CLEAN EXTRACTION OF BANANA FIBRE FROM PSEUDO STEM AND EMPTY BUNCHES

BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

There is a good demand for the banana fibre, which is used in making a wide range of goods as cordage, yarns, paper and paper cups, tea cups and tea bags, attractively patterned cloth, hand-bags/purses and shoes. Traditionally the patu sari was also made from banana fibre, but it is discontinued now. The most difficult part of this business today is the extraction of the fibre both manual and mechanical.

SALIENT FEATURES:

- It is an anaerobic process mediated through microbial action and completed in 6 days of water soaking.
- The in-situ production of enzymes is responsible for the separation of the fibres, which is in turn facilitated in the system by circulating liquid from an anaerobic reactor treating fibreless wastes and juice of the pseudo stem.
- In this treatment the organic wastes are converted to biogas and pollution free.
- The process water is used repeatedly.
- The fibre obtained from anaerobic processing of banana pseudo stem and bunches is brilliant white, has little pith residues.

ADVANTAGES:

- Simple method to produce banana fibres
- Obtains good quality fibres
- Inexpensive
- Pollution free
- Zero damage or loss of fibres
- Biogas generated and collected
- Higher earnings to farmers
- Means of new employment

