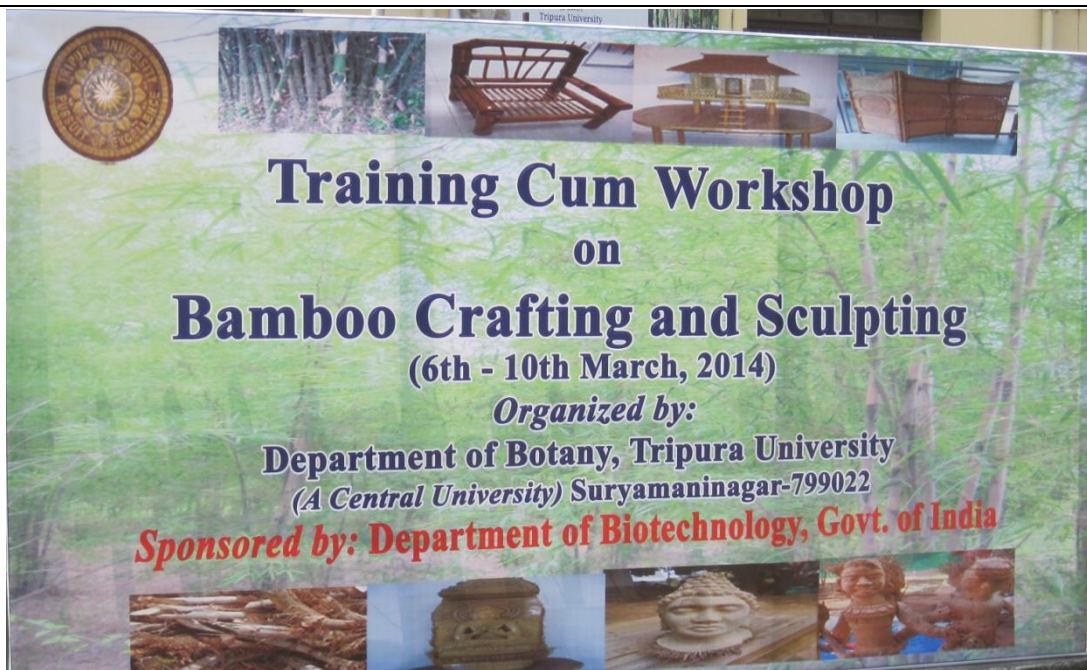




BAMBOO SCULPTING AND RHIZOME CARVING IS SUSTAINABLE INCOME GENERATION ACTIVITY

Submitted to:
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Department of Biotechnology, Government of India sponsored Training cum Workshop on “Bamboo Carving and Rhizome Sculpting” held on 6 – 10 March, 2014 at Tripura University, Suryamaninagar-799022 Tripura

Bamboo handicrafts of rural are intricate and self consciously decorated. A wide range of screens, false ceilings, wall panels, plaques and planters are made of gossamer thin bamboo strips. Wall panels are made out of solid but thinly split bamboo that is pasted on plywood. Several containers are made by turning bamboo on a hand lathe. Traditionally, bamboo was used extensively to construct houses, fences, gates, wall panels; sieves, storage baskets and products for agricultural use. Local entrepreneurs have been practicing the art of fine bamboo handicrafts and goods made from loom woven mats that are a specialty of North Eastern Region India.

- Turned and carved cylindrical containers made from bamboo culm, a new product introduced by the rural craftsmen.
- Detail of poker work done on shaped bamboo splits that have been strung to make an umbrella which is held by a figurine.
- Hand fan made from bamboo mat. The mat is woven in a warp of red dyed cotton yarn and weft of very finely split bamboo. Mats are popularly used as window blinds and table mats.
- Detail of a bamboo mat woven with very finely split bamboo that has been used as the surface of a folding screen. Crafts persons are known to make the finest bamboo splits which are used as weft and woven into a cotton or polyester warp.
- Figure carved in bamboo root. Carved figure in bamboo root that makes creative use of the roots.

Bamboo craft is pivoted on the techniques of bamboo splitting done by hand with the help of a dao. Today, new machines are used for splitting bamboo at the Common Facility Centres and training centres set up by the government/Bodoland Bamboo Development Board. The most recent product innovation is the carvings of bamboo roots. A number of craftsmen have taken up this work through the offices of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India. Many new statues and composite sculpted narrative are depicted in Bamboo root carvings.

In the Bodoland University in collaboration with North East Centre for Technology Application and Reach (Formerly National Mission on Bamboo Applications) and National Institute of Design as SME will be encouraged among the rural educated youth and I.T.I (Bamboo Technology) to promote bamboo development in Bodoland and North Eastern Region, marketing and technology of bamboo base. After realization experience and knowledge of bamboo policy and National Design Policy well as glimpse of **“Bamboo Carving and Rhizome Sculpting”** tried to be the leading centre to foster, nurture and ensure the delivery, sustenance and use of craft technology applications for public and social good; and to reach and expand the benefits of among people, communities, institutions and governments for equitable and inclusive social and economic development of the North Eastern Region of our country.

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