

Streamlining paper bag making -THE HINDU.NOV.6,2007.

Staff Reporter

KOZHIKODE: The Gandhi Centre for Rural Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, the Gandhi Peace Foundation Trust, Kozhikode, and the Malankara Social Service Society launched a two-day training programme in paper bag-making at the Gandhi Griham here on Monday as part of measures to systematise the production of paper bags, to provide quality products and provide training in view of the plastic ban in the State.

Exhibition

An exhibition on the efficacy of paper bag production as a self-employment activity and showcasing different varieties of Swadeshi bags is also being held at the venue.

Jacob Pulickan, director, Gandhi Centre for Rural Studies, said the programme was part of a State-level 'Anti-plastic carry bag' campaign and the exhibition was being held for the first time in the State.

Standardising costs

It was also an attempt to standardise the cost of the bags and provide the paper at a reasonable cost.

Father Wilson Thattarethandil, director, Malankara Social Service Centre, inaugurated the training programme and exhibition.

V.K. Balakrishnan Nair, general secretary, Gandhi Peace Foundation Trust, presided.

C.K. Viniraj, Prashanth Joseph, A.R. Shafiq, trainers, explained the details of the manufacturing process.

The exhibition highlights that paper bag making is not viable when machines are used as operations such as folding, pasting, and pressing can be done only manually.

The cost of the machinery is also high.

As many as eight types of paper bags such as newspaper, fancy paper, brown paper, cloth pasted, wall paper, laminated and wax-coated paper are being exhibited.

The training is being given to 100-odd persons who in turn will impart the skills to more people.

The programme has already been completed in Wayanad and as many as 1,000 persons were trained in Thiruvananthapuram, it was added.

A five-day training in Swadeshi soap manufacture will be held from Wednesday to Saturday.