

TRIPURA BAMBOO MISSION



QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2009

Summary of Progress Achieved

❖ **Capacity Building:**

1. Mat weaving training: 212 persons
2. Training on cultivation and Propagation: 298 persons
3. Training cum Exposure visit outside the state: 78 persons
4. Training on Skill development Handicraft: 143
5. Training on Production Management: 50
6. Training on Agarbatti Stick Making: 70

Artisans trained during quarter Oct-Dec 2009- 851.

❖ **Community Mobilization:**

1. Mobilization for Dhari mat making Total 393 tribal and rural populations across 6 villages.
2. Establishment of incense rolling centers: Around 400 women rollers mobilized for establishing 4 new rolling centres Bishalgarh (West Tripura), Emrapasha (North Tripura) and Srinagar (South Tripura) production.
3. Insurance scheme under Rajiv Gandhi Shilpi Swasthya Vima Yojana extended to 90 artisans..
4. Community Mobilisation of Tribal artisans at Duski village, Teliamura for traditional tribal basketry.

❖ **Market Linkages established:**

1. Dhari Mat supply to Zunon Ply Industries, A.B.Copposit, Kolkata and APIL, Arunachal Pradesh.
2. Exhibitions held at Bangaluru -Exclusive exhibition for TBM products at Mother Earth store (Pantaloon Group) and participation at the Harshakala exhibition organized by the Govt. of Karnataka.

Summary of Progress Achieved

3. Participation in India International Trade Fair, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.
4. Export order from New Delhi for table mats.
5. Participation in Tripura Van Mela.
6. Participation in District DRDA Mela, South Tripura.
7. Order for 6000 training bags from IL&FS CDI SEAM training programme.
8. Launch of Tripura Bamboo Mission handicraft product catalogue.

❖ Resource Generation

1. Preparation of plantation scheme for priority bamboo species in West Tripura District.
2. Survey for identification and selection of farmers/beneficiaries.

❖ Infrastructure Development:

1. Construction of training cum production centres for Dhari making at Warranta Bari, Marheddak, Chickon cherra and Arjun Thakur Para.
2. Raw material center at Teliamura has been has commenced producti.
3. Establishment of 3 new Agarbatti Rolling Centres in North & West Districts.

❖ New Partners inducted

1. M/s Suresh Maharana for supplying agarbatti masala.
2. Banik Agro Forest Products Pvt. Ltd., Ganapati Agarbatti and Biswas Domestic Products, Udaipur for sale of rolled batti.
3. M/s Pradip Paul of Kailashahar for purchasing agarbatti masala in bulk from Teliamura.

❖ Important event

Inauguration of Jogendranagar Handicrafts Community Production Center.

Detailed Progress Report

MAT SUB SECTOR (DHARI MAT)

Training programme on production of Industrial grade mat was conducted for the rural and tribal population of Dhalai, North and West Tripura districts. This activity builds the capacity of the artisans to take up mat weaving to augment their household income..

Market linkages have been established with the following Industrial partners

1. Arunachal Plywood Industries Limited (APIL): Leading bamboo mat board and prefabricated bamboo housing manufacturer based in Arunachal Pradesh.
2. A.B. Composite, Kolkata, West Bengal; Bomboo jute composite manufacturer.
3. P S Greengold Bamboo Industry; local industry partner based in Dharmanagar, North Tripura.

The industry partners will be associated for strengthening production and have buy back arrangements for the mats produced. In the 3rd quarter of financial year of 2009-10, 7 programmes were organized and 210 persons were trained.

- ❖ In North Tripura district 2 training programmes on Production of Industrial Mat were conducted from 12th -16th October 2009 and 20th -24th Oct '09 at West Harua and Purba Ramcherra. This was in collaboration with P S Greengold Bamboo Industry, In the training programmes a total of 42 and 48 artisans were trained respectively..
- ❖ Another such programme was organized at Halflong, North Tripura from 24th-28th December 2009 along with Rural Bamboo artisans' welfare society, promoted by TBM. In this training a total of 25 rural women, belonging mainly to minority communities, were trained.
- ❖ A 5 days long training on production of Industrial dhari mat was organized at Warranta Bari under Padmabil Block, Khowai. The focus was on tribal population. A total of 27 persons under went this training programme to develop capacity for production of Industrial Mat.

- ❖ Programme for production of Industrial Mat was also organized at Marheddak, Khowai from 27th-31st December 2009. This was attended by 27 artisans who are currently producing mats in the common production centres. .
- ❖ In Dhalai District Training programmes were organized at Gulak Bazar and Katalutma from 10th-14th October 2009 and from 17th-21st December 2009 respectively. A total of 43 tribal artisans were trained.

AGARBATTI SUB SECTOR (ROLLED BATTI)

Focus in the aggarbatti sector has been to consolidate production through establishing CPCs, providing raw material supply linkages and ensuring market linkages through tie ups with entrepreneurs. TBM is mobilizing communities, JFMCs, SHGs etc., giving training on rolled batti making and linking the rolling centres with entrepreneurs in PPP mode to run the production activity. During this Quarter, TBM's Agarbatti team organized meetings with various JFMCs, local women groups and forest officials for the smooth running of the rolled batti activity in the state. With the aim of sustainable livelihood TBM has organized campaigns for awareness on making of incense stick, setting up of raw material centres, strengthening of supply chain, motivating existing rollers etc. Several potential investors for rolled batti have been identified in various locations of the state and have been motivated to partner with TBM to develop rolled batti sector in the state. TBM-IL&FS Clusters has set up 1 Agarbatti Raw Material Unit and 3 Community Production Centers (CPCs) for rolled batti production across the state. The concept of setting up CPCs for centralized production of rolled batti has been introduced by TBM-IL&FS Clusters to ensure quality product and increased productivity. TBM aims to mobilize entrepreneurs to invest in rolled batti and federate them for establishing direct market linkage.

Summary of activities done in the 3rd Quarter of FY 2009-10 in rolled agarbatti sector is as following.

- Raw material processing centres: A aggarbatti raw material processing centre set up and operationalized at Chakmaghat, Teliamura. The Unit is first of its kind in the state and has

been set up in partnership with M/s Suresh Maharana, an expertise and entrepreneur in this sector from Orissa. The unit has an optimum production capacity of 20MT per month and would serve the upcoming rolling centres with quality rolling masala at optimal prices. The raw material requirement (Jigat & charcoal) is by collected from JFMCs.

- Community Production Centers (CPCs): 2 new CPCs have been set up and operationalized at South Ghaniamara, Nikhildas Para in West Tripura. 75 artisans are linked to these CPCs. The centres have a combined production capacity of 2.5MT per month. The centres the raw requirements are met by The Teliamura masala processing centre. One new CFC: 1 new CPChas been operationalized at Emrapassa in North Tripura. 45 artisans are working at this centre. The centre has production capacity of 1.5MT per month.
- Entrepreneur linkage: Meetings with entrepreneurs, involved in Agarbatti Perfuming, have been held for marketing of Rolled Batti. Tirupati Agarbatti, Ganapati Agarbatti, Sadhana Enterprise , Biswas Domestic Products have agreed to buy from newly formed Rolled Batti centers; samples of rolled batti have been sent to them. New entrepreneurs have been identified at Bishalgarh, Emrapasha, Dharmanagar, Sabrum, Khowai and Teliamura and motivated to invest in rolled batti production.
- Marketing: Rolled batti from new centres has been sold to Biswas Domestic Products Udaipur and Ganapati Agarbatti, Agartala in addition to the existing market channels. Social security: Health Insurance Registration Camp were organised under “Rajiv Gandhi Shilpi Swasthya Vima Yojana” at various agarbatti rolling centres in collaboration with ICICI Lombard. 90 women agarbatti rollers were covered under the scheme at South Ghaniamara, Nikhildas Para and Durganagar in West Tripura.

HANDICRAFT SUBSECTOR:

The focus of the skill training in bamboo home utility products has been to instrument a shift from the production of low value handicraft products that the artisans have been producing for the past decades, to the production of contemporary bamboo home utility products that has a

growing market. Design experts from outside the state were engaged in all the training programmes, providing the much required support for new and innovative designs. In the current quarter (October-December 2009) **119 artisans were trained in various design development programmes and production mobilization training programs across all the handicraft clusters** . Trainings were conducted at Town Pratapgarh, Charilam, Mohanpur(Jirania), Udaipur& Madhya Dukli ,under Agartala cluster. The main objective of all the training programmes was to develop new designs and to train artisans involved in handicraft with new skills.

The details of the trainings conducted at the various handicraft cluster promoted by Tripura Bamboo Mission are as follows:

Baikora:

Artisans from Baikhora were trained in making new design sheetal patti and bamboo mat based products. Twenty artisans were trained during the one month training. The training started from 30th September and ended on 30th October 2009. The main objective of the training was to train more artisans in making new design products and skilled artisans will be employed at the center after the training. The artisans were also trained in using Industrial sewing machine (Juki machine) to increase productivity. The center has been producing training bags and folders to be used during conference and trainings, the newly trained artisans will help the center increase its productivity and income.

Jogendranagar

The most important event at Jogendranagar was the inauguration of the Community Production Center set up in DuttaPara, Jogendranagar was inaugurated in November 2009. for The centre was set up by TBM in partnership with Creative Bamboo Crafts Guild Society. Over----- artisans will be linked with the centre.. The centre provides the much needed infrastructure for enabling the production of better quality bamboo mats for blinds and bamboo mat products like bags, floor mats and other home utility products.

Training on developing new pattern and texture was given at the Community Production Center from 10th-30th December 2009. Mr Hrishikesh trained the artisans in developing new texture and pattern of bamboo mat using 4 peddle and 6 peddle loom. Twenty Five (25) new pattern and texture were developed during the training and 50 weavers were trained in 3 batches. The artisans at Jogendranagar were making bamboo mats using only two paddle loom which has design and pattern limitations. The new looms gives more scope of developing new patterns. The objective of the training was to develop a complete range of new bamboo mat using mechanized sticks and train artisans in using 4 and 6 paddle looms.

Jirania

The training program was conducted by designer Sangeeta Sen in product finishing. Fifteen (15) artisans were trained in the area of finishing bamboo table mat and other products that were developed during an earlier design development workshop and training at Charilam. The finishing module included fine stitching, labeling, coding and packaging. These products were show cased at the International Gift Fair organized by Export Promotion Council for Handicraft (EPCH) and export orders were placed for 500 table mat sets.

Charilam

The Training on skill development for Dimsum box making was conducted at Charilam from 4th October-2nd November 2009. 30 artisans were trained during the training. Dimsum box making requires high level of skill and it has huge demand in the market. At Charilam very few artisans had skills in making dimsum box and they were not able to meet the demand of dimsum box. The objective of the training was to train artisans from Charilam in making Dimsum box and execute order at large quantity.

Agartala

Training on bamboo lifestyle products was conducted by a team of designers Mr. Siddhartha Das and Mr. Nicholas John at Madhya Dukli, Agartala from 20th November- 1st December 2009. The 24 master artisans were trained in making a range of products. f including knockdown

bamboo Stool, Lamps and lamp shades ,Blackberry pouch, fruit baskets, bottle holders, salt pepper dispenser, flower vase & spoon of different sizes and shapes,, tea light bamboo candles and candle holder and wine bottle holder. New Techniques like steam bending for bamboo were introduced by the designers.

Training on production management was conducted at the AD Nagar CFC from 15th Nov- 9th December 2009. The objective of the training was to train artisans in production management systems that include raw material planning, organized ways of production, quality control, product coding, pricing and packaging. The Production Management training was aimed to enable artisans to supply to the organized retail sector as per their sourcing requirements.

Udaipur

Training on production management was held for 30 artisans at Rajdhar Nagar, Udaipur from 26th October- 24th November 2009. The objective of the training was to develop bamboo coiled bamboo utility products based on the techniques of coiling bamboo sliver. Training also focused on enhancement of product quality and finishing. These artisans are part of Self Help Groups and the production is targetted at fairs and exhibitions in the state and outside.

MARKETING LINKAGES:

During the quarter Tripura Bamboo Mission facilitated the following market linkages:

- Dhari Mat supply to Zunon Ply Industries, A.B. Composite, Kolkata and APIL, Arunachal Pradesh.
- Participation in India International Fair at Pargatti Maidan, New Delhi from 14th-27th November 2009.
- Exclusive Tripura Bamboo Mission products exhibition was organized at Motherearth Store (Pantaloon Group), Bangaluru in December 2009.
- Harshakala fair organized by Dept. of Handloom and Textiles, Govt. of Karnataka.
- Participation in The India International Handicrafts and Gift Fair organized by EPCH at Noida.

RESOURCE GENERATION

A field survey was conducted for identification of farmers who would be interested in plantation of priority bamboo species. Tripura Bamboo Mission will facilitate this plantation in the clusters of Katlamara, Charilam, Nalchar and Salema. Through consultation with local governing bodies (Panchayats and village committees), 298 farmers have been identified.

The cluster specific plantation programme as follows:

Sl.No	Name of cluster	Name of bamboo Species	Plantation area (in hectare)
1	Katlamara	Kanakiach	45
2	Caharilam	Paura, Rupai	10
3	Nalchar	Paura, Rupai	10
4	Salema	Rupai. Mritinga, Bom	35

Invitation for “Expression of Interest” to operationalize the tissue culture plant was floated. . Discussions are in progress with Sheel Biotech limited, Delhi to give final shape to the agreement.

CAPACITY BUILDING

(Training programmes under NBM)

1. The training of farmers/SHGs/ JFMCs/ artisans within Tripura.

- a) **Training of Farmers:** In Sankhala, Duptali, Ompi, Katlamara, Baramaiden-Khowai, Sunacherra-Amarpur, Mendi and Ashapura at Dhalai district, a total of 583 farmers have been trained in bamboo cultivation and propagation. The field functionaries trained in various programs have been taken as the resource person for the program.
- b) **Training in Bamboo Preservation Technology:** TBM in collaboration with various local bodies provided training on Bamboo Preservation technology to bamboo artisans at

Kadamtala- **Dharmanagar**, Matanari and DIC, Udaipur, Rajasthan 152 artisans were trained were involved.

- c) **Training of field functionaries:** Training programme on basic natural dyeing was attended by four field functionaries. This was held at Apls Industries Gaziabad, UP from 18th-21st August 2009.
- d) **Bamboo Value addition;** During this quarter, training programme on manually polished agarbatti stick making was imparted to 174 SHG members at Srinagar and Ichar Lal cherra

2. The training of farmers/SHGs/ JFMCs/ artisans outside Tripura

During the quarter a total of 752 members were trained on bamboo propagation and value addition.. The training programme in the state of Assam, Mizoram, Kerala and Meghalaya was organized to make bamboo growers and farmers aware of techniques of nursery management, propagation and value addition of bamboo.

- a) **Meghalaya:** A 35 member team was send to Meghalaya to gain exposure in the field of Bamboo Propagation and value addition. The team visited Marboh Bamboo Product Pvt. Ltd.(Agarbatti stick & mat stick industry), Umkhuti F.R.C. Forest & Environment Department, Silviculture Division, NEHU Central University and other bamboo plantation areas in the state. The program was conducted in close coordination with Mr. C S Choudhury, Bamboo Development Cell Meghalaya.
- b) **Mizoram:** Training and field exposure was organized for a 36 member team of mat artisans from three societies promoted by TBM.This programme involved visits toto the Bamboo plantation area at Sakawrhmutuai (initiative of forest division), Sairang (working with tissue cultured species) and the Mat board unit 'Zonam Matply' industry. This program was supported by Mr. Rosiama, CF Mizoram and Mr Zonun, MD of Zonun Ply ltd Mizoram.

- c) Assam: Two training cum exposure visits were organized for 53 JFMC members to Karimganj and Guwahati of Assam. The members visited the Bamboo Nursery at Basistha, Bamboo Tissue culture laboratory in North Jalukbari functioning.

IMPORTANT EVENTS

The Inauguration of Jogendranagar Community Production center for Creative Bamboo Craft Guild Society, Duttapara was held on 26th November 2009. The Objective of the community production center is to have state of the art infrastructure, equipment and support facilities to enable the artisans to produce high quality bamboo utility products. It will play an important role in promotion of sustainable livelihoods for the women bamboo mat artisans of Jogendranagar. The CPC was build with support from National Mission on Bamboo Applications, New Delhi, District Rural Development Agency, West Tripura and Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India. The CPC has the following facilities for undertaking the activities like common processing and treatment of bamboo, Design development and Training center, Raw material bank, Display and Retail Center and a bamboo depot for bulk procurement of high quality bamboo. The center is owned and managed by women artisan members of Creative Bamboo Craft Guild. More than 100 women artisans are linked to the community production Centre.

Detail of the programs by TBM from October to December 2009

1. Under the DoNER Program

A. Training on Bamboo handicraft sub sector –design development

SL NO	Place	Program Name	Date	No of trainee	Resource person/Designer
1	Natural Weaves & Crafts, Baikhora	Home Utility: Industrial sewing machine based products	30th Sept-30th Oct 2009	20	Sanjay Das
2	Bamboo Craft Artisan Welfare Society, Charilam,	Training on Dimsum Box making	4th October-2nd November 2009	30	Ram Prasad & Tapan Namo
3	Kalika Handicraft Society, Mohanpur	Training on Finishing on Table Mats	2nd-8th November 2009	15	Sangeeta Sen
4	Bamboo Craft Artisan Welfare Society, Charilam,	Training on Finishing	3rd-7th November 2009	24	Sangeeta Sen
5	Madhya dukli, Agartala	Bamboo life style products such as Stool, salt pepper dispenser, lamp shade,	20th November - 1st December 2009	24	Siddhartha Das & Nicholas John
6	Creative Bamboo Craft Guild, Jogendranagar	Better quality bamboo mats for blinds, and other home utility products.	10th - 30th December 2009	30	Mr. Hrishikesh
	Total			143	

B. Training on Bamboo handicraft sub sector –Production Management

SL NO	Place	Program Name	Date	No of days	No of trainee	Resource person/Designer
1	Rajdhar Nagar, Udaipur	Training on making coiled and bamboo turning products	26th October-24th November 2009	22	30	Bijay Sutradhara, Mr. Dulal Das
2	AD Nagar CFC, Agartala	Production Management for Exhibition at Bangalore	15th November-9th December 2009	25	20	Nandini Lal & Mr. Hrishikesh
	Total				50	

SI No	Venue	Date	No of Days	No of Participants
1	West Harua, North Tripura	12 th -16 th Octr 2009	5	42
2	Purba Ramcherra, North Tripura	20 th -24 th Oct 2009	5	48
3	Gulak Bazar	10 th -14 th Oct 2009	5	17
4	Warranta Bari, Khowai	23 rd -27 th November 2009	5	27
5	Katalutma	17 th -21 st Dec 2009	5	26
6	Half long, Dharmanagar	24 th -28 th Dec 2009	5	25
7	Marheddak, West Trpura	27 th -31 st Decr 2009	5	27
	Total			212

2. Under the NBM Program

A. Training cum Exposure visit of farmers outside the state

Sl. No	Date	Subject	No of Days	No of Participants	Venue
1	20 th -24 th October 2009	Training cum Exposure visit of farmers	4	40	Guwahati
2	27 th -30 th October 2009	Training cum Exposure visit of farmers	4	38	Guwahati
			Total	78	

B. Training on Bamboo Cultivation and Propagation

Sl. No	Place	Date	Duration	No of Participants
1	Katlamara, West Tripura	20 th October 2009	2 Days	51
2	Sonaram, Hezamara Block	23 rd -24 th October 2009	2 Days	33
3	Balurbandh, West Tripura	25 th -26 th Oct 2009	2 Days	34
4	Mungiakami, West Tripura	8 th Nov2009	1 Days	72
5	Jamthum, Dhalai	24 th December 2009	1 Days	108
			Total	298

3. Training under the SGSY program

<u>TRAINING PROGRAM ON STICK MAKING FOR AGARBATTI</u>					
SL NO	PLACE	DATE	No of days	No of trainee	Resource persons
1	Sarkarpara, Salema	22 nd - 27 th Oct 2009	6	35	Mr Biplab Modak
2	Jamtung d/b para,	1 st - 6 th Nov 2009	6	35	Mr Biplab Modak
	Total			70	

Fair & Exhibition Participation- Oct to Dec 2009

SI No	Program	Locaiton	Date
1	India International Trade Fair, (IITF)	New Delhi	14 th - 27 th November 2009
2	3 rd Asom International Trade Fair	Guwahati	
3	Kerala Bamboo fest	Kochi(Ernakulam)	10 th - 13 th Decemder 2009
4	Special Life Style Bamboo Products Exhibition	Motherearth Store, Bangaluru	18 th - 24 th December 2009
5	Harshakala Fare-Organised by Dept. of Handloom and Textilles, Govt. of Karnataka	Palace Grounds, Bangaluru	25 th December 2009-12 th January 2010
6	South Tripura District Mela, Organised by DRDA South Tripura	Udaipur	28 th -30 th December 2009

Pictures of work in Progress

Participation at ASOM International Trade fare and Exposure visit outside the State for farmers



Training at Madhya Dukli and Dimsum box making training at Charilum



New CPCs set up and operationalized at Bishalgarh and Emrapasha



Registration for Health Insurance (ICICI Lombart)at Bishalgarh



Exhibition at Motherearth store, Bangaluru

