

# **KERALA BAMBOO FEST 2012**

## **Post Show Report**

The Department of Industries & Commerce, Government of Kerala in association with Kerala State Bamboo Mission (KSBM) and Kerala Bureau of Industrial Promotion (K-BIP) organized the 9<sup>th</sup> edition of ‘Kerala Bamboo Fest’ (*Kerala Bamboo Fest 2012*) at Jawaharlal Nehru International Stadium Ground, Kaloor, Kochi from December 6 to 9, 2012.



The Fest was inaugurated by Shri. P.K Kunhalikutty, Hon’ble Minister (Industries & IT) in the meeting presided over by Shri. Hibi Eden, Member of Legislative Assembly (Ernakulam) on December 7, 2012. Shri. V.K. Ebrahim Kunju Hon’ble Minister (Works) released the Fest Directory and the same was handed over to Shri. Kameshwar Ojha, Deputy Director General, National Bamboo Mission, New Delhi. Shri. Tony Chammani, Worshipful Mayor, Kochi Corporation; Shri. Dominic Presentation, Member of Legislative Assembly (Kochi), Shri. Benny Behanan, Member of Legislative Assembly (Thrikkakara) delivered Special Addressed during the function.



During the inaugural function, persons from mat weaving community & reed cutters selected by Kerala State Bamboo Corporation (KSBC) were honoured by Shri. P.K Kunhalikutty, Hon'ble Minister (Industries & IT). Shri. C.P. John, Member, Kerala State Planning Board & Vice Chairman, Kerala State Bamboo Mission presented a report on 'the Opportunities in Bamboo sector in the State' during the inaugural function.



Shri. Kameshwar Ojha, Deputy Director General, National Bamboo Mission, New Delhi; Shri. A.C. Keshava Murthy IFS, Chief Conservator of Forest, Government of Karnataka; Smt. Shinamol IAS, Additional Director (Industries), Government of Himachal Pradesh and Shri. P.J. Joy, Chairman, Kerala State Bamboo Corporation felicitated the function. Shri. V. Rajagopal Chief Executive Officer, K-BIP welcomed the gathering and Shri. S. Santhosh General Manager, K-BIP & Convenor, Kerala State Bamboo Mission proposed Vote of Thanks during the function.





Kerala Bamboo Fest 2012 was organised as part of marketing of Bamboo products made in the State. The Kerala Bamboo Fest 2012 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.



52 Nos. Artisans / craftsmen / entrepreneurs / exhibitors from Tripura, Assam, Manipur, Nagaland, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand and Karnataka participated in the Fest. About 215 artisans / crafts men/ entrepreneurs etc. from Kerala also participated in the Fest.

Government organisations namely, Kerala State Bamboo Corporation (KSBC), Kerala Forest Research Institute (KFRI), Kerala State Handicrafts Apex Co-operative Society (SURABHI) and Department of Forest & Wildlife, Government of Kerala also participated in the Fest.



The Bamboo Fest 2012 was also accompanied by various cultural programmes such as bamboo music / various art form related to Bamboo community conducted in the event days by M/s Karnataka Kalashree, Bangalore; M/s. Polika Folklore group; M/s. Vayali Folklore Group and M/s. Creator.





The Bamboo Fest over the years has been a big success. The 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.



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