

## **Training on Bamboo Agarbatti Sticks Making under *Direct-to-Consumer* Project**

A day-long training was organized on Bamboo *Agarbatti* Sticks Making at Nemuguri, Sivasagar district of Assam on 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2013 under ICFRE sponsored project ‘Capacity building, skill up-gradation of artisans and promotion of traditional bamboo handicraft and art with improved technology, suitable design and value addition’. The training was organized for empowerment of rural woman under *Direct-to-Consumer* through private public partnership mode.

Altogether 135 women members under 16 Self Help Groups participated in the training. At the outset, Sri Mohan Saikia, a local entrepreneur welcomed all the trainees, Scientists and other members present on the occasion. Sri R. K. Kalita, Head, Forestry Extension Division, RFRI, Jorhat explained the purpose of organizing the training programme and spoke about the benefits of such training organized in this remote village.

Dr. T. C. Bhuyan, Research Officer, RFRI, Jorhat made an illustrative power point presentation on bamboo and its applications to create an awareness on bamboo handicrafts.

Sri Tapas Sarma, an entrepreneur from Jorhat explained about marketing aspects of *Agarbatti* sticks. He requested all the women present to start the making of *Agarbatti* sticks and thereby support their families to raise their income.

Practical demonstrations on *Agarbatti* making were imparted to the women members. They expressed their keen desire to adopt this venture.

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