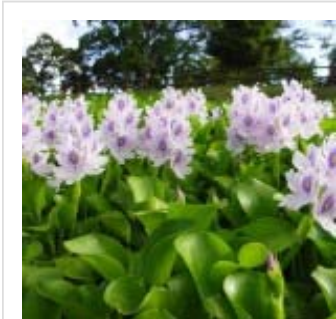


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## Water Hyacinth products to boost Assam economy



Pani Meteka

By- Staff Reporter | Date- March 29, 2011

Water Hyacinth, also known as Pani-Meteka or Meteka in Assam is a common abundance seen in almost every river body of the state, - right from big lakes to small aquatic plant was considered only as a waste and was either cleared up or Eastern Development Finance Corporation has changed not only the opinion of bringing in a huge economic market in the form of Eco-friendly products designed

The project which has already trained more than 200 people, mostly aspirants from Pradesh and Tripura took a boost in December 2010 with a group of 25 artists from various centers of the world, the National Institute of Design (NID), Ahmadabad. Designers were exclusively trained in modern concepts of world class shape and design, products made from Water Hyacinth or Pani Meteka showcased in a recent Gallery-cum-Demonstration as well as at par with the world class designs. The first set of such designs included varieties of bags, baskets, designer jewelry, which are expected to gain popularity very soon.

If things go well, the long neglected plant could very well become an economic blessing as a booming industry producing quality manure for agriculture. The country's second National Institute of Design (NID) now coming up with products from nature and ecology, abundant in Assam which can become a boon for the region's development should not go away from the indigenous to the wrong hands of the Indian business class, as seen in several instances

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