

A 30-Day Skill Training Program on Bamboo Utility Products under the MMDUP Scheme



At

Meitai Bamboo Furniture Group
Kalibazar CFC, Bamutia, West Tripura.



Organized by:
Tripura Bamboo Mission
Department of Industries & Commerce
Government of Tripura.

2nd Floor Old IT Building, Behind IT Bhavan, Indranagar,
Agartala, West Tripura. 799006

1. Summary

The 30-day Skill Training Programme on Bamboo Utility Products was successfully conducted at the Kalibazar Common Facility Centre (CFC), Bamutia, West Tripura, from 6th March to 5th April 2025. The programme was organized under the Mukhya Mantri Dakshyata Unnyayan Prakalpa (MMDUP) with the objective of strengthening and upgrading the bamboo craftsmanship skills of 30 semi-skilled women artisans from the nearby villages of Kalibazar.

The training programme effectively integrated traditional bamboo craftsmanship with modern techniques and tools, under the expert guidance of a Master Trainer and a professional Designer. Emphasis was placed on developing high-quality, market-ready, transport-friendly, and environmentally sustainable bamboo utility products, thereby enhancing both the income potential and entrepreneurial capacity of the participating artisans.

2. Introduction

The Kalibazar Cluster in Tripura, located approximately 15 km from Agartala, has emerged as a prominent bamboo craft hub, particularly renowned for its quality bamboo furniture. Recognizing its potential, and with the objective of promoting sustainable livelihoods and empowering local artisans—especially women—a 30-day skill development training programme was organized under the Mukhya Mantri Dakshyata Unnyayan Prakalpa (MMDUP).

The cluster is further strengthened by the presence of a well-equipped Common Facility Centre (CFC) and continued support from various developmental initiatives, which collectively provide technical guidance, infrastructure, and market linkage opportunities. These enabling factors have significantly contributed to enhancing production capacity, product diversification, and the overall socio-economic upliftment of the artisan community in the cluster.

3. Objectives of the Training Program

- Enhance the skills of artisans in bamboo utility products.
- Introduce artisans to modern tools and market trends.
- Promote production of high-value, easy-to-transport bamboo items.
- Improve income and livelihood opportunities through better designs.

4. Duration

6th March to 5th April 2025.

5. Training Methodology

The training was conducted in two phases:

- **Phase 1 (First 15 days):** Basic skill training using hand and power tools.
- **Phase 2 (Last 15 days):** Product development and design input from Designer Pratul.

The methodology included:

1. Introduction to sources of new designs.
2. Concept development and design thinking.
3. New product shape and structure exploration.
4. Group activities involving bamboo selection, cross cutting, sizing according to needs, grinding, finishing, polishing and packaging.
5. Marketing, costing, and business discussions.

6. Training Team

- **Shiba Prasad Datta (Master Trainer)** kalibazar, TOT from BCDI.

Expert in implementation of new design and 13 years of working & Training experience in bamboo based production.

Conducted core technical sessions and skill enhancement.

- **Pratul (Designer)** Delhi, B.Des, (National Institute of Fashion Technology, HYDERABAD)

Pratul is a creative and dedicated Designer specializing in textile, Bamboo and product development. He focuses on creating market-oriented designs that support micro-enterprises and sustainable livelihoods for artisans.

Skilled in woven structures, innovation, technical expertise, and market understanding to deliver impactful and commercially viable products. Having more than 10 years of working experience.

Engaged for the 15 days to guide design innovation and prototyping.

7. Trainee Profile

- Total Participants: 30 women artisans
- Location: Nearby villages of Kalibazar under Bamutia Block
- Background: Semi-skilled, experienced in bamboo turning and furniture production.

8. Tools & Materials Used

- **Core Material:** Bamboo (Tulda, Olivery, locally sourced)
- **Hand Tools:** Knife, saw, chisel, hammer
- **Power Tools:** Drill, grinder, sander
- **Machineries:** Lathe machine, Bench Drill, Profile cutter,

9. Products Made

During the training, participants developed the following:

- Bamboo mirror frames
- Dhoop cases
- Candle stands
- Stools
- Foldable trays
- Laptop stands
- Portable side Rack
- Foldable Rack
- Shelves
- Chair
- Cutlery
- Hangers

All products were designed with functionality, portability, and aesthetics in mind.

10. Participant Feedback

Participants expressed great satisfaction with the training. Key takeaways included:

- Learning modern tools and finishing techniques
- Gaining confidence in producing high-quality products
- Exposure to new designs and value addition
- Requests for extended and advanced training sessions
- The collaborative learning atmosphere helped bring out the artisans' creativity and build enthusiasm for further training

Suggestions included:

- Incorporating marketing/business development modules
- More time for practice and hands-on prototyping

11. Impact on Productivity & Income

Before the training, artisans earned around Rs. 3,000–4,000 per month. Post-training, income increased to Rs. 7,000–8,000 per month due to the production of higher-value products. The program built artisan capacity to scale production and cater to wider markets.

12. Market Linkages

- 50% of the products were made against regular orders
- 10 new designs developed for market testing
- Bamboo baskets received positive response and regular orders
- Product images shared with potential buyers for feedback

13. Conclusion

The 30-day skill training programme proved to be highly successful in strengthening the technical competencies of 30 women artisans from the Kalibazar Cluster. The participants were effectively equipped to design and produce high-value, market-oriented bamboo utility products that align with current consumer preferences and emerging market trends.

With continuous design guidance and the introduction of modern tools and improved production techniques, the artisans significantly enhanced both the quality of their craftsmanship and their overall productivity. This, in turn, has positively contributed to improving their income potential and confidence as skilled producers and emerging micro-entrepreneurs.

14. Annexures

- List of Trainees
- Training Schedule
- Product Photographs
- Feedback Forms
- Sample Certificate

Prepared by:

Sanjit Jamatia

Coordinator Utilization

Tripura Bamboo Mission

List of Trainees

Sl. No	NAME	Address	Gender	AADHAAR CARD NUMBER
1	Prajapati Sarkar	Kalibazar Bamutia	F	614635905236
2	Prabita Hajari	Kalibazar Bamutia	F	299520557603
3	Sakuntala Hajari Sarkar	Kalibazar Bamutia	F	899344898992
4	Swarupa Sarkar Hajari	Kalibazar Bamutia	F	225684213518
5	Priti Bhowmik	Kalibazar Bamutia	F	527599276490
6	Swaraswati Debnath	Kalibazar Bamutia	F	518378955217
7	Papia Das	Kalibazar Bamutia	F	527108799435
8	Suraj Munda	Kalibazar Bamutia	M	818966158498
9	Manju Urang	Kalibazar Bamutia	F	843881150994
10	Dipa Sarkar	Kalibazar Bamutia	F	529669347111
11	Asha RudraPaul	Kalibazar Bamutia	F	383403633788
12	Papiya Deb (Das)	Kalibazar Bamutia	F	585202206025
13	Sankari Das	Kalibazar Bamutia	F	219954731490
14	Biplab Bhil	Kalibazar Bamutia	M	361598773943
15	Susmita Das	Kalibazar Bamutia	F	341465446548
16	Uma Saha Das	Kalibazar Bamutia	F	288552420014
17	Shilpi Das	Kalibazar Bamutia	F	321838011751
18	Rekha Das	Kalibazar Bamutia	F	991140044911
19	Prasenjit Sen	Kalibazar Bamutia	M	644805410734
20	Purnima Mandal Das	Kalibazar Bamutia	F	265317253741
21	Purnima Datta Choudhury	Kalibazar Bamutia	F	684381159911
22	Kamalini Datta Chowdhury	Kalibazar Bamutia	F	232354124789
23	Sabitri Datta	Kalibazar Bamutia	F	642232524226
24	Sutapa Datta	Kalibazar Bamutia	F	430583859526
25	Sunita Singha	Kalibazar Bamutia	F	388861129506
26	Rita Debnath	Kalibazar Bamutia	F	125547698741
27	Isha Rani Datta	Kalibazar Bamutia	F	753584483060
28	Sarada Devi	Kalibazar Bamutia	F	719416366307
29	Sharmila Datta	Kalibazar Bamutia	F	502370497645
30	Tapasi Sen Datta Chowdhury	Kalibazar Bamutia	F	299767219951

Some glimpse of activity during training period



Design developed by designer







Sample Certificate

 **TRIPURA BAMBOO MISSION** 
DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIES & COMMERCE
GOVERNMENT OF TRIPURA

Certificate

This is to certify that Sri/Smt/Ms..... has successfully completed the Skill Training On BAMBOO BASKETRY Under Mukhya Mantri Dakhyata Unnayan Prakalpa (MMDUP) from to Organised by Tripura Bamboo Mission.

Date :


Additional Mission Director
Tripura Bamboo Mission