

REPORT

KERALA BAMBOO FEST 2022

The 19th edition of ‘Kerala Bamboo Fest’ organized by the Department of Industries & Commerce, Government of Kerala in association with Kerala State Bamboo Mission (KSBM) and Kerala Bureau of Industrial Promotion (KBIP) was held at **Jawaharlal Nehru International Stadium Ground, Kaloor, Ernakulam from 2022 November 27 to December 04.**



The Hon. Minister of Law, Industries & Coir, Shri. P. Rajeev inaugurated the Fest on November 27, 2022 at Jawaharlal Nehru International Stadium Ground, Ernakulam at 06.00 PM. Smt. Uma Thomas, Thrikakkara MLA presided over the function. Adv. M. Anil Kumar, Cochin Corporation Mayor delivered special Speech. Industries Department Principal Secretaries Shri. Suman Billa IAS and Shri. A.P.M. Muhammad Haneesh IAS; Shri. Shrikanth K.S, Assistant Commissioner, National Bamboo Mission, New Delhi; Shri. T.K. Mohanan, Chairman, Kerala State Bamboo Corporation (KSBC); Shri. Shyam Vishwanath, Director, Kerala Forest Research Institute (KFRI); Shri. Suraj S., Chief Executive Officer Kerala Bureau of Industrial Promotion (KBIP); Shri. Najeeb P. A., General Manager, District Industries Centre, Ernakulam attended the function.



Kerala Bamboo Fest is being conducted for more than a decade and the legacy still holds afresh. The exhibition was organized as part of the 19th edition of ‘Kerala Bamboo Fest’ under Kerala Bureau of Industrial Promotion with support from the Directorate of Industries & Commerce, Kerala State Bamboo Mission and National Bamboo Mission, New Delhi. From around 60 exhibitors in 2004, the latest edition of the Fest had 180 stalls by Bamboo artisans, craftsmen, NGOs, Societies, Groups, Government agencies etc.



Kerala State Bamboo Mission (KSBM) has set up a Bamboo Gallery to showcase bamboo products developed by bamboo sector artisans and various agencies at the Bamboo Fest. The products were evaluated by officials from National Institute of Design (NID), Kerala Forest Research Institute (KFRI), Ernakulam District Industries Center and Kerala State Bamboo Mission (KSBM). Those selected from these will be trained at Bamboo Innovation Center for Advanced Design & Skill Development, Angamaly, under the leadership of National Institute of Design, Bangalore. Those who successfully complete it will be appointed as Master Trainers in the training programs held at different places of the state.



Various species of Bamboo saplings/seedlings were also made available in the Fest. Many artisans and groups showed up, who had been participating in the Fest for a long time now and there were many newcomers as well. Bamboo Mural paintings, Bamboo Flowers, Bamboo & Jute bags, Bamboo kitchen utensils, Bamboo Showpieces, food products made out of Bamboo & Bamboo rice were the popular picks of visitors. Separate area was provided for various food products made out of Bamboo & bamboo rice. These include products like bamboo pakoda, bamboo Pickles, payasam etc., which were well appreciated by the visitors.





Summary of outcomes of the Fest

- Bamboo products exhibited:
Furniture, different handicraft items, interior decoration items including lamp shades, mural paintings, kitchen utensils, curtains, plant holders, food products using bamboo rice and shoots
- Total Participants: 300 participants in 294 Nos. stalls.
- Artisans within the State – 222
- Artisans from outside the state – 12 Artisans from 4 states (Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Karnadaka)
- Government / Research Institutions - 21
- Entrepreneurs from the State - 30
- Bamboo Nurseries - 2
- Bamboo Food items - 7



The greatest achievement of the Fest is that it gave an opportunity to a wide group of artisans and organizations working in the Bamboo sector from different parts of the state to showcase their products made out of Bamboo and make a reasonable profit from the sales of the products through the fest. The Fest demonstrated wide variety of Bamboo products that are innovative and eco-friendly in various ways.