

Training cum Awareness programme of “Capacity building for making value added products of bamboo handicrafts through improved technology”

Tribal handicrafts made from bamboo and cane has specialized skills which are passed on from one generation to another and these handicrafts are means of livelihood of the artisans. For tribal and forest dwellers “bamboo for living and living with bamboo” is still the norm. Four days training cum awareness programme of “Capacity building for making value added products of bamboo handicrafts through improve technology” for livelihood development of Jhumias has been organized by Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat from 4th to 7th November, 2013 at Phumen Ingti Village of Karbi Anglong, Assam under ICFRE sponsored project **Rehabilitation of degraded jhum land through potential bamboo species with reference to carbon sequestration and livelihood development (RFRI/SC/20)**. Thirty Five participants including women’s from three village’s viz. Jilongso Village, Rongtara Village and Phumen Ingati Village under Rongmongwe block of Karbi Anglong district, Assam participated in the 4 days training programme.

In the beginning of the programme, Dr. (Mrs.) Indrani P. Borah, Scientist and Coordinator of the training emphasized the importance of rehabilitation of jhum fallow through plantation of potential bamboo species and their utilization by making value added products with simple tools for better livelihood. She showed different types of value added bamboo handicrafts through presentation and describe that how the handicrafts are highly in demand due to their attractive designs now a-days.

During inaugural session Shri Chatra Singh Bey, Village Headman of Phumen Ingati village addressed to ‘Jhumas’ for importance of value added products of bamboo handicrafts for livelihood generation. Dr. Praveen Kumar Verma, Shri. G. Thakuria and Dr. (Mrs.) Kuntala N. Barua, Research Officers, Rain Forest Research Institute assisted in conducting the training programme. Sri Mohan Saikia, Master trainer from Sibsagar district of Assam was invited as resource persons to carry out the bamboo handicrafts training. In the short period of training all the trainees show their keen interest in making different types of value added products from bamboo such as trays, caps, begs, hair clips, flower pots, pen, pen stand and many other decorative items. During the concluding session on 7th November, 2013 villagers express the fruitfulness of the training and also eager to come to RFRI for more advanced training. Cultural programme has also arranged by the villagers at the end of the programme. Dr. (Mrs.) Kuntala N. Barua, Research Officer offered vote of thanks to all the participants on behalf of RFRI Jorhat for their intense involvement. Dr. A. Baruah, Research Officers and Miss Monisha Neog, SRF, RFRI also extended necessary help in conducting the training programme.



Bamboo plantation in abounded jhum land at the fringe forest of Phumen Ingati Village in Karbi-Anglong



Inaugural session of training– cum –awareness programme



Trainees involved in making of different Bamboo artisans



Different bamboo handicrafts made by trainees



Cultural programme and Certificate distribution