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**Solar Drying 2011**

Date: Oct.. 24<sup>th</sup> – 29.Octo. 1st( Monday – Saturday)

Time : 9am - 5pm

Registration fee Rs. 500,- paid by D.D/M.O. addressed to the , Director, Mithradham ( by crossed chq. Rs. 550/-)

Total course fee Rs. 6.000,- includes course material, lunch and refreshments. Course fee may be paid at the time of joining the programme.

Lodging with breakfast/dinner Rs. 1.200/day for single room, Rs. 1.500/day for double room

Only 20 participants are admitted for the training programme and admission is on first come first serve basis.

Along Aluva-Perumbavoor private bus route is the Chunangamveli bus stop. 2 kms north of the bus stop is Mithradham. ( Autos are available at Chunangamveli)



**Address for Communication**

Renewable Energy Centre, Mithradham  
Chunangamveli, Aluva, Kochi- 683 105, Kerala, India  
Director  
Prof. Dr. George Peter Pittappillil CMI

Ph: (0484) 28 39 185, Fax: (0484) 28 38 441  
E-mail: [mithram1@satyam.net.in](mailto:mithram1@satyam.net.in)  
Web : [www.mithradham.org](http://www.mithradham.org)

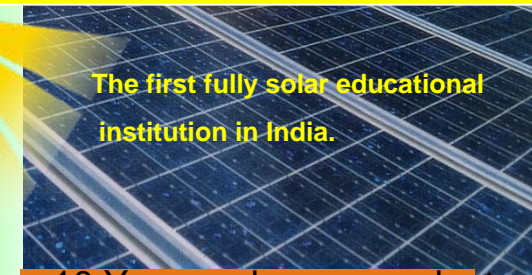
Project coordination in Germany  
Society for the Promotion of  
Development Oriented Projects (VEV)  
Selmaweg 12, 70327 Stuttgart, Germany  
President  
Mrs. Rosemarie Zaiser



Ph: (0049) 711-33 57 69  
Fax: (0049) 711-304 1078  
E-mail: [VEVStuttgart@aol.com](mailto:VEVStuttgart@aol.com)



Renewable Energy Centre



The first fully solar educational institution in India.

10 Years solar power plant



24.10. – 29.10.2011

International Training  
Solar Drying  
Processing

## SOLAR DRYING AND PROCESSING

For thousands of years people have sundried fruit and vegetables to preserve for leaner times. But open sun drying is not recommended for consumable in modern times due to the enormous pollutants present in the atmosphere. Although drying in closed chambers using non renewable heating sources is an option the ensuing environment pollution and cost of drying is often too high. The increasing demand for healthy, low-cost natural foods and the need for sustainable income, are bringing solar drying to the fore as a useful alternative for surplus products. A lot of research and development has gone into solar drying in recent past especially with the increase in price of the fossil fuels. Today solar drying is a very attractive technology for agriculture economies, especially developing ones which lie in the tropical and subtropical regions. Hybrid drying making partial use of solar energy is also a viable option.

Conservation of products by appropriate technology is the key to successful enterprise. Seasonal surplus due to harvest can not be traded and on the regional markets the prices persist at low level. As an alternative the processing of dried products of high quality present itself. Harvest turns into storable and tradable goods for a long term. Expenditure on transportation decreases whereas benefit from additional processing remains at the producer. Stored goods are a regular source of income and diminish the dependence on seasonal harvest. Hygienic processing is the prerequisite for the production of high quality products.

## TRAINING PROGRAMME IN MITHRADHAM

Renewable energy centre Mithradham is the first fully solar educational institution in India dedicated to the promotion of Renewable Energy, especially solar energy in India. Mithradham offers training programmes in solar drying technology with international experts for the last ten years. The Centre has a solar drying centre consisting of a solar tunnel dryer and a cabinet dryer.

A one week training programme in solar drying is conducted by Dr. Albert Esper who is the co-inventor of solar tunnel dryer typ Hohenheim and the CEO of Innotech Company, Germany. Innotech is the worldwide leader in solar drying technology. The Innotech team consists of internationally well recognized engineers who give worldwide training and consultancy. It has modern development and research facilities manufacturing plant and HACCP certified consultation services. Innotech provides approved system solutions regarding consultancy, technology, process design, quality management and quality assurance for small and medium sized food processing industry, spices, cosmetics and pharmaceutical enterprises as well as farms. Consultancy services are also offered by prior appointment with the expert during the training programme.

A certificate will be issued at the end of the training programme. The following are the areas of theoretical and practical training.

- Pre -drying Processing, Solar Drying
- After-drying Processing, Packing- storage
- Marketing of High Quality Products - Quality aspects
- Organic Certification for international market



Dr. Albert Esper explains solar tunnel dryer



Solar drying of spices- nut meg and pathiri