

## **Training on Skill Development and Capacity Building of Rural Youth for Livelihood Generation through Bamboo Handicrafts**

Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat organized a training programme on ‘Skill Development and Capacity Building of Rural Youth for Livelihood Generation through Bamboo Handicrafts’ from 28<sup>th</sup> August to 9<sup>th</sup> September, 2017. Twenty one youth from Assam and Meghalaya participated in the training programme.

Dr. R. S. C. Jayaraj, Director of the Institute inaugurated the Training programme and welcomed the trainees to the Institute. Sri R. K. Kalita, Training Coordinator spoke on the occasion and detailed about the training programme. Out of 21 trainees, 15 were from ICARD, Jorhat, an NGO working for betterment of Mishing communities of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh.

Before initiation of hands on training, the trainees were acquainted with various bamboo species preserved at RFRI Bambusetum. Sri R. K. Kalita gave a power point presentation to sensitize the trainees on propagation, value addition and product diversification of bamboo. The presenter gave a holistic idea on bamboo to the trainees. Sri Kumud Bora and Sri Debojit Neog briefed the trainees about the bamboo collection and how to identify the different species.

Hands-on training was imparted by resource persons namely, Sri Mohan Saikia, Sri Sanjib Duwara, Sri Debo Bora, Sri Nripen Gogoi and two craftsmen from *Kraftin*, Kenduguri, Jorhat. Different techniques involved in making the following bamboo handicrafts items were taught during the training programme: Bed, Chair, Rong ghor, various designs of lamps, Wall Hanging, Hair Clips, Tray etc.

The trainees were found to be highly dedicated and full with zeal and enthusiasm to work. They were novice but their persistence in work will make them skilled and perfect craftsperson.

Valedictory Session was organized on 9<sup>th</sup> September, 2017. Dr. R. S. C. Jayaraj, Director, RFRI and Rev. Fr. Thomas, Director, ICARD were present in the session. The trainees performed a few cultural events. Sri R. K. Kalita, Training Coordinator presented a brief report of the training programme. Speaking on the occasion, Dr. R. S. C. Jayaraj highlighted the importance of bamboo in the lives of the people of North East. He emphasized on good finishing and design and need for collective marketing. Sri Parikshit Borkotoki, a young

entrepreneur of Jorhat encouraged the trainees and shared his own experience. Fr. Thomas appreciated the efforts of RFRI in this direction and thanked RFRI for supporting ICARD in its endeavour of livelihood generation.







*RFRI Conducts Skill Development Training on Bamboo Handicrafts* | 2017

