The textile industry has been facing innumerable challenges, which have intensified during the past decade. There has been a growing awareness of the ecological implications in chemical processing and dyeing of textiles. This has been coupled with increased strict legislation on industrial effluents and has thus led to the search for non-polluting processes and the use of natural products.

Use of natural dyes and fibres to some extent can solve environment problem. Natural dyes serve dual purposes of catering to fashion trends as well as being environmentally friendly. These dyes cannot completely replace synthetic dyes but to some extent can be used in order to reduce environmental pollution (Gulrajani and Gupta, 1992).

In India, the use of natural dyeing and printing goes to the pre-historic periods. Natural dyes comprise those colorants (pigments and dyes) that are obtained from animals or vegetable matter without chemical processing. They are mainly mordant dyes, although some vat, solvent, pigment, direct and acid types are also known.

In the present era of natural and eco-friendly products, jute is the right choice as it is eco-friendly, biodegradable and helps to protect the environment. The growth potential and the growing popularity of jute in the domestic and international market is indisputable and this is expected to offer jute a unique opportunity for acceptance in market as a textile material.

Any fabric would appear very dull if it is not ornamented. Various ornamentations are done in textile designing, among these dyeing and printing are important one. Finishing is given to fibre, yarn or fabric either before or after weaving or knitting to change the appearance, the handle and performance. A finish adds minimally to the cost of the textile material and results in a much greater value addition.

Hence, the present study aims at dyeing of jute with eco-friendly dyes.

ABSTRACT: The present study deals with jute fabric, which is considered to be the next eco-friendly fabric of the future. The only drawback of jute is that it is a harsh feel fabric because of which it is many times not able to compete with other natural fabrics. In this study, jute was dyed with turmeric and majeetha using two different application methods direct and mordant. The samples were evaluated for colour fastness. Micro-amino silicon was used in one step dyeing-finishing with turmeric and majeetha dyes. The samples were evaluated for colour fastness. Yellow colour was obtained by turmeric and bisque with majeetha. Best results were obtained by majeetha by using both the dyeing methods; direct and mordant. Turmeric showed poor results in washing fastness and wet ironing fastness. Dyeing-finishing of jute with micro-amino silicon and dyeing with turmeric and majeetha have also resulted in appreciable results. Jute was dyed finished in bright yellow colour with a complex of micro-amino silicon and turmeric extract was dyed in bisque colour with a complex of micro-amino silicone and majeetha. Appreciable colour fastness results were also obtained. Thus, results are improving smoothness of jute along with saving of important recourses like time, labour and energy.

KEY WORDS: Durrie, Jute, Fabric, Dyes