

RFRI CONDUCTS TRAINING ON BAMBOO RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT FOR ADDRESSING LIVELIHOOD CONCERNS OF COMMUNITIES

Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat (Assam) organized a three-day training programme on “Training on Bamboo Resource Development for Addressing Livelihood Concerns of Communities” sponsored by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India from 29-31 October, 2019 at Forest Research Centre for Bamboo and Rattan, Bethlehem, Aizawl (Mizoram). The training was organized for the state of Mizoram. A total of 30 participants from different sectors such as Govt. Departments, University, Colleges, NGO, Entrepreneur, Students, Artisan, Handicraft, etc participated in the training programme.

Shri R. K. Kalita, Course Director & Scientist E, RFRI, Jorhat welcomed the participants and other dignitaries. He informed about content of the training programme.

The Training was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Pu Liandawla, IFS, PCCF and Chief Wildlife Warden, Government of Mizoram, and addressed the gathering.

Pu Vanlalfala, Conservator of Forests, Government of Mizoram was present in the Inaugural Session as Guest of Honour and spoke on the occasion.

Pu M. Z. Singson, Deputy Conservator of Forests (HQ), Government of Mizoram spoke on the occasion and put emphasis on utilization of *Muli* bamboo for extraction of fibre.

DAY 1-TECHNICAL SESSIONS:

Shri R. K. Kalita, Scientist ‘E’, RFRI, Jorhat delivered first technical session on ‘Bamboo Resources of India vis-à-vis NE Region’. He explained the importance bamboo for the people of Mizoram in particular and NER in general. He mentioned about the vast bamboo resources on Mizoram and discussed about its utilization for common benefit. He spoke about current demand, supply, importance, global distribution etc of bamboo.

Dr. T. C. Bhuyan, Consultant, CBTC, Guwahati delivered his presentation on ‘Bamboo Propagation and Plantation Management’. Dr. Bhuyan mentioned the role of bamboo for social, cultural, economic, food security and various types of ecological applications such as soil stabilization, reclamation of land and environmental degradation etc. He mainly emphasized establishment and management of bamboo nursery and shared his experience on standardization of nursery techniques for propagation of commercially important bamboo species through culms and branch cuttings, selection of superior planting material, planting techniques for different bamboo

species, fertilization trials on bamboo plantation, improved harvest technology for crop management and productivity enhancement, and different bamboo based agroforestry intercropping.

In the post lunch session, trainee participants walked through Bamboo Trail of FRCBR and witnessed various activities of FRCBR on bamboo. Practical session of propagation methods was demonstrated. The session was conducted by Shri H. R. Borah and Sri Sandeep Yadav.

DAY 2- FIELD VISIT:

Day-long Field Visit was conducted at Lengpui area where the participants visited Bambusetum, developed by Mizoram Forest Department and also Common facility Centre. They also visited Bamboo Entrepreneurs. Shri H. R. Borah and Sri Sandeep Yadav guided the trainees.

DAY- 3: TECHNICAL SESSIONS:

Shri Priyam B. Goswami, Architect, Jorhat (Assam) delivered a presentation on ‘Bamboos in Structural Construction’. He described the traditional house making material of people under the rule of Ahom dynasty, when most of them were making with bamboo except the royal families. Presently, bamboo is considered as suitable construction material particularly for making houses, pavilions etc. He also cited the use of bamboo by Colombia, Germany etc. For example, he cited of bamboo architecture of low cost handmade bamboo house of Bangladesh. John Hardy, Australian designer in Bali is known for bamboo ornaments making and he started with ‘Green School’ in Bali which is a three storied structure made of Bamboo.

Photographs of prototype house construction in China, Vienna, and Expo were presented. He said that an architectural firm Penda is known for construction of modular houses for community purposes. Eco-village of Tengani made of Bamboo at Alisiga, Golaghat, Assam is a dream project by the Magnidus Design. Different house structures have been being made there to attract the tourist and promote livelihood to the people. School, weaving school, restaurant, fishing centre etc are made of bamboo. He said there is no code for structural constructions with bamboo, which is a problem.

Shri R. K. Kalita, Scientist E, RFRI delivered a presentation on ‘Bamboo Preservative Treatments’. He explained various causes of bamboo degradation and emphasized on treatment of bamboo. He explained various methods of bamboo preservation and chemicals used in treatment of bamboos.

Dr. T. C. Bhuyan, Consultant, CBTC, Guwahati delivered a presentation on ‘Bamboo Value Addition and Processing for Livelihood enhancement’. He explained the scope of entrepreneurship development, division of labour, profit sharing and market potential of bamboo and cane based industries. He emphasized on skill development, value addition, employment opportunities, role of sectoral industries with respect to bamboo and rattans. Development of Common Facility Centres,

local talent encouragement, product development as well superior plant selection for raw material generation were also discussed.

VALEDICTORY SESSION:

The Chief Guest of Valedictory Session was Shri Ajay Saxena, Principal Secretary (Forest), Government of Mizoram. Shri R. K. Kalita, Course Director welcomed the Chief Guest and apprised him in details about the training programme conducted for the state of Mizoram with the financial assistance of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India.

The Chief Guest gave a brief account on bamboo and its applications in the state of Mizoram. He explained about various programmes of the state government and appealed to all to take advantage of different opportunities provided by the government.

The trainee participants shared their thoughts and experiences received during this three-day training programme. They appreciated the effort of RFRI/FRCBR for sensitizing the people of Mizoram on bamboo for enhancing their livelihood. The participants received the Certificates from Chief Guest in the Valedictory Session.

Shri Sandeep Yadav, Scientist C, FRCBR, Aizawl offered vote of thanks.

Training on Bamboo Resource Development for addressing livelihood concerns Communities

GLIMPSES OF THE TRAINING PROGRAMME

INAUGURAL SESSION



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TECHNICAL SESSIONS



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BAMBOO TRAIL AND VISIT TO BAMBOO WORKSHOP



TECHNICAL SESSIONS



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DEMONSTRATION OF BAMBOO PRESERVATION TECHNIQUES



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VALEDICTORY SESSION



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