Five-Day Training Programme on "Bamboo Resource Development for Addressing Livelihood Concerns of Communities" for Indian Forest Service (IFS) Officers at ICFRE–Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat

ICFRE–Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat (Assam) organized a weeklong training programme on "Bamboo Resource Development for Addressing Livelihood Concerns of Communities" from 16 to 20 November, 2026 at its premises. Sponsored by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Government of India, the programme was attended by 18 Indian Forest Service (IFS) Officers representing 13 States across the country. The training aimed to enrich the knowledge and professional capacities of IFS officers in scientific bamboo resource management, technological interventions, enterprise development, and promotion of community-based livelihoods for the sustainable growth of India's bamboo sector.

Day 1 (16 November, 2026): The inaugural session was graced by Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tasa, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Assam, as the Chief Guest. Shri R. K. Kalita, Course Director, warmly welcomed the participating officers and outlined the objectives, scope, and key components of the training programme. In his inaugural address, Shri Tasa emphasized the immense potential of bamboo as a sustainable natural resource and urged the officers to strengthen India's bamboo sector through scientific management, value addition, and community livelihood generation. Dr. Dhruba J. Das, Head, Silviculture and Forest Management (SFM) Division, proposed the vote of thanks, while Dr. Prasun Karmakar, Scientist, coordinated the session. Technical sessions followed with presentations by Dr. Dhruba J. Das, Scientist-F, ICFRE–RFRI, on the Institute's mandates and research achievements, and Dr. T. C. Bhuyan, Consultant, NECBDC, Guwahati, on the status and prospects of the bamboo sector in India. The participants also visited the Institute's Bamboo Museum and Interpretation Centre, guided by Shri Kumud Borah and Shri Bhuban Kachari.

Day 2 (17 November, 2026): A study tour to Majuli was undertaken under the guidance of Dr. Tara Kumari, Shri Nilabh Chandra Das, and Shri Rinku Kalita of ICFRE–RFRI, with a warm welcome from the Forest Department, Majuli, led by Shri Abhijit Doley, Forest Range Officer. At Samaguri Satra, the officers explored the traditional art of bamboo Mukha Shilpa (mask-making), witnessed a cultural performance by Shri Khagen Goswami, and interacted with Padma Shri awardee Dr. Hemchandra Goswami, who shared valuable insights into the craft and its cultural significance. The team also visited Dakhinpat Satra to gain insights into Majuli's Vaishnavite heritage and experienced traditional local cuisine, highlighting the close link between bamboo craftsmanship, cultural identity, and sustainable livelihoods.

Day 3 (18 November, 2026): Technical sessions highlighted the industrial, ecological, and livelihood potential of bamboo. Presentations were delivered on bamboo genetic improvement by Dr. Karma G. Bhutia (Scientist, ICFRE–RFRI); livelihood opportunities in the agarbatti sector and innovative bamboo products by Dr. Abhinav Kant (Director, BCDI, Agartala); bamboo charcoal

utilization by Dr. R. D. Borthakur (Retd. CTO, ICFRE–RFRI); restoration of mine-degraded lands through bamboo plantations by Shri D. K. Meena (Scientist, ICFRE–RFRI); and bio-ethanol production from bamboo by Shri Hidam Tonsana (GM, ABEPVT, Numaligarh). Guided by Dr. Karma G. Bhutia, Shri Debojit Neog, and Shri Kumud Borah, the participants also visited the Institute's Bamboo Nursery, Bambusetum, Bamboo Composite Centre, Bamboo Charcoal Unit, Bamboo Treatment Unit, and Bah Bithika for practical exposure.

Day 4 (19 November, 2026): Guided by Shri R. K. Kalita and Dr. Kingshuk Modak of ICFRE–RFRI, the officers undertook a study visit to Assam Bio-Ethanol Pvt. Ltd. (ABEPVT), Numaligarh, Golaghat, where Dr. Pranab Nath and Shri A. Rajbangshi briefed them on bio-ethanol production processes and the role of bio-based industries in renewable energy and a green economy. The team subsequently proceeded to Bokakhat, interacting with park authorities at Tesco Resort, where Shri Arun Vignesh, IFS, DFO, Kaziranga National Park, delivered a presentation on park management, followed by a field visit to Kaziranga National Park to observe biodiversity and wildlife conservation practices.

Day 5 (20 November, 2026): The concluding day featured technical sessions on bamboo in structural constructions by Shri Priyam B. Goswami (Architect, Jorhat); bamboo value chain and marketing of value-added products by Shri Parikshit Borkotoky (Bamboo Entrepreneur, Jorhat); industrial applications of bamboo as wood by Shri Saurav Saikia (Proprietor, ESES BioWealth Pvt. Ltd., Jagiroad, Morigaon); and pest and disease infestations on bamboo and their remedies by Dr. Prasun Karmakar (Scientist, ICFRE–RFRI). During the valedictory session chaired by Dr. Sanjay Singh, Director, ICFRE–RFRI, participating officers shared their learning experiences and appreciated the meticulous planning and coordination led by Course Director Shri R. K. Kalita. Dr. Sanjay Singh addressed the gathering and distributed certificates, followed by a vote of thanks from Dr. Dhruba J. Das, Co-Course Director.

PHOTO GALLERY: HIGHLIGHTS OF THE EVENTS: -






WALL MIRROR
BOO-BASED ENTREPRENEURSHIP
d Sustainable Value Chain Development:
novations, Technologies and Business Opportunities
BCDI
Abhinav Kant
Bamboo and Cane Development Institute
Lichubagan, P.O. Agartala Secretariat, Agartala,
Tripura – 799010 – INDIA
9436581358
akantbcdi@gmail.com
SONY


OVERALL PROCESS SCHEMATIC
Bamboo Feed Handling
Cooking & Fractionation
Washing & Filtration
Power Plant
Drying
Evaporation
Hydrolysis
Distillation
Stillage Treatment
Ethanol Purification
Fermentation
ABEPL




অসম বায়' ইথানল প্রাইভেট লিমিটেড


ABE PL
NRL
PROCESS SCHE
Bamboo Feed Handling
Cooking & Fractionation
Power Plant
Drying
Ethanol Purification




BAMBOO VALUE CHAIN
farm
processing unit
market
construction site




LiFE
Lifestyle for Environment
WEEKLONG TRAINING COURSE ON
Bamboo Resource Development for Addressing Livelihood Concerns of Communities
For Officers of Indian Forest Service
DR. SANJAY SINGH