

## **ICAR-CRIJAF, Barrackpore organised Press Conference on Jute Ribbon Technology**

### **GO GREEN – BEAT PLASTIC POLLUTION**

ICAR-CRIJAF, Barrackpore organized a Press Conference on “Jute Ribbon Technology” on 11.08.2023. The major objectives of this Press Conference is to create awareness about the new jute ribboner machine which can revolutionize the post-harvest process is jute cultivation. This machine has the advantage of removing fibre from the jute plant while keeping the stick intact. The retting process and fibre extraction will become easier by mechanization of fibre-extraction before going for final retting.

Nowadays, it needs no emphasis that the plastic is creating havoc in terms of world pollution in soil, water and environment. Today, globally 400 million tonnes of plastic waster are produced every year. By 2050, the plastic production will be around 1100 million tonnes. About 36% plastic is used in packaging, of which 85% ends up in landfills or as unregulated waste. Fossil fuel-based plastic is forecast to grow to 19% of the global carbon budget by 2040. It is also established that the detrimental effect of plastic causing severe ill effects on human, animal, environment and soil health, which cannot be reduced without discontinuing production and use of plastic and related materials. The present One Health Concept i.e., human, animal, environment and soil is very important for the future of this world. Now to rescue the world from the menace of plastic pollution, jute has great role to play. The global importance of jute as a potential substitute for synthetics, particularly under increasingly polluted environment and eco-friendly awareness among the masses needs no emphasis. Jute and its derivative products have innumerable benefits like biodegradability, no harmful effect on biosphere and environment, economically cheap, long durability and many other virtues. For the last seven-eight decades, ICAR-Central Research Institute for Jute and Allied Fibres (ICAR-CRIJAF) is working with dedication and devotion on all-round scientific jute production technologies namely, improved jute varieties, nuclear and breeder seed production for the whole country, improved agro-production technology, innovative retting accelerator (like CRIJAF Sona powder and liquid formulation), free-flowing retting technology, integrated pond-based farming system encompassing jute crop, and recently jute ribboner technology and several others.

Dr. Gouranga Kar, Director of ICAR-Central Research Institute for Jute and Allied Fibres, Barrackpore, Kolkata informed the reporters and media persons on 11<sup>th</sup> August, 2023, that the institute has designed and developed a Jute Ribboner which is operated

for extraction of jute ribbon from freshly harvested jute/ mesta plants without breaking sticks. The advantages of ribbon retting are (i) requires much less water, (ii) retting time reduced to almost half of traditional retting process, (iii) root contents of fibre eliminated and (iv) improves the fibre quality. The machine is very easy to use by the farmers and no specific skill is required to operate the machine.

In the gathering, Dr. Gouranga Kar, Director, ICAR-CRIJAF also reiterated that the present extraction technology along with other jute technologies developed by the institute has direct effect for economical production of jute fibre and enable us to 'Go Green – Beat Plastic' within a short period and at the same time it will be able to make the World plastic free. Dr. Kar reiterated Plastic Mukta Bharat, can be achieved by replacing plastic by jute and jute derived products. In this important Press Conference 15 representatives of electronics and print media were present to provide publicity of the new technology developed by ICAR-CRIJAF.



