

**Green Technologies presented in the Seminar on
"Prospects for green technology in Coconut Shell Charcoal production"
held at TNAU, Coimbatore on 03-10-2024**

- Dr.K.Ravichandran, Joint Chief Environmental Engineer (Monitoring), Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Coimbatore Zone made presentation on **Modernized Elevated Charcoal Pit Technology** for charcoal production, a technology validated by Anna University. The presentation detailed on the difference between conventional method and elevated method of charcoal production; construction details; reason for change over to modernized elevated charcoal pit. Siting criteria for elevated charcoal units were detailed and in case of existing activated carbon manufacturing units undertaking backward integration of charcoal manufacturing (by adopting continuous process) will not be insisted for siting criteria. However air pollution control measures, fugitive emission control, standard for charcoal units, green belt development and other requirements shall be fulfilled.
- Mr.Thomas Antony, Managing Director of M/s Jacobi Carbon, made the second presentation showcasing their **Rotary Kiln Technology**, available in both batch and continuous methods. This technology, which has been vetted by IIT Chennai, promises to enhance the efficiency and sustainability of coconut shell charcoal production.
- Mr.Srikanth Venkateshan and Dr.Manju Tanwar from M/s.Organic Recycling Systems Limited, Mumbai, presented their eco-friendly technology, the **Sanjeevak Carbonisation Systems**, which has been validated by the Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT). This advanced technology demonstrates more efficient recycling processes and stands out for its versatility, as it can operate on various types of biomass by systematically regulating device temperatures in a controlled manner.
- Green Finance Scheme for mitigation and adaptation projects in the MSME sector was explained by Mr.Paramasivam, Assistant General Manager, Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI). Various financing options were outlined that are available for manufacturers transitioning to green technologies, emphasizing the scheme's potential to reduce the environmental footprint of charcoal production. The presentation highlighted on marketing assistance through the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC).
- The following are the other key discussion points emerged:
 - Siting criteria is applicable to new and existing processing unit, however the same cannot be applicable to the production plant in industrial park. It was suggested that a common representation be submitted to the Government for review and consideration.
 - Pollution Control Board clarified that they are issuing No Objection Certificate (NOC) for Elevated Pit Technology and also to Rotary kiln technology of Jacobi Carbon without further consultancy/validation from any external institute. In addition, if any other new technology comes, it will be referred to Anna University for vetting.
 - If an existing or old unit already has consent from the Pollution Control Board (PCB), it can switch to the new technology without requiring a fresh consent. However, if the old/existing unit is operating without PCB consent, it must first obtain the necessary approval from the PCB before adopting the new technology.
 - Local authority approval is required even if the Pollution Control Board (PCB) consent has been obtained.
 - Participants suggested adopting a cluster approach for the industry as a strategy to ensure a long-term, sustainable future.