CSIR-NEERI launches bamboo handicraft training programme for women SHGs

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CSIR-National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (CSIR-NEERI), Nagpur, has launched a five-day training programme (16–20 June 2026) on bamboo handicrafts for women Self-Help Groups (SHGs) under the theme "Empowering Women Self-Help Groups through Bamboo Handicrafts from Bamboo Grown on Fly Ash Dumps." The initiative aims to promote sustainable livelihoods, women empowerment, and environmental restoration through CSIR-NEERI's bamboo-based Eco-Rejuvenation Technology (ERT).

The programme was inaugurated by Shri Sudip Rane, Chief Engineer, Koradi Thermal Power Station (KTPS), Koradi, and presided over by Dr. S. Venkata Mohan, Director, CSIR-NEERI. Dr. Mahendra P. Patil, Scientist-G and Chair, Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Division, and Shri Pravin Bute, Deputy Executive Engineer, KTPS, were also present.

Addressing the participants, Shri Rane appreciated CSIR-NEERI's efforts in promoting bamboo-based livelihood generation and encouraged women to develop entrepreneurial skills in the growing bamboo sector. Dr. Mohan highlighted bamboo's potential as a renewable resource for environmental restoration, circular economy, climate resilience, and socio-economic development. Dr. Patil emphasized the role of

bamboo in restoring degraded lands while creating livelihood opportunities, particularly for women. Shri Bute lauded the dedication of SHG members and encouraged them to produce quality handicrafts with market potential.

Dr. Lal Singh, Scientist-E and Programme Organiser, presented an overview of CSIR-NEERI's bamboo-based ERT initiatives and highlighted their contribution to ecological restoration and livelihood generation.

The training programme will provide hands-on skills in bamboo harvesting, treatment and processing, handicraft production, value-added product development, entrepreneurship, branding, marketing, and product design. The initiative demonstrates how reclaimed fly ash dump sites can be transformed into productive landscapes that generate both environmental and socio-economic benefits for local communities.

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