

Exposure Visit Report

at

ICAR–National Institute of Natural Fibre Engineering and Technology

12 Regent Park, Kolkata-700 040

The Department of Silpa-Sadana, Visva-Bharati (A Central University), Sriniketan, is very much grateful to the Director, ICAR-NINFET, Kolkata, for providing permission and extending cooperation during the visit to ICAR-NINFET, Kolkata, on 24 August 2026.

This exposure visit provides the students with practical experience with dyeing machinery and other developments in natural fibres. The visit aimed to bridge



the gap between classroom learning and research activities and to familiarise students with modern, sustainable practices related to natural fibres. The visit began with an introductory session with Dr D. P. Ray, Head, Chemical and Biochemical Processing Division and the In-Charge, HRD Cell, NINFET, in which the students were briefed on the institute, its research activities, and its contributions to natural fibre engineering and technology. Dr Sanjoy Debnath, Head, Mechanical Processing Division; Dr K.K. Samanta, Senior Scientist; and Dr S. Basak, Senior Scientist, also addressed the students on the institute's activities and achievements. Ms Jayeeta Chaudhury, Technical Assistant, HRD, gave the formal vote of thanks and guided students to different departments and laboratories during the visit.



During the visit, the students were taken through relevant departments, laboratories and facilities offered by NINFET. In the dyeing section, students had the opportunity to visualise dyeing machinery such as a



soft flow dyeing machine, a hank dyeing machine, and a jigger, as well as fabric drying and curing. It was a valuable experience to see those machines in running conditions. Students were then introduced to handmade paper-making processes and the composite unit.



Sanitary napkin production and digital printing were the two most innovative areas covered during this visit. Students were also introduced to different stages of jute fibre processing, powerloom, etc. The interaction with the scientists and technical staff provided valuable insights into current research areas and opportunities for innovation in natural fibre-based materials. Particular emphasis was placed on sustainable technologies and



the development of value-added products, such as leather substitutes from various natural and renewable resources.



The exposure visit was highly informative and helped the students relate theoretical knowledge to practical industrial applications. Students also understand the importance of sustainable, renewable textile materials and become aware of research opportunities in natural fibres. The exposure visit to NINFET in Kolkata on 24 August 2026 was an enriching and educational experience that successfully fulfilled its objectives and served as an important component of experiential learning. The knowledge and experience gained during the visit are expected to motivate students to pursue further academic and research activities in natural fibres, sustainable textiles, and value-added textile products. After the exposure visit, students and faculty reached Bolpur-Santiniketan safely on the same day.

