

**“Society for Development of Human Resources and Allied Activities  
(SHRADDHA)”,  
a non-profit trust working for welfare of the handloom weavers**

On the request of Dr Sanjay Kumar Panda, IAS(Retd) former Secretary Ministry of Textiles, an handloom enthusiast, and President of **“Society for Development of Human Resources and allied Activities (SHRADDHA)”**, a non-profit trust working for welfare of the handloom weavers, Weavers Service Centre, Bhubaneswar, organized a training program on **“VAT Dye at Room Temperature using Enzymes”** for the handloom weavers in the Maniaband Village, Nuapatna cluster in Cuttack District on the 7<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

Shri Surendra Patra, Deputy Director Weaver Service Centre (Retired) demonstrated the new technique. Sh. B.B Paul Ex-Director (North Zone), Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India, Sh. B.R Das- Ex-Manager, NHDC and Sh. Parwez Alam – Design Lead, Antaran, Tata Trusts were present and participated in the discussion. 16 nos. of weavers from the, Dist. Cuttack, Odisha attended the program. “Society for Development of Human Resources and Allied Activities (SHRADDHA)”, a non-profit trust working for welfare of the handloom weavers provided the logistic support for the programme.

**“VAT Dye at Room Temperature using Enzymes”- The process and benefits of**  
Dyeing of silk and cotton yarn using Vat Dyes is generally done by the handloom weavers at 40-50 degree Celsius. Caustic soda is used in this process at above body temperature, which affect the skin of the dyer. A new technique for VAT dyeing at room temperature was developed by Sh. Surendra Patra (Ex-Dy Dir. WSC BBSR with help of Dr. Ashok (Biologist). This new techniques has the following advantages

- i. Yarn is dyed at room temperature. As no heating is required, cost of fuel is saved.
- ii. Colour fastness is good.
- iii. There is no hazard to the skin of the dyer.
- iv. Less expenditure.

The training got very enthusiastic response form the trainees. Based on this, it is proposed to organize more such short term training programs ( three days duration) in the traditional handloom clusters of Odisha as an innovative intervention from the Weaver Service Centre Bhubaneswar.

**Glimpses of the training program on “VAT Dye at Room Temperature using Enzymes”**









