

The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has initiated a networking project entitled “Development of sustainable processes for edible oils with health benefits from traditional and new resources (PEOPLE HOPE) during 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan, and CSIR-Indian Institute of Chemical Technology(IICT), Hyderabad, a constituent laboratory of CSIR, located at Uppal Road, Tarnaka, Hyderabad - 500 007, AP, India is a nodal agency for this project. The project is aimed to screen lesser known and unknown oilseeds of forest and non forest region for exploiting for both edible and non-edible applications. Accordingly IICT has been in search of such lesser known or unknown oil seeds.

**RCDC on the other hand is interested to see the development of indigenous oil seeds, particularly those in the wild, because of a multi-faceted focus on non-timber forest products; and the objective of RCDC is to facilitate the best use of the natural properties of as well as the indigenous knowledge about these oil seeds not only for the good health of the humanity but also for the livelihood promotion of the concerned primary producers. As such RCDC has been interested to promote the lesser known or otherwise unknown oil seeds.**

Now IICT has signed an MoU with RCDC for necessary intellectual collaboration in this matter. Both parties are looking forward to some breakthrough discovery for the larger benefit of the humanity in general and for the livelihood enhancement of the primary producers/collectors in particular with sustainability in mind.