

KERALA BAMBOO FEST 2015

Post Show Report

Kerala State Bamboo Mission (KSBM) organized the 12th edition of ‘Kerala Bamboo Fest’ (Kerala Bamboo Fest 2015) at Marine Drive, Ernakulam from December 4 to 8, 2015.



The Fest was inaugurated by Prof. K.V. Thomas MP in the meeting presided over by Shri. Dominic Presentation MLA. Shri. C.P. John, Member, Kerala State Planning Board and Vice Chairman, Kerala State Bamboo Mission presented the Report on the ‘*Growth of Bamboo sector in the State through Kerala Bamboo Fests*’.





Shri. P.H. Kurian IAS, Principal Secretary (Industries & IT) delivered Special Address during the inaugural function ceremony of the Fest. On behalf of Kerala State Bamboo Mission, award was given to Padmashree Shankar G., Architect, Habitat for his outstanding contribution to Bamboo sector. Shri. P.M. Francis IAS, Director (Industries & Commerce) welcomed the gathering and Shri. V. Rajagopal, Chief Executive Officer, Kerala Bureau of Industrial Promotion (K-BIP) proposed Vote of Thanks during the function.



Shri. Bala Prasad IFS, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Manipur and Shri. H. Brajamani Sharma IFS, Member Secretary & State Mission Director, National Bamboo Mission, Manipur facilitated the function. Shri. R.S. Arun IFS, Deputy Conservator of Forests, Government of Manipur was also present for the function.



The Fest was organised as part of the exercise of marketing of Bamboo products made in the State. The Kerala Bamboo Fest 2015 showcased products such as Handicrafts, Furniture, Wood substitutes, Building construction & structural applications, Industrial products, Decorative & artistic products, Research & applications etc. Exhibition stalls were set up to display various products made from Bamboo, Reed, Rattan and Screw pine. Individual Artisans, Master craftsman, NGOs, SHGs, Micro & Small enterprises, Government controlled institutions etc. participated in the Fest.





The Forest & Wildlife Department had setup a Bamboo Hut, fully made with bamboo. They also displayed various forest produce in the stalls provided to Vana Samrekshana Samithi (VSS). Kerala State Bamboo Corporation (KSBC) had furnished their stall with bamboo products (bamboo flooring tiles, bamboo furniture's etc). Kerala Forest Research Institute (KFRI) displayed various bamboo plants, research documents, publications etc. pertaining to bamboo sector. Kerala State Handicrafts Apex Co-operative Society Ltd. (SURABHI) also displayed various handicraft product made out of Bamboo and natural fibers in the Fest. SC /ST Development Department participated in the Fest by showcasing various bamboo products manufactured by the Bamboo community.



The Bamboo Christmas Stars and Christmas Cribs made by various groups as part of the residential training programme held at Uravu Wayanad was displayed in the Bamboo Fest. Various species of Bamboo saplings / seedlings were also displayed by KFRI and M/s. Uravu, which was a huge attraction to the visitors. Separate area was provided for various food products being made out of Bamboo & bamboo rice. These include products like bamboo halwa, unniyappam, payasam etc., which were well appreciated by the visitors.



The Speciality of Kerala Bamboo Fest 2015 was the International participation from the Peoples Republic of China. Bamboo clock, Bamboo floor mats, Bamboo wall paper etc. were displayed in the International pavilion of the Fest.



In total 133 Nos. fully converted stalls were setup for the Event to display bamboo and related products. 142 Nos. Artisans / craftsmen / NGOs from Kerala had participated in the Event. Separate area was allocated to Bamboo / cane furniture manufacturers to display their products. Also 12 Nos. leading entrepreneurs from the State displayed their products in the Fest.

The Bamboo Fest was participated by 34 artisans / craftsmen / entrepreneurs from 6 Nos. States outside Kerala particularly from Chattisgarh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Assam, Tripura and Tamil Nadu.

The Kerala Bamboo Fest 2015 was also accompanied by various cultural programmes such as bamboo music, traditional bamboo dance, traditional bamboo art forms, flute etc. performed by people belonging to the bamboo community. The cultural programmes were conducted by Mr. Sivadas Chithrambari; M/s. Green Fibre (Karimpoli), Pathanamthitta; M/s. Polika group, Thrissur and M/s. Vayali Folkore Group, Thrissur.



The Bamboo Fest over the years has been a big success. The Bamboo Fest mainly aims at creating a platform for the artisans and the organizations working in the Bamboo sector to interact and exchange new ideas on Bamboo. The Bamboo Fest brings together artisans and organizations working in Bamboo sector from different parts of the State especially from the North-Eastern States which is famous in the Bamboo sector. The Fest overall conveyed the importance of using natural item such as Bamboo in our day to day activities. It also aims at creating awareness about Bamboo which is fast emerging as substitution of teak wood and other wood materials.


