

## Natural and Eco-friendly Dyes - A step toward sustainable textiles

The uses of sensitized, non-allergic and non-toxic natural dyes on textile materials have become a subject matter of substantial reputation and character today. Although cost is still a major constraint and performance issues still prevail, much attention yet needs to be given to research work and also wide advertisement is needed to encourage the adaptability of such naturally dyed fabrics. There is little doubt that if systematic studies had been done and performance been propagated, the use of these dyes would have been on a much wider scale. To dwell upon these and other major factors in dyeing techniques, World Trade Center Jaipur and CCWA Jaipur organized a webinar on 'Pure for Sure: Indian Handloom and Handicrafts', which had participants joining from all over the country, encompassing topics such as colors of herbs, methods of identification, color extracting, dyeing, sustainable possibilities etc.



Mr. Yawer Ali Shah distinguished guest addressing the participants

Mr. Vipindas, Co-founder, Aksh weaves and Crafts, Chennai, in his address said “all natural colors make us feel alive, they speak a different language, and convey a beautiful message that humans have progressed in an environment soaked with natural colors, so we feel comfortable and at home with them.” Also, its aroma helps to create a multi-sensory experience which is rare he expressed.

Ms. Alka Sharma, Founder of Aavaran, Udaipur said, “Natural dyes have the potential to reinstate the environment and support justifiable industrial activity. Dye crops can be grown regeneratively with by-products, such as organic dung and biofuel, snowballing the range of useful productions and providing ecologically sound replacements to other crops. By means of natural dyes one can maintain the biodiversity and increase the amount of perpetual forest shelter.”

Mr. Sufiyan Ismail Khatri, Natural dyed textile maker, Ajarakhpur, Gujrat said, “By means of natural dyes, we can have a very powerful substitute to the extremely contaminating synthetic dye manufacturing accountable for the squalor of watercourses and other incidental health hazards. We are today increasingly losing our connection with the natural world, and also our culture. Designers and inventers are now tilting toward natural dyes and fabrics with the aim of making fashion sustainable and eco friendly in order to enhance our life styles.

Mr. Maruti Kamble, Expert in Natural Dyeing, Sr. Technical Executive cum production Manager, Adiv Pure Nature product Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai; Ms. Jagada Rajappa, Freelancer and Natural Dye Consultant; Ms. Akshita Gangwal, Craft Entrepreneur, Aakaar Natural Dye Practitioner; Ms. Kiran Suwalka, Senior designer & CEO, Upaya Pvt. Ltd., Manjari Foundation;

Mr. Karambir Bharati, Senior Printer, Weavers Service Center; Mr. Naresh K. Siju, Natural dyeing and Kala Cotton, Weaving and Mr. Brij Ballabh Udaiwal, Director, Natural Indigo Research Institute (NIRI) also shared their views at the programme. All speakers shared a similar view that natural dyes are

biodegradable and have a much lower environmental impact than synthetic dyes, hence its wide use is the only preventive way to save mother nature.

Many participants enquired about cost parameters and availability issues of natural dyes, which were well responded by speakers during the session.

Mr. Navneet Agarwal, Assistant Director, World Trade Center Jaipur proposed the vote of thanks

The webinar was held on November 30, 2022.