

A report on webinar conducted
on
“Wood and bamboo polymer composite”
4thFebruary 2022

AzadiKaAmritMahotsav is an initiative of the Government of India to celebrate and commemorate 75 years of Independence of progressive India and the glorious history of its people, culture and achievements. Hon’ble Prime Minister of India, Sri.NarendraModi inaugurated ‘AzadiKaAmritMahotsav’ celebration by flagging off ‘Dandi March’ from Sabarmati Ashram, Ahmedabad on 12 March 2021, 75 weeks before our 75th anniversary of Independence and will end past a year on 15th August 2023.

As part of this celebration, ICFRE is conducting various programs like technical series, workshops, exhibitions, documentary shows, poster and essay competitions, cycle rallies etc. As part of Week 44 to 56 celebration of Bharat KaAmrutMahotsav, the Institute conducted a webinar on Sandalwood based agroforestry models (**“Wood and bamboo polymer composite”**) on **4 February 2022**.

The webinar started with a welcome address by Mr. Ritesh Kumar, Scientist, Wood Processing Division, IWST Bangalore, followed by inaugural address by Dr. M. P. Singh, IFS, Director, IWST, Bangalore. Director, IWST emphasized that wood polymer composite (WPC) is a crucial and potential engineering wood product which is extensively employed in the fields of landscape, automobiles and transportation, municipal engineering and building construction and therefore, it is very important to develop suitable standards which will ensure the quality of product and for benefits of consumer.

This was followed by a presentation by Dr.PrakeshHadimani, Chief of Application Development Center, M/s STEER Engineering Pvt ltd, Bangalore on “Innovative fractional geometry technology for natural composite”. The presentation made by STEER Engineering representative was greatly appreciated by participants as fractional geometry technology

provided solution for burning or charring of fibre, uniform mixing and melting of polymer matrix with natural fibers, no requirement for preheating the system etc. He proved the importance of new fractional geometry technology for natural composite by presenting several case studies.

Mr. I. B Rathod, CEO and founder of M/s Cypruss Agency Pvt.Ltd, Mumbai, India in his presentation shared his experience on manufacturing of environment friendly products from recycled polymer waste and generating value out of waste. In his presentation he depicted how the food grade packaging waste (tooth paste tube, face cream tubes, juice, milk, oil etc. packs), are collected, sorted out and shredded for preparing high quality products which are even used in coaches of Indian railways.

The next presenter was Mr. MahadevChikkanna, CEO, and founder of Spectrus Informatics Pvt Ltd. Mr. MahadevChikkanna, whomade a presentation on ‘Wood Polymer Composite- Supporting India’s ambition for carbon neutrality’. In his presentation he showed the benefits of incorporating naturalfibers along with polymers from the point of view of environment friendliness. The result of his study showed the CO₂ benefits of using biomass to replace plastic part in WPC.



The last presentation of the day was from Dr.Mohammad Jawaid, Professor, Biocomposite Laboratory, Institute of Tropical Forestry and Forest Product, Universiti Putra Malaysia on “Sustainable natural fiber based bio-composite for packaging applications”. The fully biodegradable packaging product developed by them was appreciated by everyone.

Dr. S. S. Chauhan, Director IPIRTI shared his thoughts on future research areas in the field of WPC. The final remarks were made by Director IWST. The programme ended with vote of thanks by Mr. Ritesh Kumar, Scientist, Wood Processing Division, IWSTBangalore.

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Anand Raj	Anil Sethy	Arjun	Atul Kumar	Bill Nelson Paul
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KK	Lohith	Manohar P	N Chandrashekar	Neil Baptist
Nihal Basheer MC	Premal Betal	Raghavendra Jayaram	RITESH	Sanmitra Dan

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Speaking: Dr Prakash

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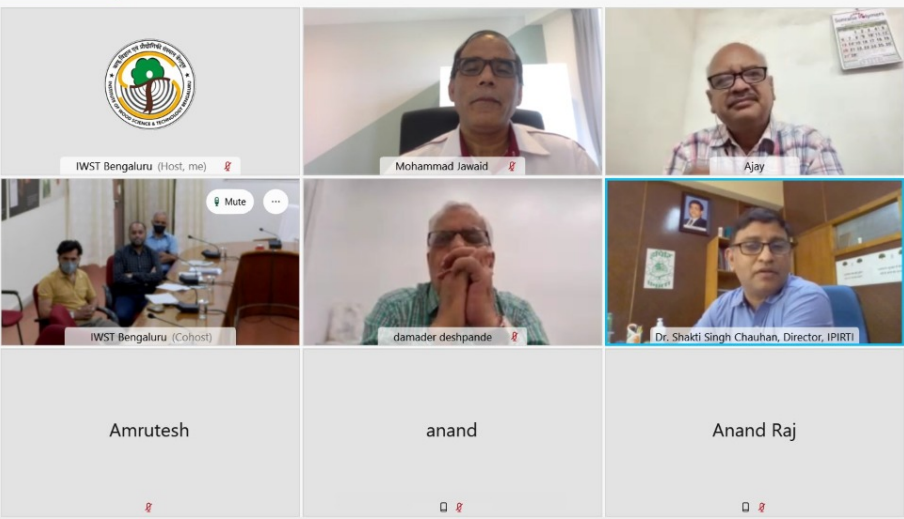
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Speaking: Dr. Shakti Singh Chauhan, Director, IPIRTI



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