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Press Brief

NDRF's waste to wealth technology for banana farmers
Meeting with Shri BS Ediyurappa, Chief Minister of Karnataka on 10.03.21



Dr Mylswamy Annadurai, Chairman of National Design & Research Forum (NDRF) had called on the Chief Minister of Karnataka, Shri BS Ediyurappa to discuss on various technology developments of social relevance that are being developed by NDRF in a collaborative research.

NDRF, is a five decade old Research and Development wing of The Institution of Engineers (India). NDRF is involved in the collaborative research with academia, R&D organizations and Industries to realize socially relevant technologies, products and services.

Among many, in the project to convert banana pseudo stem in to value added products such as fiber, acoustic panels, bio fertilizer, biscuits and medicinal drinks has drawn the attention of the CM. NDRF had collaborated with a consortium of Indian Institute of Information Technology, Design and Manufacturing (IITDM)-Kancheepuram, National Research Centre for Banana(NRCB)-Trichy and Gencrest a bio-tech industry based in Mumbai.

A pilot plants are being commissioned by the consortium to efficiently extract fiber from banana pseudo stem. The extracted banana fiber shall be used by the industry partner to produce textile grade yarn. Banana fiber is sustainable and eco friendly alternative to cotton fiber which consumes a high volume of water.

In addition, the bio fertilizer derived from the liquid sap from the stem is the organic manure and is known for reclaiming infertile agricultural land. Edible products such as pickle, biscuits, health drink are the value added products being developed in association with NRCB. A supply chain partner has been roped in to ensure the last mile connectivity with farmers.

The waste to wealth approach will benefit high number of banana farmers in Karnataka, Tamilnadu and Maharashtra which are the leading producers of banana in India. NDRF is keen to establish the banana waste to wealth supply chain in Karnataka.

In this regard, Dr Mylswamy Annadurai had met and discussed with the Chief Minister of Karnataka, Shri BS Ediyurappa on 10.03.21. Chief Minister has shown keen interest and appreciated the technological intervention of NDRF and partners to uplift the banana farming community. He had assured support from the state government.

Dr.V.Dillibabu, Scientist & Director, NDRF, Dr.S.Selvakumar, Secretary to Chief Minister and M.Lakshminarayana, Advisor to Chief Minister had attended the meeting.



Director