

1-Day Workshop on Bamboo Candy Making and Cultivation



The banner features logos of CSIR, IIT Jammu, UNNAT BHARAT ABHIYAN, IIT JAMMU, VIBHA, and NIScPR. The text is in Hindi and English, announcing a one-day training and demonstration workshop on bamboo cultivation and candy making on April 28, 2023, at IIT Jammu. It mentions collaboration with CSIR-NIScPR, IIT Delhi, and Knowledge Partners CSIR-IHBT Palampur and Vijnana Bharti (VIBHA).

उन्नत भारत अभियान
UNNAT BHARAT ABHIYAN (UBA)
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Regional Coordinating Institute
Indian Institute of Technology Jammu

In collaboration with
CSIR-NIScPR, New Delhi and National Coordinating Institute, IIT Delhi
Knowledge Partners-CSIR-IHBT Palampur and Vijnana Bharti (VIBHA)

Organises
**One Day Training/Demonstration Workshop on
Bamboo Cultivation and Candy Making**
On 28th April 2023 at IIT Jammu

Nagrota, Jagti, NH 44, Jammu-181 221, J&K, India.
P: +91-191-2570280 / 2570280 | E : helpdesk @ iit jammu.ac.in | W: www.iit jammu.ac.in

Indian Institute of Technology as Regional coordinating Institute, Unnat Bharat Abhiyan organized one day training, awareness and demonstration workshop on 'Bamboo Candy Making' and 'Bamboo Cultivation' and an orientation review workshop for new as well as existing Participating Institutions on 28th April 2023 in physical mode at IIT campus in collaboration with CSIR-NIScPR, New Delhi, CSIR-IHBT, Palampur and NCI, IIT Delhi, the Knowledge Partners were CSIR-IHBT Palampur and Vijnana Bharti (VIBHA).

This event was planned for stakeholders of Jammu Province including the farmers and the stakeholders from our adopted villages and also the adopted villages of our participating institutions (PIs) of Unnat Bharat Abhiyan of Jammu province who are already into the bamboo trade/cultivation.

The workshop was conducted in three sessions, the introductory session was taken by Dr. Riya Bhowmik, UBA PI Coordinator, followed by welcome address by Prof. Rakesh Singhai UBA RCI Coordinator IIT Jammu welcomed the dignitaries, highlighted the achievement and shared the intentions behind the organizing this workshop, he wanted the follow up of the workshop shall be promising for the attending farmers.

The session continued with an online speaker Prof. Vivek Kumar, Co-Coordinator, NCI, IIT Delhi, stressing upon transforming higher education and villages for Atmanirbhar Bharat, its objectives, its network, its outcomes focusing on NEP and convergence for facilitation of holistic and sustainable rural development.

We were enlightened by our next online speaker Prof. Ranjana Aggarwal, Director, CSIR-NIScPR, New Delhi who in her inspiring words spoke about the working objectives of CSIR-NIScPR --- always ready to reach out to the grass root level through its network.

The Technical sessions started with the speech of Dr. Yogesh Suman, Senior Principal Scientist (NIScPR) introducing the technical sessions and shared a series of workshop schedules in a months ahead. The first technical session on Bamboo Candy Making was taken by Dr. Mahesh Gupta, Principal Scientist CSIR -IHBT Palampur, he started his session with Bamboo Shoots---'A Healthy Food Option' were he elaborately explained the multiple uses of bamboo as food products. He also demonstrated the whole process

of Bamboo Candy Making. The technical session of the event continued with the speech of Dr. Rohit Joshi Senior Scientists CSIR – IHBT Palampur, he took the session on Bamboo Resources and Technologies at Palampur, he talked about the different types of Bamboo available, their properties, their uses and how these can be differentiated as per their usability. He welcomed the attended farmers to CSIR-IHBT Palampur to get to know the cultivation techniques, propagation techniques through seeds and stems.

As we all know every region has its climatic and soil differences and plays a vital role to adapt a particular cultivation, therefore to get to know about all this we had invited the scientist team from KVK Samba, Kathua and Reasi who updated the gathering about the Bamboo species available in Jammu Region, we had with us Dr. Sanjay Khajuria, Chief Scientist Agroforestry & Head Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Samba, he shared the experiences with a group of bamboo workers whom he met. They were in a bad condition, they could hardly earn to live their bread, but without butter, because they could only think of few bamboo craft things like vegetable baskets in different sizes, nothing beyond, they have not heard of bamboo candies and pickle. Dr. Khajuria also shared that the ministry has kept him as 'Invitee' in bamboo mission and he has to report progress after every two months and the things have start moving and a sanction of 1.5 crore INR grant was sanctioned to build a cooperative as cluster 1 for Samba district for the bamboo farmers where they can bring their various products for exhibition throughout the year. And as an achievement, Dr. Khajuria also shared that he had sent a group of 5 to 6 farmers to Assam who got trained in bamboo furniture etc.

This part of agriculture has no history in Jammu because, in Jammu only a particular community does this bamboo craft as this craft is considered a craft for lower caste community, therefore this particular part of agriculture lack behind, but now the ideologies have changed and the avenues have added in every sector.

Continued the session with Dr. Lalit Upadhyay, Scientist of KVK-Reasi. He talked about the common constraints faced by the farmers are--- there are only few species of local bamboo available e.g., 'Lathi Bans' and that too is very hard to cut, he also mentioned that in Jammu generally we find the bamboo in forests and before 2017, the state had no Forest policy and the farmers were not allowed to cut the bamboo for the craft, but after the forest policy of 2017, the bamboo has been kept out of the forest laws, so we can cut and cultivate the bamboo without the permission.

Adding the information about local bamboo species available by Dr. Vishal Mahajan Senior Scientist of KVK-Kathua. He put forward the important point that there is a great difference between the climatic conditions of Palampur and Jammu, the moisture content in the air is very less than Palampur and the bamboo grown in Jammu is very hard and is not fit for candies and pickle. While sharing his research in the field that only 4 types of bamboo is available in the forest areas of Jammu and the focus need to be given to increase the cultivation of more species.

We had with us the NCI, IIT Delhi team, Dr. Meenakshi Choudhary and Mr. Ashish Chauhan who coordinated the event at NCI level.

The event concluded with the vote of thanks by Dr. Bhowmik, thanking the Scientists and Farmers for making this event a success. The glimpses of an event and a group photograph can be seen in fig-1 and fig-2.

Glimpses



Fig-1



Fig-2