicitation to trainee



Chairman, SCSP distributed certificate



Certificate distribution at Sargachi Ramakrishna Mission



Group photo of trainees



Developed products from training



Jute bag training at ICAR-NINFET



Training at Bagdogra



Future entrepreneurs with their products

IN-HOUSE SEMINAR

Date	Presenter	Topic
11.04.2019	Dr. Deb Prasad Ray	Development of accelerated retting technology for jute and mesta plants
18.04.2019	Shri. Sujai Das	Recent advances in artificial intelligence (AI) and sensory technology
28.06.2019	Shri. Tuhin Ghosh	Availability of library resources in the digital platform
21.08.2019	Dr. Biplab Saha & Dr. Debabrata Das	Harmful and beneficial effects of Parthenium weed
11.09.2019	Dr. Gautam Bose	Plastic waste management in present environmental context
16.09.2019	Dr. Nibaran Das	Artificial Intelligence and possible applications in Textiles
24.10.2019	Dr. Sambhu Nath Chattopadhyay	Bleaching of jute textiles using per-acetic acid
16.12.2019	Dr. Manik Bhowmick	Digital flexible material hanging appearance measuring instrument

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS

Date	Visitor
02.07.2019	Dr. Ratan Tiwari, Principal Scientist, IIWBR, Karnal
02.10.2019	Sh.Chandra Gopal Sharma ,Ex Deputy General Manager, Eastern Railway
02.11.2019	Mr. Bishwa Bandhu Chakravarty, DSP, CBI, Kolkata
02.12.2019	Dr.A. K. Roy Chowdhury, Principal , KPS Institute of Polytechnic, Belmuri
03.12.2019	Prof. (Dr.) Purnendu Biswas, Vice-Chancellor, WBUAFS, Kolkata
13.12.2019	Dr. S.R. Kalbande, Head, Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola
21.12.2019	Dr. Susil Kumar Mitra, Retd. Assistant Controller of Patents, Kolkata
21.12.2019	Prof. (Dr) Alka Goel , Professor & Head, DCT, G.B.PUA&T, Pantnagar
23.12.2019	Dr. K.K. Satapathy, Ex-Director, ICAR-NINFET
31.12.2019	Dr. A.G. Thakurta, Associate Professor, Netajinagar Day College, Kolkata

HINDI CELL ACTIVITIES

MEETING ON OFFICIAL LANGUAGE IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE: Hindi Cell regularly organize Official Language Implementation Committee in each quarter and discussed new agenda items for the improvement for the implementation and utilization of the Hindi among the staff members and institutes' publications. All meeting has been chaired by the Director and Assistant Director (OL) coordinated the meeting successfully. There were three meeting have been organized on June 22, 2019 (1st quarter); September 16, 2019 (2nd quarter) and December 11, 2019 (3rd quarter) at the Director's room respectively.

HINDI WORKSHOP: Hindi cell is frequently organizing workshops for making awareness on importance of Hindi and motivating to use Hindi in all official works. Hindi Workshop on "Hindi Noting and Drafting", "UNICODE" on June 15, 2019; "Hindi Bhasha ka Saralikaran" and "Computer per Hindi" on September 07, 2019; "Hindi Noting and Drafting" and "Computer per Hindi" on December 07, 2019 was organized in the Institute respectively.

TRAINING ON HINDI: Training on "Basic Training Programme for working in Hindi on Computer" for five days was organized at Gahan Hindi Tankan evam Ashulipi Prakashikshan Kendra, Kendriya Hindi Prakashikshan Up-Sansthan, Rajbhasha Bibhag, Griha Mantralaya, Bharat Sarkar, 1, Council House Street, Kolkata-700001 and six staff members from the Institute were trained.

POETIC COMPETITION: Hindi Cell has organized "Hindi Poetic frequency Competition" for the officers and employees of the member offices of the Town Official Language Implementation Committee, Kolkata (Karyalaya-2) of Central Government in the Institute on November 14, 2019. Twenty three participants from 12 offices have participated in the competition.

HINDI FORTNIGHT: Hindi Fortnight was celebrated from September 12-28, 2019 and competitions like extempore (September 12, 2019), Recitation (September 17, 2019), Debate (September 20, 2019), Maximum work in Hindi (September 25, 2019), Quiz (September 25, 2019) and Noting& Writing (September 26, 2019) were organized. Staff members have enthusiastically participated in the competitions. Closing ceremony was celebrated September 28, 2019 and Sh. Yogerndra Shukla Suman was graced as the chief guest. Dr A.K. Thakur, Principal Scientist read the message of Honorable Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare. Winners of all competition have been awarded. Chief Guest requested everyone to do maximum work in Hindi and said that Hindi is an earthly language and is present in every heart of India. Director informed that every employee of the Institute to do their official work in Hindi as maximum as possible during his address. Sh. R.D. Sharma, AD (OL) has coordinated the program.



Hindi fortnight celebration



Workshop on Hindi Noting and Drafting

EXPOSURE VISIT & OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Participants from	Date of visit	Participants
Students from Mansur Habibulla High School	November 11, 2019	100
Students from College of Community Sciences, University of Agricultural Sciences, Bengaluru	November 16, 2019	100
Progressive farmers from adopted villages under SCSP	November 29, 2019	30
B.Tech., (Agri Engg) students of BCKV, Kalyani & Matma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri, Maharashtra	June 1-30, 2019	17

PERSONNEL

Name	Promoted from	To	wef
Dr. Debabrata Das	Senior Technical Officer	Assistant Chief technical Officer	29.04.2018
Sh. Krishna Gopal Nath	Technical Officer	Senior Technical Officer	19.12.2018
Sh. Subir Kundu	Technical Assistant	Senior Technical Assistant	06.10.2018
Sh. Tuhin Subhra Ghosh	Technical Assistant	Senior Technical Assistant	25.04.2019
Smt. Ruby Das	Technical Assistant	Senior Technical Assistant	04.07.2019
Sh. Gunasindhu Sardar	Technical Assistant	Senior Technical Assistant	14.07.2019
Sh. Robin Das	Technical Assistant	Senior Technical Assistant	11.08.2019
Sh. Sujoy Karmakar	Technical Assistant	Senior Technical Assistant	15.09.2019
Sh. Amalesh Ghosh	Senior Technician	Technical assistant	06.03.2018
Sh. Surajit Saha	Technician	Senior Technician	24.04.2019
Sh. Sudarshan Murmu	Technician	Senior Technician	28.01.2019
Sh. Avisek Tewari	Technician	Senior Technician	17.07.2019
Sh. Om Prakash Singh	Upper Divisional Clerk	Assistant	23.03.2018
Sh. Kush Kumar Rajak	Skilled Supporting Staff	MACP Scheme	25.09.2019
Sh. Prasanta Mondal	Skilled Supporting Staff	MACP Scheme	24.10.2019

NEW ENTRANTS

Name	Post	wef	Division /Section	Your work ethic and positive attitude has been an asset to this institute and will take you far in your new venture. Congratulations!
Sh. Chanchal Mondal	Technician	03.05.2019	DDM Section	
Sh. Somnath Biswas	Technician	25.05.2019	MP Division	
Sh. Saikat Maity	Technician	29.06.2019	QEI Division	
Ms. Jayeeta Choudhury	Technician	22.07.2019	Library	
Sh. Agnive Mallick	Technician	27.09.2019	ToT Division	

SUPERANNUATION

Name	Designation	Date	Division	This is another beginning of your life. Hearty Congratulations on your retirement
Sh. Roben Soren	Senior Technical Assistant	30.09.2019	ToT Division	
Dr. Gautam Bose	Principal Scientist	30.11.2019	MP Division	

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The Director, ICAR- National Institute of Natural Fibre Engineering and Technology
(Erstwhile ICAR-NIRJAFT)
An ISO 9001: 2015 certified Institute
12, Regent Park, Kolkata – 700040, West Bengal
Phone: 033-24711807 (Director)
Office - 033 24212115/16/17 (EPBX); Fax : 033 2471 2583
Email : director.ninfet@icar.gov.in; nirjaftdirectorcell13@gmail.com
Website: www.nirjaft.res.in
Printer: M/s.Semaphore Technologies Pvt. Ltd., Kolkata. Ph. +91 9836873211

