



Department of Industries & Commerce
Government of Kerala



DECEMBER 7 to 12, 2024

Marine Drive Ground, Kochi

REPORT



National Bamboo
Mission



Kerala State
Bamboo Mission



Directorate of
Industries & Commerce

K-bip

Kerala Bureau of
Industrial Promotion



Kerala Bamboo Fest is one of the major interventions undertaken by Kerala State Bamboo Mission (KSBM) for the development of marketing of Bamboo sector. It provides a platform for the beneficiaries to widen their market, acquire knowledge about product development and sharing information to each other. The first edition of 'Kerala Bamboo Fest' was organized in 2004 at Town Hall, Kochi. The Fest is provides an opportunity and a platform for Bamboo Artisans from the State to interact and share knowledge with the Artisans from all over the Country.



The 21st edition of 'Kerala Bamboo Fest' organised 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 in Ernakulam (Kochi), Ernakulam from December 7 to 12, 2024.

Shri Hibi Eden, Hon. Member of Parliament, Ernakulam, delivered the keynote address, followed by the formal inauguration by the Hon. Minister for Law, Industries, and Coir, Shri P. Rajeeve, on December 7, 2024, at the Marine Drive Ground in Ernakulam (Kochi). Shri T. J. Vinod, Hon. Ernakulam MLA, presided over the function. Also present at the event were Shri A. P. M. Muhammed Haneesh IAS, Principal Secretary for Industries; Shri N. S. K. Umesh IAS,

Ernakulam District Collector; Shri Himanshu Rai, Director of IIM Indore; Shri. Sreekanth, Deputy Director of NBM; Shri Rajeev G. and Dr. K. S. Kripa Kumar, Additional Directors of Industries and Commerce; Shri T. K. Mohanan, Chairman of the State Bamboo Corporation; Shri Suraj S., CEO of the Kerala Bureau of Industrial Promotion (KBIP); Dr. Kannan C. S. Warriar, Director of the Kerala Forest Research Centre; Shri Manu Jacob, Cochin Corporation Councilor; and Mr. P. A. Najeeb, District Industries Centre General Manager.

Kerala Bamboo Fest, running for over two decades, remains a vibrant tradition. The 21st edition was organised by Kerala Bureau of Industrial Promotion/Kerala State Bamboo Mission, on behalf of Department of Industries & Commerce, Government of Kerala with the support of National Bamboo Mission (NBM), New Delhi. The Kerala Bamboo Fest which has started off with 60 exhibitors in 2004 has grown significantly, with the latest edition boasting the participation of 375 Artisans/Craftsmen/NGOs, Government Organisations/Institutes across the country in 187 Stalls





As Previous year, the Kerala Bamboo Fest has expanded its scope with International participation, featuring Three Bamboo Artisans from Bhutan nominated through the Tarayana Foundation in Bhutan. showcasing their products in dedicated stalls. Their exquisite baskets, hats & the bamboo wine bottle highlighted

Bhutan techniques, which added an international flavour to the Fest.

The Kerala Bamboo Fest, a vibrant celebration of craftsmanship and culture, brought together 248 Artisans across Kerala in 124 Stalls showcasing an array of products crafted from Bamboo and reed. The event served as a platform for these Artisans to exhibit their skill and creativity to a wider audience. These stalls brimming with colourful bamboo creations captivate visitors, sparking awe at the versatility of bamboo and the artisans' ability to transform these humble green cylindrical pieces of wood into intricate masterpieces through patience and dedication.

A notable aspect of the Fest was the representation of Artisans from almost all Districts of Kerala, with a significant presence from regions like Wayanad and Idukki, known for their abundant raw materials, particularly Bamboo and Reed. This geographical diversity underscored the widespread engagement of Artisans from various parts of the State in Bamboo-based craftsmanship. The variety of products on display was impressive, ranging from lampshades to kitchenware, home décor items, utility products, Bamboo furniture and Bamboo bags. This diverse array highlighted the versatility of Bamboo as a material and the exemplary craftsmanship of Artisans from Kerala.

Moreover, the participation of Bamboo Entrepreneurs in 08 Stalls highlighted the growing entrepreneurial ecosystem surrounding Bamboo in Kerala. This indicates not only a cultural appreciation for Bamboo craftsmanship but also its increasing economic significance as a viable business venture.

30 Craftsmen engaged in Bamboo Sector from 11 States namely Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Chhattisgarh, Assam, Tripura, Odisha, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Manipur,

Maharashtra & Meghalaya contributed to the diverse showcase in the Event.

A Bamboo Gallery was set up for displaying the finest Bamboo products from each Artisan who have undergone Training Programmes under Kerala State Bamboo Mission made a captivating view to


the Bamboo sector from the entry of the Fest. Live Demo Areas located at 4 distinct spots in the Fest, showing how Bamboo is woven and made into products, really caught the visitors' eyes.



In order to create a database of Artisans/Craftsmen in Kerala engaged in this unorganized Bamboo Sector in the State, a Registration procedure has been introduced by Kerala State Bamboo Mission. The Artisans registered under Kerala State Bamboo Mission will be eligible for the services such as Training Programmes, Design Development Programmes, Trade Fairs/Exhibitions being organized/participated by KSBM. The issue of the ID Cards was formally inaugurated by the Hon. Minister (Industries, Law & Coir) by presenting ID cards to 6 Bamboo Artisans during the inaugural ceremony of the 21st edition of Kerala Bamboo Fest held on December 7, 2024 at Marine Drive Ground in Kochi.

This edition offers a wider variety of products, and sales have been excellent compared to previous years. The festival also embraces Christmas festivities, with bamboo stars and decorations showcasing creative craftsmanship. Beyond the stalls, the Fest came alive with a series of Bamboo cultural programmes held every evening, adding an extra layer of festivity and entertainment. From Bamboo flute concerts to Bamboo music bands and traditional art forms, these cultural performances enriched the atmosphere of the event, offering attendees a unique blend of traditional and contemporary Bamboo-inspired entertainment.

The primary objective of the Bamboo Fest is to provide a platform for Artisans and Units in the Bamboo sector to exchange ideas and foster collaboration. The event featured an array of Bamboo products such as lamp shades, utility items, decorative



pieces, wall hangings, Jewellery, Bamboo masks, mural paintings, furniture, and Bamboo food products grabbing the attraction of the Visitors. Furthermore, the Fest provided an array of various Bamboo saplings and seedlings, emphasizing the importance of Bamboo cultivation and conservation. A dedicated section was reserved for Bamboo-based food products including pakodas, pickles and payasam which lured the taste buds of the Visitors.

Summary of outcomes of the Fest

1. 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.
2. Total Participants- participants in 187 Stalls.
3. Artisans from Kerala - 248 participants in 124 Stalls.
4. International Exhibitors - 3 Artisans from Bhutan.
5. No of States participated - 11 States (Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Chhattisgarh, Assam, Tripura, Odisha, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Manipur, Maharashtra & Meghalaya)
6. Artisans from outside the State - 30
7. Government/Research Institutions - 8 Institutions from Kerala
8. Entrepreneurs from the State - 16 participants from 8 Units
9. Bamboo Nurseries - 2
10. Bamboo Food items - 7

The greatest achievement of the Fest is that it gave an opportunity to a wide group of Artisans and organisations working in the Bamboo sector from different parts of the State to showcase their products made out of Bamboo and generated profits from the sales of the products through the Fest. The Fest demonstrated a wide variety of Bamboo products that are innovative and ecofriendly in various ways.

21st Edition of Kerala Bamboo Fest brought together Artisans and organisations working in Bamboo sector from different parts of the Country especially from the North-Eastern States which is famous in the Bamboo sector. The Fest overall conveys 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 a substitute for teak wood and other wood materials.

