

CSIR in Media



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CSIR-CSIO

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INNOVATION - CSIO develops system to correct postural imbalance

Shimona Kanwar

Chandigarh:

The sensory organs deteriorate with age due to imbalance in postures. Elderly and those who have suffered stroke are dependent on doctors for their assessment during treatment. In an attempt to empower such patient, the Central Scientific Instruments Organisation, (CSIO) has developed a system that will mitigate the postural diseases in humans. The gadget provides a bio-feedback along with audio and vibratory signals to the user for correcting the postural stability.

“The patient can stand on a platform and view real time images on a projector screen. This enables them to watch their movements. If his body movements are inclined to one or the other side resulting in an imbalance, the patient can correct the posture,” said Neelesh Kumar, principal scientist at CSIO who has developed the system. The technology was transferred to Oceanic Fitness and Ac

Translational (FTT) program of Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR). Postural stability assessment is an important issue that has widespread medical and therapeutic applications. Typically, the developed system is used to measure the weight distribution of body and its central pressure points which govern the stability and balance. “This is the first indigenous product which will not only help adults but also tune children who cannot balance while walking. For instance, if a child starts walking on toes there will be visuals and sounds that will tell him to correct the posture,” said Kumar.

The scientists in CSIO also claim that besides benefiting the society in general, this system will also help those requiring rehabilitation in the armed forces. “We have conducted trials on stroke patients in the PGIMER and found the system to be beneficial,” said Kumar.

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मधुमेह रोगियों की थाली दूर करेगी बीमारी

नई दिल्ली। अब भोजन सिर्फ पेट भरने के लिए नहीं होगा। जल्द लोगों को थाली में ऐसा भोजन मिल सकेगा, जो पेट भरने के साथ बीमारियों से भी बचाएगा। यह मोदी सरकार के जल्द आने वाले 'फूड एज मेडिसिन' मिशन के तहत होगा। बताया जा रहा है कि अभी इसकी रूपरेखा तैयार की जा रही है, जिसका मकसद लोगों की थाली में ऐसे खाद्यान्न पहुंचाना है, जो बीमारियों से भी बचाए। बीजीआर-34 जैसे मधुमेह रोधी आयुर्वेदिक फॉर्मूले और भारतीय मसाले इस कार्यक्रम का अहम हिस्सा बनेंगे।

वैज्ञानिक एवं औद्योगिक अनुसंधान परिषद के एक अधिकारी ने बताया कि मसालों में भी औषधीय गुण हैं, लेकिन उनका सही इस्तेमाल नहीं होने से लोगों को इनका उचित फायदा नहीं मिल पा रहा है। मसालों का अध्ययन कर उनके गुणों को चिह्नित किया जाएगा तथा उनकी मात्रा तय होगी। जैसे लहसुन में मौजूद एलिसिन नामक तत्व हाई ब्लड प्रेशर सामान्य करने में मददगार है। ब्यूरो

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Ukhand, IIP to extract turpentine oil from dry pine leaves

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The Uttarakhand government and the Indian Institute of Petroleum (IIP) will work together to extract turpentine oil and bio-fuel from dry pine leaves, which are considered to be the main cause of forest fires in the state during summers. The state government and IIP agreed in principle to collaborate on the project at a meeting chaired by Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat here today, an official release said.

An MoU will soon be signed between the two sides to extract turpentine oil from dry pine leaves and make bio-fuel out of its waste. Dry pine leaves collection centres will be set up in eight hilly districts of the state -- Almora, Chamoli, Nainital, Pauri, Rudrapur, Pithoragarh, Tehri and Uttarkashi. Those who collect dry pine leaves will also get incentives, it added.

Terming the project as a step towards extracting the "best out of waste", the Chief Minister said it will save pine forests from catching fire during summer besides conserving Uttarakhand's rich flora and fauna. "In the preliminary stage 40 tonnes of dry pine leaves will be required for the purpose on a daily basis which will be bought from villages and panchayats. It will generate revenue for the state government and employment opportunities for the locals. "An oil extraction plant is proposed to be built in Sheshambada for the purpose," the release added.

Published in:

[Business Standard](#)

Also published in:

[India Today](#)

Cahew nut farmers seek value realisation

CSIR-CFTRI

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The demand for cashew nuts is on the rise in the country

With the rise in demand for better quality and more variety of cashew products, farmers and young entrepreneurs are expressing an interest in enhancing the unit value realisation. Horticulture departments of various State governments were in touch with the Mysuru-based Central Food Technological Research Institute (CFTRI) to organise customised farmer-centric training programmes for shorter durations. The institute has already geared up to meet the demands on a continual basis. With the support from Maharashtra State Industry

Department, CSIR-CFTRI had organised a three-day workshop under a framework of cluster development and farmer-centric workshops at the institute. The participants included farmers from Maharashtra.

The workshop focused mainly on value-added products from cashew nuts, packaging requirements, cashew apple juice, regulatory and safety issues. A series of similar cluster development programmes have been lined up to empower farmers and producer companies.

Maharashtra is one of the major States in the country producing cashew crop by cultivating it on 1.81 lakh hectares. Currently, around one lakh farmers are involved in the production, processing and marketing of cashew in the Konkan region, a release stated here. A majority of these are marginal farmers and they are supplying raw cashew nuts to the market. Middlemen exploit them with meagre value realisation for their produce. However, the demand for cashew nuts is on the rise and the country has realised ₹5,600 crore worth export of cashew

nuts and allied products in last year, the release added. Prof. Ram Rajasekharan, director, CFTRI, distributed certificates to the participants of the programme.

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Nuziveedu Seeds develops gene to resist bollworm in Bt cotton

CSIR-NBRI

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Menace The dreaded pink bollworm

The company hopes to get regulatory approvals in 2 years

In a major breakthrough in pest control research, Hyderabad-based Nuziveedu Seeds Ltd (NSL) seems to have found an answer to the dreaded pink bollworm, which continues to infest Bt cotton year after year. The company has developed an alternative trait to tackle the bollworm, which developed resistance to Bt cotton in single-gene traits in 2008-09, and to two-gene traits in 2015. Researchers at NSL, India's largest seed company, claim to have developed a new trait by combining two

existing genes. "We have tested the gene at the laboratory and found it to be successful in resisting bollworm attacks. The breeding of the gene is being conducted at our Hyderabad facility," NSL Chairman and Managing Director M Prabhakar Rao told *BusinessLine*. NSL has already filed an application on the new finding with the Review Committee on Genetic Modification (RCGM), set up under the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology. It is also preparing to file an application with the biotech regulator, Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC), a statutory body set up under the Environment Protection Act, said Rao, who is also the president of the National Seeds Association of India. According to government statistics, cotton is grown on 10.5-12.5 million hectares across 11 major States — Maharashtra, Gujarat, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Punjab, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Odisha and Tami Nadu. In case there is a of bollworm attack, a farmer

has to shell out about ₹2,000 per hectare for pest control. In the last cotton season, the pest caused a crop loss of 25-30 per cent.

Combining genes“We have combined Cry1AC with Cry1EC of the National Botanical Research Institute, to achieve this success. This trait is showing good results in bioassays conducted in our labs and we hope to get regulatory approvals in two years,” said Sateesh Kumar, Director-Research at NSL. Cry1Ac and Cry1EC, developed by NBRI, are endotoxins acting as insecticides.

“We hope to bring it to the market within two years of getting regulatory approvals,” added Rao.

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After Indira Canteen, Karnataka Now Set to Launch Women-Run Mobile Canteens

CSIR-CFTRI

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The canteens will function in all district headquarters and based on their success, they will be introduced in taluks too.

Shankar, the chairperson of KSWDC, said during a press meet, reports The Hindu. Each district will have a women federation of 20 taluk women self-help groups, and each federation will get a soft loan of ₹10 lakh by the Karnataka State Finance Corporation.

The loans will be given at 4% interest, and the interest component is being subsidized as well.

The money will be used for utensils, working capital and a specifically-designed vehicle, the publication reported. The women will get training on the management, preparation, health and hygiene of the mobile canteens by the CSIR-Central Food Technological Research Institute (CFTRI) in Mysuru “The idea is to ensure that the federation will run the business effectively and also sustain in the competitive market,” Bharathi was quoted as saying. The food menu and the prices have not yet been announced for the mobile canteens.

A month after Indira canteens launched in the state, the Karnataka State Women’s Development Corporation (KSWDC) is now set to introduce Indira Saviruchi Kaituthu mobile canteens. These will be launched in all district headquarters of Karnataka on November 1, which is also the state formation day. The staff that will run the canteen will comprise women only. “This is an ambitious project of the Congress government in empowering women in a systematic way. To begin with, the canteens will function in all district headquarters. Based on the success, it will be introduced in taluks too,” Bharathi

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