

# REPORT

## KERALA BAMBOO FEST 2021

The 18<sup>th</sup> 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 **Marine Drive Ground, Ernakulam from December 19 to 23, 2021.**



The Hon. Minister of Law, Industries & Coir, Shri. P. Rajeev inaugurated the Fest on December 19, 2021 at Marine Drive Ground, Ernakulam at 10.00 AM. Shri. T. J. Vinod, Member of Legislative Assembly; Adv. M. Anil Kumar, Hon. Mayor of Cochin Corporation; Shri. Harikishore S. IAS, Director of Industries & Commerce & Mission Director, National Bamboo Mission - Kerala; Shri. Shyam Vishwanath, Director, Kerala Forest Research Institute (KFRI); Shri. A.M. Abdul Rasheed, Managing Director, Kerala State Bamboo Corporation (KSBC); Shri. Biju P. Abraham, 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 18<sup>th</sup> Kerala Bamboo Festival 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 150 stalls by Bamboo artisans, craftsmen, NGOs, Societies, Groups, Government agencies etc.



Inauguration of a musical band from Wayandu named ‘Malamuzhakki’ which uses musical instruments made out of bamboo and their performance on-stage were the highlights of the opening day of the Fest.



At the entrance of the exhibition site was a Bamboo Hut, displaying the durability of bamboo and its many applications. The house was erected by the Kerala State Bamboo Corporation (KSBC). Also, a Bamboo Crafts Gallery was set up by the Kerala State Bamboo Mission (KSBM) to display the Bamboo Products developed by various artisans, groups of craftsmen and different agencies.





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 biriyani, 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: 211 participants in 150 nos. stalls.
- Artisans within the State - 182
- Government / Research Institutions - 9
- Entrepreneurs from the State - 13
- Bamboo Nurseries - 2
- Bamboo Food items - 5



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 especially after Covid - 19 pandemic. The Fest demonstrated wide variety of Bamboo products that are innovative and eco-friendly in various ways. Due to Covid 19 pandemic the participation was limited to exhibitors from Kerala State only.