

EXPOSURE VISIT OF BAMBOO MASTERCRAFTSPERSONS UNDER BAMBOO TECHNICAL SUPPORT GROUP OF INDIAN COUNCIL OF FORESTRY RESEARCH AND EDUCATION (BTSG- ICFRE)

Exposure of mastercraftspersons was carried out by BTSG-ICFRE with support from National Agroforestry and Bamboo Mission (NABM). The exposure visit of 06 Bamboo mastercraftspersons from Uttarakhand and one BTSG-ICFRE consultant Sh. A.D. Dobhal organized from 1st to 11th December, 2015.

1. Visit to National Institute of Design (NID), Ahmadabad (Gujarat):

The first visit was made at National Institute of Design (NID) at Ahmadabad on 2.12.2015. Project Coordinator, Out Reach programme Sh. Rajan Christopher explained about various activities of the Institute. The team was taken to the various sections of craft Designs including Bamboo, International center for craft development and NIDUS the design shop. Sh. Amresh Panigrahi, faculty of life style accessory, PG campus Gandhi Nagar made a detailed presentation on Bamboo products. New designs of bamboo mirror, play products, hangers, planter cover, toilet accessory, wine bottle stand, baskets, lamps, octopus lamp were shown to the artisans. Sh. Parveen Solanki, Faculty of furniture design, NID discussed about new designs of Bamboo furniture, partitions, metal and bamboo chairs, swing, sofa, bamboo cycle etc. He also discussed about contemporary bamboo designs, bamboo drinking straws, bamboo fabric (Tea shirts in Korea), and bamboo splits, mat board etc. The Uttarakhand bamboo artisans also displayed their products. One day was exclusively for workshop on bamboo products at bamboo initiative centre. The Uttarakhand artisans prepared the products like table lamps, flower vase etc. with the raw materials they have brought with them. Interactions of artisans were made with Sh. Subrota Sarkar, mastercraftsman of bamboo from Tripura. The team from Uttarakhand also gave the detail presentation of their products. The team of artisans and BTSG expert had a discussion with chairperson, Outreach programmes of NID Smt. Shimul Mehta Vyas. She advised them to prepare products as per taste of the consumers. She showed the bamboo products made in African countries.

2. Visit to Centre for Indian Bamboo Resource & Technology (CIBART), Vyara Distt. Tapi (Gujarat)

After the visit of NID the second visit was of 'Centre for Indian Bamboo Resource & Technology' (CIBART) at Vyara distt. Tapi Gujarat. Bamboo production centre was visited at Bansda in Navsari district of Gujarat. Under vibrant Gujarat project Bamboo fencing, huts, bamboo furniture and other bamboo products were being prepared. Various machines like bamboo knot removing and treatment plant were installed in Bansda factory. On opposite side of Bansda, Visited Ukai in Tapi district of Gujarat where CIBART has Bamboo nurseries. Bamboo cluster in rural areas was very helpful to the visiting mastercraftspersons.

3. Visit to Konkan Bamboo & Cane Development Centre (KONBAC), Kudal (Maharashtra)

After the visit of CIBART, the third visit was made to ‘Konkan Bamboo & Cane Development Centre’ (KONBAC) in Kudal of Maharashtra. The activities of KONBAC are divided into three parts 1. Bamboo handicrafts 2. Bamboo furniture 3. Bamboo Construction

Good quality Bamboo Board furniture costing upto Rs. 1.50 lakhs was being prepared. Bamboo Houses of 8.0 lakhs, Gazebo of Rs.60, 000/- to Rs.2.50 Lakhs depending on size. Bamboo Cottages and villa of Rs.45 Lakhs. Bamboo Board almirah was of the range of Rs.48, 000/- The team also visited Bamboo Common facility Centre (CFC) Under MHIDC at Kudal, where all machines are installed. Small bamboo utility and decorative items are also being manufactured by KONBAC.

The exposure tour was very much beneficial for bamboo mastercraftspersons, who are from backward interior hilly areas of Uttarakhand. They have got new designs and exposure about new markets so they will make marketable products, use improve tools and technology. They got idea about costing, finishing and packaging of their products. They will also give training in ICFRE institutes to other bamboo artisans. The exposure visit will be helpful in their future livelihood.







