

ICAR-CIARI Secures Design Registration for 'Dweep Nicobari Aloo Peeler'



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The ICAR–Central Island Agricultural Research Institute (ICAR–CIARI) has secured a design registration from the Patent Office, Government of India for its innovative, farmer-friendly tool — the “Dweep Nicobari Aloo Peeler.”

Developed to address challenges faced by farmers in the islands, the tool is designed for efficient peeling of *Dioscorea alata*, locally known as Nicobari Aloo. The crop is widely cultivated across the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, particularly by tribal communities and local settlers, who often struggle with manually removing its tough outer skin.

According to ICAR–CIARI, the newly developed peeler enables quick and efficient removal of the skin without damaging the edible fleshy portion. The innovation is expected to significantly reduce drudgery, save time, and improve processing efficiency, while also supporting value addition for the crop.

The technology was developed by a scientific team comprising Dr. I. Jaisankar, Principal Scientist; Dr. T. Subramani, Principal Scientist; and Dr. E. B. Chakurkar.

Officials said the innovation is a step towards promoting region-specific agricultural technologies aimed at improving livelihoods and supporting sustainable farming practices in the islands.