



TRIPURA BAMBOO MISSION

Quarterly Progress Report

October-December, 2014

Submitted to:

**Department of Industries & Commerce
Government of Tripura**

Shilpodyog Bhawan, Khejur Bagan, Agartala

Submitted by:



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Annexure-I: Summary of Financial Progress Achieved

Annexure-I: Summary of Physical Progress Achieved

1. ABOUT TRIPURA BAMBOO MISSION

1.1. Introduction

Tripura Bamboo Mission (TBM) is an initiative of the Government of Tripura to focus on enhancement of turnover of Bamboo sector coupled with promotion of livelihood opportunities. The Mission's objectives of scaling up turnover of Bamboo sector and to simultaneously increase the livelihood opportunities are sought to be achieved through cluster development approach involving institution building, industrial linkages, better market and credit facilities coupled with resource upgradation, working on a project mode.

Tripura Bamboo Mission, launched by the Government of Tripura during 2007, had an initial objective of enhancing turnover of bamboo sector from Rs. 27.9 crores to Rs. 75.85 crores. By the mid-term review in 2009 through various initiatives and activities, the mission had scaled up its turnover to Rs.56.65 crores by 2009-10 and Rs. 115.56 crore by 2012-13. Basing on the pace of reforms and taking advantage of the extension of the project, the TBM has revised its target of turnover achievement to Rs. 200 crores at the end of FY 2016-17. The TBM has so far exceeded in not only consolidating the bamboo sector in Tripura but has also initiated a number of activities for value addition and scaling up of the production to realize the market potential of the sector. The initiatives in scaling up production of polished sticks, rolled sticks and perfumed sticks with corresponding capacity building, institution development and market linkage are noteworthy. The initiative of promoting clusters and supplementing infrastructure facilities with an eye on efficient marketing through the concept of common facility centers and producers, growers and marketers society is praise worthy.

TBM is the nodal agency of the Government of Tripura for implementation of all bamboo value addition development projects in the State. The institutional structure of TBM has been strengthened to the level of a society. Tripura Bamboo Mission is registered under the Societies Registration Act 1860, headed by the Chief Secretary, Government of Tripura and the General Body comprises of Secretaries and Head of Departments of Forests, Industry, Handicrafts, Rural Development, Social Welfare, Tribal Welfare and Finance, Financing institutions etc. The TBM is being implemented in a PPP mode. The Government of Tripura has engaged IL&FS Cluster Development Initiative to implement the Tripura Bamboo Mission in April 2007, in view of proven expertise and experience in designing, executing and implementing of projects in cluster development and livelihood promotion in various parts of the country. The Company has deployed a multi-skilled team in Tripura and has built a network of partners and domain experts to undertake the implementation of the Tripura Bamboo Mission.

1.2. Vision

To make Tripura as the hub of bamboo based sustainable micro, small and medium industries in the country by mobilizing the local natural and human resources and

enable structured growth in the sector by strong institution building and market linkage.

1.3. Objective

- To sustain the growth achieved in the bamboo sector and increase the current turnover from Rs. 95 crores to 200 crores over a 5 year duration.
- Build the bamboo sector as a major livelihood provider and provide employment opportunities to 20,000 poor producers in the sector.
- Provide critical production and commercial infrastructure, technology, marketing support, capacity building and product diversification, to build competitiveness and ensure sustainable development of the clusters.

1.4. TBM Interventions & Sub-sectors

- Build sustainable bamboo based livelihoods based on a cluster based approach.
- Develop an institutional structure owned and managed by grassroots producers & their federations.
- Build their enterprises based on commercially sustainable business models.
- Provide infrastructure, skill training, design support and direct market linkages.
- Mobilize private investment in the bamboo sector in areas like bamboo composites, mechanized sticks and other industrial products.
- Promote plantation in non-forest areas, private land holdings and homestead plantations

1.5. Growth of bamboo sector

The growth trend of bamboo sector in the state is satisfactory, as observed during the last 7 years. The turnover of commercial bamboo sector was estimated at Rs. 212.32 crore for the financial year 2013-14. Major contribution was from the incense sector especially bamboo sticks; however, steady growth in handicrafts sector was also observed. A provisional estimate of turnover has been made by the Tripura Bamboo Mission as presented below.

Estimated Year wise Turnover of Bamboo Sector in Tripura (in Rs. Crores)								
Year	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Turnover	28.00	35.50	56.56	76.00	93.05	107.22	115.56	121.32

2. PROGRESS ACHIEVED IN INCENSE SECTOR:

2.1. Progress achieved under different project head

Project Name: Integrated Development of Incense Clusters in Tripura supported by North East Council (NEC), Govt. of India

About the Project:

The project “Integrated Development of Incense Clusters in Tripura” has been approved by the North Eastern Council, Government of India. The total project cost is Rs. 779.90 lakh (NEC: 90%, GoT: 10%). Implementation of the project started in the 3rd quarter of FY 2013-14.

The project aims to develop integrated incense clusters at 30 locations in the state of Tripura. It entails establishment of incense stick production centres, introduction of community friendly technology, skill development of artisans, capacity building of the producers to run their own grass root organization and establishing linkage with mainstream markets.

The Key activities/interventions under this project are- Mobilizing & identifying beneficiaries, organizing beneficiaries into group & institutionalizing them as incense stick producer groups, Technological intervention including skill development and capacity development, Marketing interventions- exploring different marketing channels and penetrating into mainstream & upscale markets.

Progress Achieved during October-December, 2014

Mobilization & Training of Key Group Leaders

- Tripura Bamboo Mission mobilized women beneficiaries to form their own group for production of incense sticks and mechanized rolled incense sticks.
- Total 100 nos. of women in 6 groups have been formed during the quarter. Till date under the project 30 groups have been mobilized with more than 600 members from Dukli Block, West Tripura, Khowai RD Block, Khowai district, Matabari RD Block, Gomati district, Jubarajnagar RD block, Dharmanagar, Tepania RD block, Gomti district, Salema RD block, Dhalai Tripura, Mohanbhog RD block, Sepahilaja, Kumarghat RD block, Unakoti district, Bishalgarh RD block, Sepahijala district, Damcherra block, North Tripura.
- Meetings, Focused Group Discussions, 2 days capacity building programmes, workshops, exposure visits etc. have been organized.
- The groups have opened bank account in a bank at their locality and will apply for Societies Registration Act, 1860.



Capacity Building Training

With the purpose of enabling artisans to be capable of producing incense/agarbatti sticks with quality the following capacity building programmes have been organized.

- Training programme on semi mechanized incense stick making was organized with 24 nos. women from Salema Agarbatti stick Producer Group. The programme was organized from 25th October to 8th November 2014. Regular group meeting by the producers group is organized and regular savings are continued by the group members in the group's bank account. The market linkage has been set up with South Kachucherra Agarbatti Mahila Samittee at Dhalai Tripura.



- Capacity building programme on mechanized rolling for 30 days was organized from 26th November to 25th December, 2014 where total 20 nos. of artisans of Shanti SHG, Golaghati, Sepahijala district, participated. In the centre total 20 nos. of pedal type agarbatti rolling machines were installed. Market linkage facilitated with Udayan for regular and smooth marketing along with smooth raw material arrangement.
- Capacity building programme on mechanized rolling of 30 days was conducted during 5th December 2014 -4th January, 2015 for total 20 nos. of artisans from Biswas Domestic Agarbatti Producer Group, Udaipur, Gomati district. 20 nos. of pedal type agarbatti rolling machines have been installed at the group's production unit.
- Capacity building programme on mechanized rolling of 30 days was conducted during 14th December 2014- 12th January, 2015 for total 20 nos. of artisans of Ranga SHG, Sunaimuri, Kumarghat, Unakoti district. In the centre total 20 nos. of pedal type agarbatti rolling machines have been installed. Market linkage has been facilitated with Sree Balaji Udyog.

- Capacity building programme on mechanized rolling for 30 days was conducted during 8th December 2014- 7th January, 2015 for total 20 nos. of artisans of Mangaldeep Amin Agarbatti Producer Group, Jubarajnagar, Dharmanagar, North Tripura district. In the centre total 20 nos. of pedal type agarbatti rolling machines have been installed. Market Linkage has been facilitated with Sree Balaji Udyog.
- TBM is handholding mechanized rolling clusters at Palpara, Bishargarh, Sepahijala, Rupacherra, Teliamura, Khowai district and semi mechanised stick making clusters at Chandrapur, Gomti district, Rajnagar, Kumarghat Uankoti district along with the cluster mentioned above in the report. These clusters were formed during current financial year.



Technological Intervention

- Empanelment done for procurement of pedal type agarbatti rolling machine and incense stick making machine and other essential tools & equipments.
- Total 200 nos. paddle type agarbatti rolling machines have been procured out of which 140 machines have been installed in the clusters.
- Total 300 nos. improvised bamboo stick making cum slicing machines have been installed in the clusters
- 6 agarbatti masala dough making machine and 9 digital weighing machines have been procured and installed in the identified clusters.

Project Name: Proposal for establishment of community based semi mechanized bamboo stick unit in Tripura supported by Tripura JICA Project

Tripura Bamboo Mission has been given the mandate for establishing 5 semi-mechanized stick making centers and 2 mechanized rolled batti centers. The beneficiaries & the project locations have been finalized by Tripura JICA from the JFMCs. The centers are hand-held for a period of one year and then handed over to Tripura JICA.

Activities during the Quarter October-December, 2014

- Uttarmaharani, Teliamura: Community Production Centre (CPC) on bamboo stick making at Hamchajak JFMC, Uttar Maharani, Khowai district has been established and a group of 40 local women producers was formed. The CPC was inaugurated on 4th Feb, 2014. Presently the group is engaged in bamboo stick production with market linkage facilitated by Tripura Bamboo Mission.
- Karbongpara, Teliamura: One rolled agarbatti producer group was formed by organizing 40 tribal women at Karbong para, and Rupacherra, Khowai district. Total 20 nos. agarbatti pedal type machines have been installed at Karbongpara. The local artisans have formed a group namely Karbongpara Agarbatti Producer Group to manage the activity. The group members are engaged in production of extruded raw agarbatti and the market linkage has been facilitated by Tripura Bamboo Mission.
- Both the centers are to be handed over to Tripura JICA after minimum of one year hand-holding, expected to be completed by April, 2015.
- Tripura Bamboo Mission has handed over 5 centers of bamboo value addition (1 rolled agarbatti & 4 semi mechanized stick) to Tripura JICA during the quarter.



Project Name: Proposal for establishment of community based semi mechanized bamboo stick unit in Tripura supported by Indo-German Development Co-operation Project (IGDC) project:

The project aims to develop a model for generating sustainable income for rural community through Production of polished bamboo stick, agarbatti rolling with market linkage.

Scope of the project:

Capacity building & strengthens the livelihood of rural people on **semi mechanized bamboo stick making & Agarbatti Rolling with Marketing** at the village level to the community.

Approach to the Project:

- The project will focus on the selected villages of IGDC program for the proposed intervention.
- The community will be mobilized for undertaking incense activity which will give them good income from the local resource available in the area.
- Basic machines like cross cutting, sliver cum stick making machines, paddle machine will be provided at the MPUC of IGDC/CFC of TBM/other identified places in the villages.
- Training will be provided to the community through proper selection of the needy and interested people with minimum skill level in the village.
- The community/IGDC has to provide the required working capital as per the business plan.
- The working capital may be in the form of kind (bamboo) or wages (labor)
- After sales of the product, the profit will be distributed among the producers as per their contribution to the volume/sale.
- The TBM team will handhold the producer group in maintaining their record, books of accounts, production and sales data etc
- Market linkage will be facilitated to all the project villages for selling at a suitable price.

Progress Achieved during October-December, 2014

South Kachucherra, Salema:- Training programme completed on 15th October, 14 for thirty days on mechanized Agarbatti Rolling at **South Kachucherra**, Salema, Dhalai. The trained artisans have formed a producer group with 20 members; the members/beneficiaries have been selected by VDPIC and the group is registered under IGDC project. The group name is South Kachuchara Agarbatti Mahila Samiti.



Mendi, Salema:- Training programme completed on 23rd December, 14 for 30 days on mechanized Agarbatti Rolling at **Mendi**, Salema, Dhalai. 20 trainees/ beneficiaries have selected by VDPIC and a producer group/CIG was formed namely Mendi Women Agarbatti Society. The group has been registered under IGDC project.



Bagmara, Ambassa:- At Bagmara, Ambassa Tripura Bamboo Mission and IGDC have identified 20 beneficiaries who are interested to work in bamboo stick making. The beneficiaries are being organized as producer group and will be authorized by IGDC. The workshed for carrying out the production activity will be arranged by the respective VDPIC and handed over to the group before commencement of training & production.



Project name: Stitch-Skill up gradation Programme (STitch) in Handicraft (incense sector) in Tripura under Integrated Skill Development Scheme (ISDS) supported by Ministry of Textile, Govt. of India:

Integrated Skill Development Scheme (ISDS) was launched by the Ministry of Textiles to fulfill the shortage of skilled manpower in the sector under the ambit of Textiles & Apparel, Handicrafts, Handlooms, Jute, Sericulture, Technical Textiles. The ISD scheme has two components. The Component-II is to undertake skill development in partnership with private sector through PPP model.

IL&FS Cluster Development Initiative Ltd. is one of the implementing agencies (IAs) appointed by the Ministry of Textiles. The courses offered by IL&FS Clusters are under textiles, apparel & handicrafts commonly termed as “STITCH” (Skill Training on Textiles, Clothing & Handicraft). The programmes have been organized in collaboration with TBM in TBM promoted clusters.

Activities during October- December, 2014

- One skill training on machine rolled agarbatti has been organized at Bagmara, Dukli RD Block, West Tripura from 29th October to 14th December. 20 artisans have been trained for 45 days.
- One skill training on machine rolled agarbatti has been organized at Gandhigram, West Tripura from 10th November to 31st December, 2014. 30 artisans have been trained for 45 days.



3. PROGRESS ACHIEVED IN HANDICRAFTS SECTOR

3.1. Progress achieved under different project head

Project Name: Integrated Development of Bamboo Handicraft Clusters in Tripura supported by NE Council

About the Project:

The project “Integrated Development of Bamboo Handicraft Clusters in Tripura” has been approved by the North Eastern Council vide their letter no.NEC/IND/TR/13/2011 dated 23/03/2012. The total project cost is Rs. 441.25 lakh (NEC: 90%, GoT: 10%). Implementation of the project started in the 3rd quarter of FY2012-13.

The project aims to develop integrated bamboo handicraft clusters at 6 locations in the state of Tripura. It entails establishment of bamboo craft production centres, development of new designs, skill development of artisans, capacity building of the producers to run their own grassroot organization and establishing linkage with mainstream markets. The major craft category includes basketry, mat, mat based utility, carving, pasting, furnishing crafts.

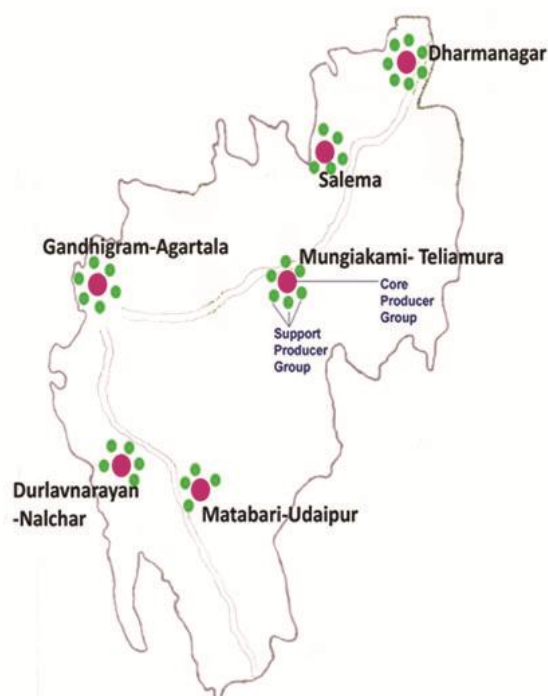
The project locations are- 1) Dharmanagar, 2) Salema, 3) Teliamura-Mungiakami, 4) Gandhigram- Agartala, 5) Durlavnarayan-Nalchar & 6) Matabari-Udaipur.

The Key activities/interventions under this project are- Mobilizing & identifying beneficiaries, organizing beneficiaries & institutionalizing them as craft producer groups, Technological intervention including design & skill development and capacity development to industry standards, Marketing interventions- exploring different marketing channels and penetrating into mainstream & upscale markets, Financial support to build producers’ working capital.

Project Implementation & Progress

The project implementation started in the FY 2013-14 with baseline survey at the selected project locations. The project is a challenging one as the project locations does not have any traditional bamboo commercial activity in large scale. However, TBM’s strategy to expand the production base is portrayed from acceptance of this project.

Tripura Bamboo Mission has deputed a dedicated team of professionals including livelihood experts, designers, marketing expert etc. to provide holistic support for



inclusive growth of the clusters; a full time cluster manager has been deputed at each location. Craft producer groups have been formed at the clusters as the core producer of finished goods and several bamboo intermediate product support groups formed in the catchment areas to support the core producer groups. The core producer Groups formed are- Juri Craft Producer Group (Dharmanagar), Dhalai Craft Producer Group (Salema), Chakmaghat Craft Producer Group (Mungiakami-Teliamura), Malancha Craft Producer Group (Gandhigram- Agartala), Neermahal Craft Producer Group, (Durlavnarayan-Nalchar) & Matabari Craft Producer Group (Udaipur- Matabari).

Project Implementation & Progress till date:-

- The project is being implemented as per the prescribed guidelines of NE Council.
- Rs. 100 lakh has been released as first installment in 2013; Utilization Certificate for the same amount has been submitted to NE Council in July, 2014.
- The second installment for the project is yet to be released to the implementing agency.
- So far the interventions done by TBM under the project include the following-
 - Mobilization & Identification potential craft pockets & beneficiaries- mobilization camps organized at each project locations
 - Institution Building- formation of artisan community producer organizations has been undertaken. Initially 6 producer groups have been formed as core groups. Other new groups are being readied. The group members have been trained in different aspects of group formation & management. As the core strategy of TBM, all these producer groups in future will be federated as a Producer Company for sustainable operation in the long run.
 - Technological Intervention: The group members have been trained under the programmes a) design & technical development workshop, b) skill development workshop c) integrated design & technical development workshop. Apart from this, exposure visit to various clusters, markets & institutes like BCDI, Agartala have also been arranged.
 - Marketing Intervention: As per the project guideline, various initiatives has been undertaken to market the handicraft produced by the groups. While TBM Trade Facilitation cell supports them exclusively for getting orders, promotion & publicity has been undertaken using catalogues, posters, internet/ online marketing, video documentary etc. The handicraft products has been exhibited in various national & international fairs & exhibitions like IITF, Kerala Bamboo fest etc. to name a few.
 - Financial Intervention: Full time cluster managers to support the producer groups have been deputed. The margin money for the artisan members are being gradually released based on the production requirement & performance of the group.
 - Cluster specific infrastructure related intervention: six common facility centers are to be built in each cluster under the project. It has been planned that, the construction may start in due time after release of fund under this project component. Some improvised tools & implements required by the existing groups have been provided to them.

Activities during the October-December, 2014

- All the producer Groups have started commercial production of bamboo handicraft.
- The groups have set their monthly production targets.
- TBM trade facilitation cell is supporting the groups in marketing of their products.
- In the clusters, gradually, more such producer groups are being readied.
- Identification of potential craft pockets and the interested artisans are being undertaken by Tripura Bamboo Mission.
- The producer groups, which are essentially artisan community owned institutions, regularly making group savings, meetings & other group related activities.
- The groups & the cluster managers of Tripura Bamboo Mission are being trained in various aspects of group management, record book keeping etc. apart from technical input for improvement quality & productivity and managing the overall production activity.
- 34(thirty four) persons including cluster managers, group leaders, master artisans have been trained on “Enterprise management & institutional capacity building” organized from 28th to 29th October, 2014 at Jogendranagar CFC, Agartala.
- 30(thirty) persons including cluster managers, group leaders, master artisans have been trained on “Enterprise management & institutional capacity building” organized from 28th to 29th October, 2014 at Asha Holycross, Lembucherra.
- The participants of “Enterprise management & institutional capacity building” programme have been trained on group member identification, group formation, team building, group nurturing, roles & responsibilities members, selection of key leaders within the group, book keeping, business planning & execution etc.



*Training on Enterprise Management & Institutional Capacity Building at
Jogendranagar, Agartala*



Training on Enterprise Management & Institutional Capacity Building at Asha Holycross, Lembucherra

Project Name: Design & Technology Upgradation Scheme of O/o the DC(Handicrafts)-

About the Project:

The O/o the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), Ministry of Textiles has approved 5(five) Design & Technical development workshops to be implemented by TBM. The revalidated sanction letter was received in 2013-14. The project locations are- a)Charilam, b) Jogendranagar, c)Kalibazar, d) Rajdharnagar & e) Agartala

Project Implementation & Progress till date:-

- One workshop at Charilam CFC has been organized
- The first instalment for organizing the workshop is yet to be released
- The remaining programmes will be organized after receiving the first instalment as mentioned in the guidelines of Design & Technology Upgradation Scheme

Project Name: Institution & Industry Linked Training on Bamboo Packaging, Bags & Accessories for Rural Artisans in Tripura supported by Ministry of DoNER

About the Project:

The project aims to provide specialized trainings in identified sectors with established market potential through linkage with well established institutional and industry partners. The program will focus on two key areas of skill training namely (i) Skill Training for Bags and Accessories and (ii) Skill Training in bamboo packaging (three identified sub-sectors: Vegetable and Fruit exporters; confectionary products, spa and wellness products). The skill training project aims at training 1500 artisans of Tripura to build the capacities and thereby generating livelihoods for artisans. The project also has components of Training of Trainers (ToTs) and training of enterprises in production management & merchandising. The project was sanctioned by Ministry DoNER vide their letter No. 10/21/2010-CB&TA, Dated: 3rd December, 2010 and No.10/21/2010-CB&TA, Dated: 20th June, 2013.

Project Implementation & Progress:

- Physical target for training 1500 persons has been achieved- Bags & Accessories (300) & Bamboo Packaging (1200) across different clusters in the state.
- Utilization details for the fund received have been submitted; however the third installment is yet to be released by the Ministry.

Project Name: Skill Training on Textiles, Clothing & Handicraft (STITCH) under Integrated Skill Development Scheme (ISDS) supported by Ministry of Textiles, Government of India

About the Project

Integrated Skill Development Scheme (ISDS) was launched by the Ministry of Textiles to fulfill the shortage of skilled manpower in the sector under the ambit of Textiles & Apparel, Handicrafts, Handlooms, Jute, Sericulture, Technical Textiles. The ISD scheme has two components. The Component-II is to undertake skill development in partnership with private sector through PPP model.

IL&FS Cluster Development Initiative Ltd. is one of the implementing agencies (IAs) appointed by the Ministry of Textiles. The courses offered by IL&FS Clusters are under textiles, apparel & handicrafts commonly termed as “STITCH” (Skill Training on Textiles, Clothing & Handicraft).

Project Implementation & Progress:

- One skill training programme has been completed at Natural Weaves & Craft, Baikhora where 25 (twenty five) artisans have been trained from 21st August, 2014 to 12th October, 2014. Duration of the programme is 45 days.

- One skill training programme has been Completed at Swami Jogananda SHG, Uttar Majlishpur where 25 (twenty five) artisans have been trained from 6th November, 2014 to 23rd December, 2014. Duration of the programme is 45 days.
- One skill training programme has been commenced at Modern Handicrafts-West Nalchar where 28 (twenty eight) artisans are being trained from 21st November, 2014. Duration of the programme is 45 days.
- One skill training programme has been commenced at Mahamaya Handicraft-Ranirgaon where 26 (twenty six) artisans are being trained from 15th December, 2014. Duration of the programme is 45 days.
- One skill training programme has been commenced at Swami Jogananda SHG Brajanagar where 27 (twenty seven) artisans are being trained from 15th December, 2014. Duration of the programme is 45 days.



Training on Value Addition of NTFPs for Sustainable Livelihood organized at SIPARD

A three day training on 'Value Addition of NTFPs with special reference to Bamboo' was organized at State Institute of Public Administration & Rural development (SIPARD), Agartala. 19 (nineteen) persons from TBM promoted producer groups & cluster managers (11 from handicraft & 8 from incense sectors) participated in the said residential training that was held from 29th to 31st December, 2014.



3.2. Status of Producer Groups

Dharmanagar Cluster

The artisan of the group has undertaken the production of Cane Sofa Set & Chairs during the quarter. The group is functional with regular saving & meeting. At present there are 12 members in the group. A total of 105 persons have been trained under integrated design & technical development workshop held at 3 locations in the cluster.



Production of Cane & Bamboo products by Juri Craft Producer group

Salema Cluster

The artisans of 'Dhalai Craft Producer Group' have undertaken production of Bamboo Basket during the quarter and the group has been linked to a leading buyer of bamboo basket in the state. The group has 32 working members engaged in production of bamboo basket. Dhalai Craft Producer group is the core producer group of the cluster; ancillary supporting groups are also being trained & developed. A total of 486 persons have been trained under integrated design & technical development workshop held at 12 locations in the cluster.



Production of Bamboo Utility Basket by Dhalai Craft Producer Group

Mungiakami- Teliamura Cluster

The artisans of 'Chakmaghat Craft Producer Group' have undertaken production of Bamboo Decorative products during the quarter. TBM supported in marketing of the products that attracted buyers from within and outside the state. 16 persons are presently engaged in the group. The group is the core producer group of the cluster; ancillary supporting groups are also being trained & developed. A total of 135 persons have been trained under integrated design & technical development workshop held at 3 locations in the cluster.



Production of Bamboo Turning Products at Mungiakami cluster

Gandhigram- Agartala Cluster

The artisans of Malancha Craft Producer Group have undertaken the production of Bamboo Mat based Utility products like ladies purse, folder, bag etc during the quarter. A total of 123 persons have been trained under integrated design & technical development workshop held at 5 locations in the cluster. TBM supported in marketing the products from within and outside the state. At present 15 artisans are working in Narshingrah and 12 persons are working in Paschim Gandhigram.





Production of Bamboo Bags & Accessories by Malancha Craft Producer Group

Durlavnarayan- Nalchar Cluster

The artisans of the cluster have undertaken the production of Bamboo Utility Basket during the quarter. The group is functional with regular saving & meeting. At present there are 18 members in the group. Neer mahal Craft Producer group is the core producer group of the cluster, ancillary supporting groups are also being trained & developed. A total of 105 persons have been trained under integrated design & technical development workshop held at 3 locations in the cluster.

Another Group Namely Sanchoy Craft Producer Group with 24 members have been formed and the group has started production of bamboo utility basket set at their workshop at Khash Chowmuhan village.



Production of Bamboo Utility Baskets at Khash Chowmuhan- Durlavnarayan Cluster

Matabari-Udaipur

The artisans of the group have produced bamboo tray, bamboo laptop stand during the quarter. Presently there are 16 members in the group. The group is functional with regular saving & meeting .The group is the core producer group of the cluster, ancillary supporting groups are also being trained & developed.



Production of Bamboo Handicraft by Matabari Craft Producer Group

Baikhora

The Natural Weaves & Craft is the major producer group in the cluster. There are 12 active member artisans who are engaged in production of bamboo mat & sheetal pati based utility products. The products are marketed mostly outside the state. While the main value addition is done by the producer society's CFC at East Charakbai village, there are at least 200 artisans linked to the cluster who supply bamboo mat & sheetal pati. The producer has established themselves as a recognized supplier of products in different parts of the country. TBM is supporting them by facilitating market linkages, getting orders as well as streamlining their production for enhanced quality & quality. The group is planning to expand its production base by engaging more artisans and facilitating credit linkages for working capital.





Production of Bamboo Handicraft by Natural Weaves & Crafts

Kaladhepa

Kaladhepa is an emerging cluster of bamboo mat based utility handicraft production in the state. The main producer group is the Gairing Society, formed by the local craft persons of Kaldhepa village under Manubazar R. D. Block. The CFc at Kaladhepa is the main centre for value addition in the cluster and is managed by the Gairing Society. After initial hurdles, the society has started commercial production of bamboo handicraft. At present, 18 artisan members are working at the cluster. The main product categories are, bamboo mat (woven on handlooms), Bags, accessories & home utilities made using mat by stitching, pasting, cutting techniques. TBM is supporting the society in getting bulk orders throughout the year.



Production of Bamboo Handicraft by Gairing Society

Revival of CFCs

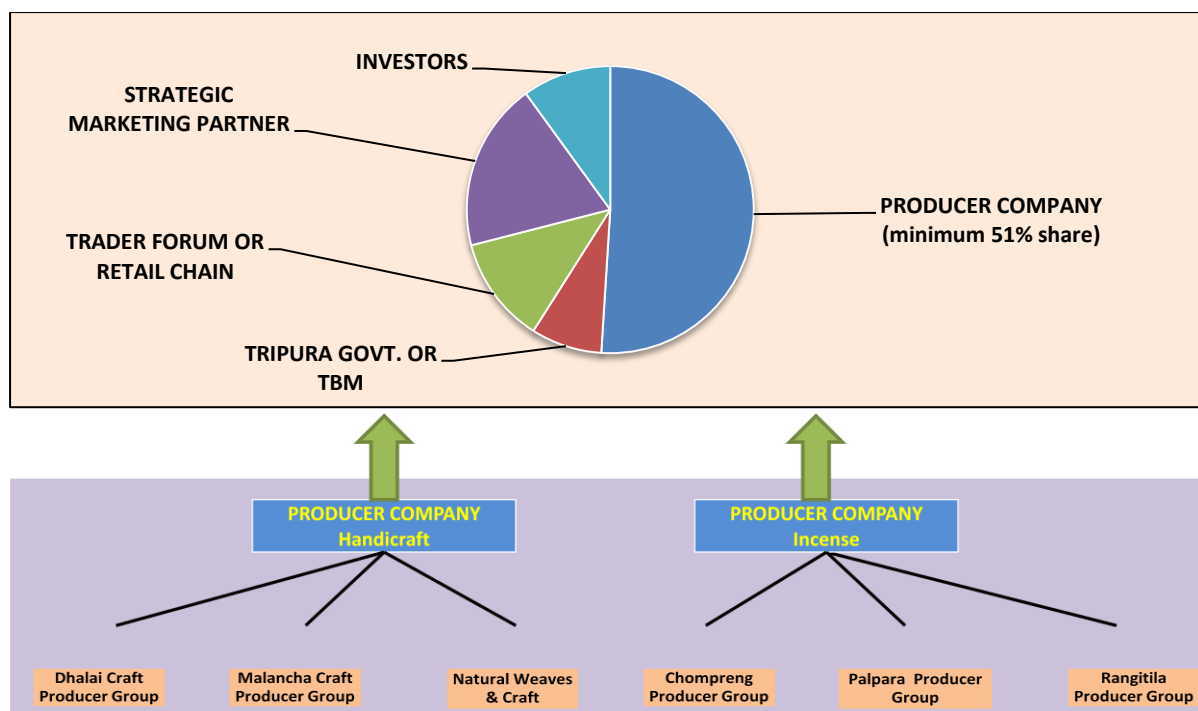
Revival plan for Charilam, Nalchar & Jogendranagar CFCs is in process. Detailed Business plans for Jogendranagar & Charilam CFCs have been prepared. Meeting with the local artisans have been organized; producer groups in the form of SHG or Society will be formed to run the production activity in the CFCs.

Major Challenges for the Producers

- Insufficient working capital leading to less production volume
- Product stock piling up due to non-availability of bulk orders
- Non-availability of critical raw materials & consumables in local markets & at cheaper rates
- Increased cost of bamboo leading to high production cost

Sustainability of Producer Groups

In the long run, it has been planned that, the small producer groups will be federated to form a Producer Company. It will have representatives from each producer group. The total production orders will be executed directly by the proposed Producer Company. An SPV/ Private Limited Company will be formed with the proposed Producer Company being the major shareholder and other shareholders like Tripura Bamboo Mission, Marketing Agencies, Trader Forum, Retail Chain & other investors. Presently, the bulk orders are channelized through TBM Trade Facilitation Cell to different producer groups. Institutional structure of the proposed SPV is given below.



TBM Resource Centre

TBM Resource Centre is being set up at Shed No. 3, A. D. Nagar Industrial Estate, Agartala. The producers located at different parts Tripura need a central facility for managing raw material & finished product flow, demonstration of techniques, quality testing lab for different materials, warehousing, hands-on-training so that. Apart from being a support centre, it will also be a model demonstration centre for handicraft & agarbatti. Considering a state level private limited company to be formed by these producers, the proposed Resource Centre is essential to manage the entire operation centrally.

Facilities to be available at TBM Resource Centre for SHGs, Producer Societies, Enterprises, NGOs etc. are,

- Product Development: Stitching, Cutting, Pasting & Weaving based Bamboo Handicraft
- Demonstration & Testing Facility: Raw Agarbatti, Agarbatti Perfuming, Quality Testing
- Raw Material Bank: Dye, Treatment materials, essential material for bags & accessories, Fragrance, Agarbatti packaging material, Spares
- Training & Exposure: Demonstration & Hands-on-training for artisans, NGOs, Entrepreneurs, SHGs
- Warehouse: Finished Goods (Handicraft & Agarbatti) inventory, central supply chain management



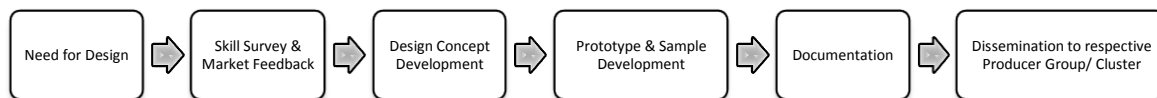
The TBM Resource Centre is expected to be operationalized during 4th Quarter of FY 2014-15.

3.3. Design Intervention

Design development is an important activity of TBM to keep the clusters updated about the latest trends in handicraft. An exclusive 'Design Cell' (TBM-DC) has been set up at the TBM Project office where dedicated designer and master artisans have been deployed to develop very trendy yet user friendly craft ideas and prototyping of the same. The reasons behind setting up the Design Cell are to provide design prototype support to the

clusters as well as improve marketing intervention. The designs are tested in the market and transferred to potential producers/entrepreneurs after prototyping.

The activities of design Cell are as follows:-



A glimpse of new products developed by TBM Design Cell, which have been produced during the quarter in the clusters, is given below:-





Few products developed by TBM's Design Cell, those are under production by producers

3.4. Marketing & Trade Facilitation

From October to December, 2014 major marketing interventions by Tripura Bamboo Mission are as follows.

Key products marketed –

- Mat based Utility Bags
- Baskets with handle
- Hand fan
- Table Mat
- Jewelry Box
- Gift box & pouches
- Bamboo briefcase
- Jhola bags (multi-utility low cost bag)
- Traveling Pouch
- Low cost Conference bags
- Sheetal pati File Folder
- File Cover
- Various types of hand bags & purses

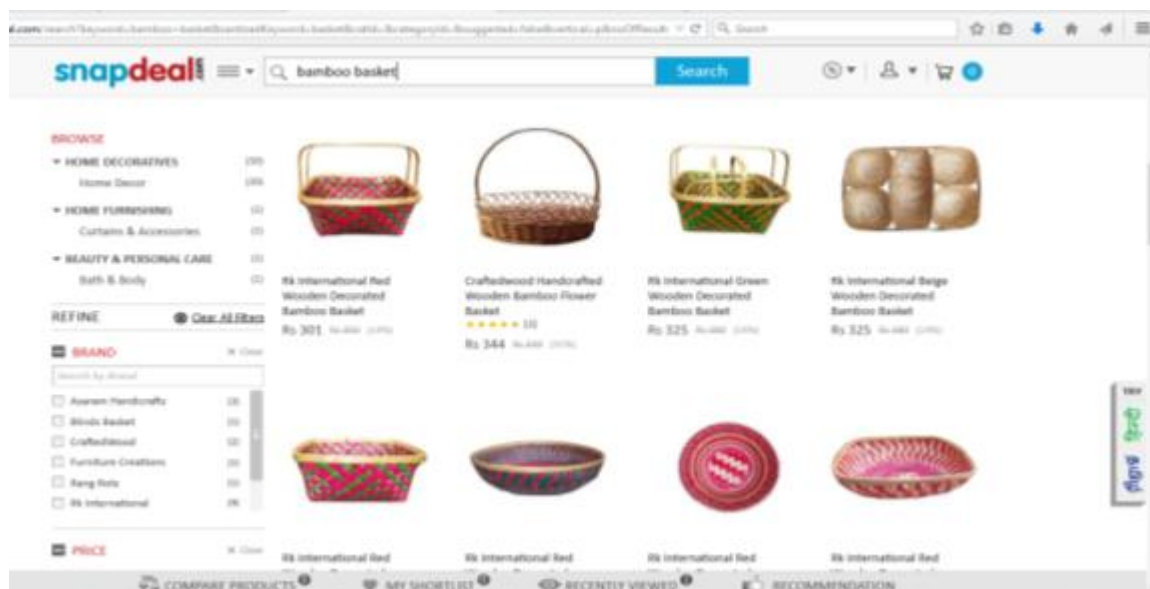
Major Buyers

- Kalakarni, Mumbai www.kalakarni.net
- Rekha Balani, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- Chokhi Dhani Resorts, Jaipur www.chokhidhani.com
- North East Handloom, Handicrafts Development Corporation Ltd. (NEHHDC Ltd.)
www.nehhdc.com
- Tripura Handloom, Handicrafts Development Corporation Ltd. (THHDC Ltd.)
www.purbasha.nic.in
- TY Boutique, Chennai www.tyboutique.com

Major Steps taken for improvement of trade facilitation

- B2C marketing through eBay.in
- B2B marketing through Indiamart.com

- **MoU with NEHHDC:** An MoU has been signed between Tripura Bamboo Mission & North Eastern Handloom, Handicrafts Development Corporation Ltd., Guwahati for marketing of Tripura Bamboo products.
- Revamping of TBM portal is in progress; the new portal will have payment gateway facility facilitating direct online selling of products.



3.5. Participation in Fair, Exhibition, Buyer Seller Meet

IITF 2014, New Delhi: Tripura Bamboo Mission Participated in the India International Trade Fair 2014 held at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi from 14th to 27th November, 2014. Products from different producer groups promoted by TBM have been displayed & sold at the said fair.



Indo-US Technology Summit Knowledge Expo, Greater Noida: Tripura Bamboo Mission participated in the Indo-US Technology Summit Knowledge Expo at Greater Noida from 17th to 22nd November, 2014. Exclusive bamboo products from Tripura were displayed at the said summit.



Kerala Bamboo Fest 2014: Tripura Bamboo Mission Participated in the Kerala Bamboo Fest 2014 held at Kochi, from 5th to 9th December. 10 artisans from Tripura participated in the said fair and exhibited bamboo craft products made in Tripura.



NE Handicraft Buyer Seller Meet: Tripura Bamboo Mission participated in the Buyer Seller Meet cum Exhibition of Handicrafts & Handlooms of North East held at Brahmaputra Ashok, Guwahati on 20th December, 2014. Organized by Ministry of Textiles, the meet provided a platform for producers of North East including Tripura to share product & market intelligence with the buyers.



4. PROGRESS ACHIEVED IN RESOURCE GENERATION SECTOR

4.1. Innovative Bamboo Nurseries involving SHGs

IL&FS-TBM has organized several meetings at block level at Belbari R D Block regarding the selection of the SHGs for innovative bamboo nursery rising under MGNREGA program. 3 SHGs / LAMPS finalized (List Tabulated below).

S. No.	Name of SHG/LAMPS	Village
1	Khatansa SHG	Belbari
2	Chandramallika SHG	Purba J.J Nagar
3	Champaknagar Anchalik Lamps	East Belbari

These above SHGs/Lamps have received 10,000 nos. plantlets for hardening. Later they split/processed these plantlets for multiplication.

4.2. Other highlights of the Plantation programme

- The respective BDOs and DMs have also visited the plantation work of TBM-IL& FS during the quarter in the field.



BDO – Belbari visited the plot



BDO- Mohanpur visited the plot

- Completed the first weeding and mulching of each beneficiary plot.



Beneficiaries are working in their plot

- Provided wage payment to the job card holder for weeding and mulching.
- Post plantation follow up meeting conducted by Tripura Bamboo mission with all the beneficiaries, panchayat representatives and block representatives done in the month of October and November 2014.



- Tripura Bamboo Mission has provided sign board each & every individual beneficiaries' plot according to the MGNREGA guidelines.



Beneficiary in plot with Banner
Hezamara Block



Beneficiary in plot with Banner
Mungiakami Block

- Tripura Bamboo Mission has established an innovative bamboo nursery for 40,000 (Forty Thousand) polybags of **Bambusa Tulda** (Mritinga) in Industrial Growth Centre, Bodhjungle Nagar with scientific method in the month of December 2014.



- Conducted meeting for mobilization with all the beneficiaries/ Villagers, panchayat representatives and block representatives done for 2015 planting season in the month of December.



Mobilization camp under Belbari Block



Mobilization Camp under Mungiakami Block

5. IMPORTANT NEWS & EVENTS

- Executive Committee Meeting of Tripura Bamboo Mission was held on 14th November, 2014 at Conference Hall, Shilpodyog bhawan under the Chairmanship of Mission Director, TBM. The executive committee members of TBM Society were present at the said meeting.
- A review of the activities of Tripura Bamboo Mission was held on 23rd December, 2014 at Conference Hall, Shilpodyog bhawan under the Chairmanship of Mission Director, TBM. The Mission Director reviewed sector wise status & progress of activities. Mission manager of TBM and the project/sector coordinators were also present at the said meeting.
- Two consultants from Tata Institute of Social Sciences visited Tripura and interacted with artisans, entrepreneurs, society members etc. being supported by Tripura Bamboo Mission. They reviewed the status of skill development activities being undertaken by TBM-IL&FS as a part of NSDC skill assessment in Tripura.

Annexure-I: Summary of Financial Progress Achieved

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Total Project Cost Rs. Lakh	Ministry/ Agency	Fund Received, Rs. Lakh			Remarks
				till last quarter	during the quarter	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Handicraft- DoNER	107.00	Ministry of Development of North East Region	91.77	0.00	91.77	To receive Rs. 9.72 from Ministry
2	Handicraft- NEC	441.25	North Eastern Council, MDoNER	100.00	0.00	100.00	Project implementation become very slow
3	Design & Technology Upgradation Scheme	9.00	O/o the DC(Handicrafts), MoTextiles	0.00	0.00	0.00	Follow up done and remind letter sent
4	Special SGSY project- Increasing Livelihood Opportunities and Socio-Economic Development using Bamboo in Tripura	750.00	SGSY, RD Department, Govt. of Tripura	636.00	0.00	636.00	For establishment of incense training centre at AD nagar
5	Incense- JICA	47.76	Tripura JICA Project, GoT	47.76	0.00	47.76	Centres completed will be handed over to JICA
6	Incense- NEC	779.90	North East Council, GoI	80.00	60.00	140.00	Against the Amt Rs. 280 Lakhs from NEC by TBM
7	Incense –IGDC	24.68	Indogerman Development Cooperation Project	24.68	0.00	24.68	Work ongoing
8	Training of Farmers, Workshop (Resource)	13.52	CSS National Bamboo Mission	13.52	0.00	13.52	Work ongoing
9	National workshop on Bamboo cultivation - other fund	3.50	TRLM, JICA & IGDC	3.50	0.00	3.50	UC submitted
10	Bamboo Plantation in RoFR and Private land	406.52	MGNREGA, Dept. of RD, GoT	268.29	40.78	309.07	Work ongoing
12	TOTAL	2583.13		1265.52	100.78	1366.30	

Annexure-II: Summary of Physical Progress Achieved

Sl. No.	Proposed Activity (Target)	Achievement during this Quarter	Total Achievement	Remarks
1.	Incense			
1.1	<i>Bamboo Stick for Incense</i>			
a.	Skill development/ capacity building Training- 1000 artisans	44	137	Under NEC & IGDC
b.	Establishing Stick Producer Groups- 20	2	5	
1.2	<i>Raw & Perfumed Agarbatti</i>			
a.	Skill development/ capacity building Training- 1000 artisans	170	476	Under IGDC & NEC Project
b.	Establishing Agarbatti Producer Groups- 15	3	12	Under IGDC & NEC Project
1.3	<i>Institution Development & Marketing</i>	Orientation program for 10 PG leaders	Orientation program for 20 PG leaders	Under NEC project
a.	Formation of Producer Group Federation- 1	Concept sharing & detail discussion done with major producer groups	Under formation	DS to be obtained in the next quarter
b.	Branding & Marketing of Finished Agarbatti	The products have been marketed through fairs & exhibitions	2 brands - Twipra & Tripureswari	
	Handicraft (incl. Furniture)			
2.1	Skill development/ capacity building Training on Contemporary bamboo & cane products- 1000 artisans	181	250	Under NEC & MoT projects
2.2	Thematic Design & Product Development	Lifestyle products & Fashion Accessories	Office Accessories, Lifestyle Products, Home Utility, Fashion Accessories	By TBM Design Cell
2.3	Formation of Producer Group Federation- 1	Meeting with the representatives held at individual locations.	Producer Company under formation by federating small producer groups	Expected to be formed by 4 th Quarter of FY
2.4	Set up Resource Bank for critical raw materials, spares & consumables	Detail budget & procurement list finalized	Under Process	To be set up in 4 th Quarter
2.5	Initiate Export of newly	Sampling under	Under Process	Expected to

Sl. No.	Proposed Activity (Target)	Achievement during this Quarter	Total Achievement	Remarks
	developed Bamboo & Cane craft by TBM	process		ship in 4 th Quarter
5.	Resource Generation			
5.1	Establishment of Nursery- 10 lakh planting material	0.50 lakh polybag plantlets	3.00 lakh seedlings and 1.50 lakh poly-bags plantlets	
5.2	Mobilization of RoFR beneficiaries & submission of proposal- MGNREGA	Under process	Under process	
5.3	New Plantation- 416 ha	Not taken up due to shortage of fund		
5.4	Maintenance of previous years plantation- 91 ha	Going on		
5.5	New Scheme in line with Rubber Board with different funding sources		Under process by NBM, MKSP	
5.6	Training of Farmers & Field functionaries- 500	00	270	
6.	Other Activities			
6.1	District & State Level Seminar- 2	0	3	
6.2	Celebration of World Bamboo Day	One day	Organized	
6.3	Participation in Fairs & Exhibitions (Local & national/ international)- 12 fairs/ exhibitions	4	5	Other Major fairs to be attended in Quarter 4