

Press Release

TRAINING ON ISOLATION OF NATURAL FIBER FROM
PINE NEEDLES

Dehradun

Date: March 11, 2025

The Chemistry and Bioprospecting (C&BP) Division, Forest Research Institute (FRI), Dehradun, organized a training program on "Isolation of Natural Fiber from Pine Needles." The event was inaugurated by Dr. Renu Singh, Director, FRI, who emphasized the importance of utilizing pine needles to mitigate forest fires in Uttarakhand. She highlighted that FRI has developed a simple, cost-effective, and eco-friendly technology for fiber extraction from pine needles, which holds significant potential for livelihood generation. She urged participants to learn and promote this technology in their respective forest areas to benefit forest dwellers and local communities.

Dr. V.K. Varshney, Head, C&BP Division, welcomed the participants, while Dr. Vineet Kumar, Scientist-G and Training Coordinator, provided an overview of the program. The training saw participation from 30 individuals, including forest officials from Mussoorie, Upper Yamuna, Barkot, and Uttarkashi forest divisions, along with village sarpanches and local community members.

Dr. Vineet Kumar, along with Shri Sushil Bhattarai and the C&BP team, conducted a hands-on session demonstrating fiber extraction from pine needles. They explained that the fiber can be spun into handloom fabrics and crafted into products like jackets, purses, curtains, lampshades, mats, carpets, and ropes. The technology, being easily replicable in remote areas, offers a viable means of self-employment in the handicraft and handloom sectors.

Participants expressed their enthusiasm and willingness to extend this technology to their communities, aiming to promote sustainable utilization of pine needles while generating income opportunities.

