

**Forest Research Centre for Bamboo & Rattan, Bethlehem Vengthlang, Aizawl-Mizoram** (A unit of RFRI Jorhat, Assam) conducted training program on “**Value addition of bamboo**” under BTSG-ICFRE program, funded by National Bamboo Mission from 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2019. Twenty five progressive farmers and bamboo artisans from four localities namely Thenzawl (Serchhip district), Reiek (Mamit district), Chungtlang (Mamit district) and Kawnpui (Kolasib district) of Mizoram were invited through respective village council and attended the training at FRC-BR.

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

<b>SN</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Full address</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Male/female</b>
1	Sh. Lalrohluazuala	Thenzawl, Serchhip	ST	<b>Male</b>
2	Sh. Lalmangaihzuuala	Thenzawl, Serchhip	ST	<b>Male</b>
3	Smt. Vanlalmalsawmi	Thenzawl, Serchhip	ST	<b>Female</b>
4	Sh. V. Ralliankhuma	Thenzawl, Serchhip	ST	<b>Male</b>
5	Smt. V. Lalhruaitluangi	Thenzawl, Serchhip	ST	<b>Female</b>
6	Sh. R. Saikhuma	Chingchhip, Serchhip	ST	<b>Male</b>
7	Smt. Lalrindiki	Kawnpui, Kolasib	ST	<b>Female</b>
8	Sh. Lalchhanchhuaha	Kawnpui, Kolasib	ST	<b>Male</b>
9	Sh. Lalmuansanga	ReiekMamit	ST	<b>Male</b>
10	ShLalthanmawia	Kawnpui, Kolasib	ST	<b>Male</b>
11	Smt. Lalramsangi	Kawnpui, Kolasib	ST	<b>Female</b>
12	Smt. Lahlupuii	Kawnpui, Kolasib	ST	<b>Female</b>
13	Sh. Vanlalrema	Kawnpui, Kolasib	ST	<b>Male</b>
14	Sh. Francis malsawmkima	Kawnpui, Kolasib	ST	<b>Male</b>
15	Smt. R. Lalbiaknii	Chungtlang, Mamit	ST	<b>Female</b>
16	Sh. Laltanpuia	Chungtlang, Mamit	ST	<b>Male</b>
17	Smt. Lalbiaktluangi	Chungtlang, Mamit	ST	<b>Female</b>
18	Sh. Lalngaizuala	Chungtlang, Mamit	ST	<b>Male</b>
19	Smt. Lalsawmliani	Chungtlang, Mamit	ST	<b>Female</b>
20	Sh. P. Lalmachhuana	Reiek, Mamit	ST	<b>Male</b>
21	Sh. Lallianpuia	Reiek, Mamit	ST	<b>Male</b>
22	Sh. Lalremruata	Kawnpui, Kolasib	ST	<b>Male</b>
23	Smt. Vanlalghaki	Reiek, Mamit	ST	<b>Female</b>
24	Sh. Lalrinmawia	Reiek, Mamit	ST	<b>Male</b>
25	Sh. R. Lalnuntluanga	Kawnpui, Kolasib	ST	<b>Male</b>

After the registration of the participants, the training program was inaugurated by the Chief Guest Sri L. Murray, IFS, State Mission

Director, Mizoram Bamboo Mission. Sh. M. Z. Singson, Head, FRCBR welcomed the farmers/participants in his welcome address and also introduced the participants about the training course. Sh. P.K. Kaushik, Scientist-E, Forest Research Centre –Livelihood & Extension, Agartala, Tripura was the guest of honour of the occasion. In his address, he emphasized on the economic potential of bamboo resources in North East India. Chief Guest in his speech encouraged all the participants to learn various skills and take up bamboo value addition as alternate livelihood opportunity. He emphasised that we have to compete in market for our bamboo products and have to work on it. Shri Hans Raj, Scientist – D, FRCBR proposed a vote of thanks to all the dignitaries and participants for their presence and wished that the training may prove a new learning experience to all.

After the inauguration program, the resource persons made their presentations and shared their experiences with the trainees to exchange the ideas and experiences. The first presentation was made by Shri P.K. Kaushik, Scientist-E, FRCLE, Agartala on Bamboo based livelihood opportunities and shared his experiences to use bamboo as a substitute to the plastic. He also showed the various products designed by CFLE to improve the livelihood of the rural people of North East India. Shri Hans Raj, Scientist D, FRCBR, Aizawl, Mizoram made a presentation on Bamboo and its industrial uses in Mizoram. All the presentations were translated in Mizo for proper understanding of the farmers/participants.

After lunch, session started with the valuable talk by Shri R. Saikhuma from S. K. Bamboo charcoal and vinegar unit, Chingchhip, Serchhip district, Mizoram. Shri Saikhuma shared his experiences on scientific way of making bamboo charcoal and vinegar. He emphasized that all the waste which are left in any bamboo industry can be utilized for the preparation of bamboo charcoal, briquettes making and also for vinegar production. He also introduced his own

product named as Bokasi which is a mixture of bamboo charcoal powder, chicken manure, rice bran and neem oil cake. The bokasi is very useful as an organic manure in organic farming along with the vinegar which has a very good repellent properties for the insect pest and also control some of the foliar diseases as stated by him.

In the last session of the day, Shri H.R.Bora, ACTO, FRCBR demonstrated the bamboo charcoal production using brick kiln and also provided the hands on training on bamboo charcoal, briquettes and vinegar making in a brick kiln of FRCBR.

The second and third day of the training was the practical session where different groups were formed under the Master trainers. The trainees were given hand to hand training by Master trainer specialist in small bamboo furniture and basketry product development. After gaining the knowledge from the master trainers, the trainee themselves designed and developed many products with their innovative ideas.

The farmers/participants were taken for different community enterprises in Aizawl (Hnamchhantu Enterprises, Ethnic Warehouse, King Marketing, Bamboo and Cane retail outlet and finally at Aizawl theological college) for exposure visit in the third day of the training and gained good knowledge on the different bamboo based products and design in the different community enterprises.

The fifth and sixth day of the training was again the practical session where different groups were formed under the Master trainers. The trainees were given hand to hand training by Master trainer specialist in bamboo jewelry and handicrafts making. After gaining the knowledge from the master trainers, the trainee themselves designed and developed many products with their innovative ideas. A hands on training on bamboo charcoal soap making was also given by Sh. Sandeep Yadav, Scientist-C, FRCBR before the valedictory

session. In the valedictory session the certificates were distributed to the farmers by Head, FRCBR.

The training program was concluded with a vote of thanks from Shri Hans Raj, Scientist-D, FRCBR conveyed his thankfulness to all the trainees, support staffs and Scientists for making the training program successful.



Chief Guest, Pu. L. Murray, IFS, Mission Director, MBM, addressing the participants.



**Group photo of participants and other dignitaries**



**Hands-on training for bamboo value added products**



**Class room training on bamboo value addition**