

Bamboo Log

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'Bamboo log' was a 'Seminar cum workshop' sponsored by several organizations supporting Tribal welfare, from 11-14, March, 2017. High light of the workshop was **two bamboo low cost houses** designed and built by Uravu, which were handed over to two users in presence of NABARD officials. The design and development was supported by INHAF (India Habitat Forum), an organization led by Architect Kirit Shah. On this occasion, Uravu also successfully projected Bamboo potentials. Bamboo furniture and House-designs by student-interns assisted by Uravu staff were also on exhibition.



Bamboo log Seminar Schedule

	Kappikalam	Church Hall	Urauv	UEL	Kalari	Nursery	Bindu House	Meenakshi House	Community Center	
	9:30 - 11:30	14:00 - 16:00	9:30 - 20:00	9:30 - 20:00	9:30 - 20:00	9:30 - 20:00	9:30 - 20:00	9:30 - 20:00	12:00	
March 11	Inaaural Cermeony	Session on Policy/Legal	Display and sale of Products Display of Training and Design Development	Exhibition and display of Construction Techniques and Design	Furniture and Interior Display	Display and sale of various species of Bamboo	Demonstration	Demonstration	Inauguration of Community Center	
	14:00 - 18:00	16:30 - 18:00	14:00 - 17:00	Bamboolog Houses Poster Display					12:30 - 17:00	
	Live Demonstration 1	Session on Production	Educational talk on treatment	Prototypes of various joineries and techniques used in construction					14:00-16:00	Students Poster Display
		18:30 - 19:00	14:00 - 20:00	15:30 - 16:30						
	Film on Bamboolog Project	Screening of films on bamboo	Educational Talk							
March 12	9:30 - 13:30	11:30 - 1:00	9:30-20:00	9:30-20:00	9:30-20:00	9:00 - 11:00	9:30-20:00	9:30-20:00	9:30-20:00	
	Live Demonstration 2	Session : Construction	Display and sale of Products Display of Training and Design Development Screening of films on bamboo	Exhibition and display of Construction Techniques and Design Bamboolog Houses Poster Display	Furniture and Interior Display	Visiting Nursery with Expert	Demonstration	Demonstration	Students Poster Display	
			14:00 - 18:00	14:00-15:30		10:00-13:00				Prototypes of various joineries and techniques in construction
	Live Demonstration 3	Session on Marketing	Treatment Lecture and Demonstration by IPIRTI	14:00-15:30		Educational Talk				Display and sale of various species of Bamboo
16:00-18:00		Session on Raw Material								

	Kappikalam	Church Hall	Urauv	UEL	Kalari	Nursery	Bindu House	Meenakshi House	Community Center	
March 13	9:30-20:00		9:30-20:00	9:30-20:00	9:30-20:00	9:30-20:00	9:30-20:00	9:30-20:00	9:30-20:00	
	Skill Exchange programme between artisans from various places		Display and sale of Products Display of Training and Design Development Screening of films on bamboo	Exhibition and display of Construction Techniques and Design Bamboolog Houses Poster Display Prototypes of various joineries and techniques in construction	Furniture and Interior Display	Display and sale of various species of Bamboo	Demonstration	Demonstration	Students Poster Display	
			10:00-13:00	14:00-15:30						14:00-16:00
			Treatment Lecture and Demonstration by IPIRTI	Educational Talk						Visiting Nursery with Expert
March 14	9:30 - 1:30		9:30-16:00	9:30-16:00	9:30-16:00	9:30-16:00	9:30-16:00	9:30-16:00	9:30-16:00	
	Live Demonstration 6		Display and sale of Products Display of Training and Design Development Screening of films on Bamboo	Exhibition and display of Construction Techniques and Design Bamboolog Houses Poster Display Prototypes of various joineries and techniques in construction	Furniture and Interior Display	9:30 - 8:00 Display and sale of various species of Bamboo	Demonstration	Demonstration	Students Poster Display	
			16:00-19:00	10:00-13:00						14:00-15:30
	Closing Ceremony		Treatment Lecture and Demonstration by IPIRTI	Educational Talk						14:00-16:00



Sivaraj introducing the Seminar and Padmashree architect Shankar

It brought in prominent people like the local MLA, District Judge and other Govt officials from State Govt, NABARD, etc. Technical sessions had reputed professionals like Dr. Seetha Lakshmi (ex FRI Kerala) well known for her book on Bamboos of India, Dr. Narasimha Murthy from IPIRTI, Shri. Sanjeev Karpe, MD, KONBAC, Shri. Justin Mohan, who headed Govt Project of building 50,000 houses in Srilanka in a record time, and many more!

I made a presentation on Innovations in Bamboo Craft products.

Uravu's organising ability in a remote village like Trikaipetta were outstanding.



Dr. Narasimha Murthy from Ipiri .
Kirit shah of INHAF in chair

Sessions on Bamboo Music on the evening brought in large local attendance!
At the dinner 'Local Tribal foods' got special space for first time!



Several issues related to policies were brought out during question hour.



Many students from design schools attended the Seminar!

This is when one realises that 'Design education' can be a driving force for the 'Future of a sane world'.

Can this small force contribute to check the mad general direction of Society whose sole aim seems to be to achieve 10% economic growth at any cost?

Design students come under constant conflict with their future life! On one side they look for jobs which give them 'Security' to pursue the socially accepted role: having a car, a house, two children and getting caught in the inevitable cycle where one doesn't get time to question. But it has the sanction of middle class milieu from which they come from. On the other hand design schools and NGO's urge them to change the direction of the world into a 'sane path'! Sensitive young people are often caught in the conflict of these two directions trying to find a 'space' where they can live with ideals!

Alas! There are no easy answers or ready prescriptions. Young people with all their energy have to look at what thinkers like J. Krishnamurthy says: 'you are the world'.

Experiments in low cost Housing in Bamboo: URAVU in collaboration with INHAF(Indian Habitat Forum) developed and built two houses in Bamboo for low income groups! Architect Kirit Shah's energetic involvement brought in, number of architecture-students in to the design process. Studying the requirements of Tribal Community, understanding Bamboo Construction, concept generations, feedback, prototype building went on for a year!

I was present during the initial workshop with students!

It was nice to see a tribal community hall and two houses and an experimental structure coming out of the workshop. Bamboo furniture was also made. All these created an impressive mark on the visitor's minds.



NABARD official with Uravu team



Full view of bamboo low cost house



Side View



Front View

House in Detail



Inside detail



Roof tiles with bamboo support



Tree house next to Community hall



View from Tree house



Community Hall



Corrinne of Uravu Eco Links in Community Hall



Community hall - roof detail

With integrated furniture the community hall acquires unique bamboo expression. Bent structural elements become part of furniture effortlessly!.





Open structure designed by a student of Srishti

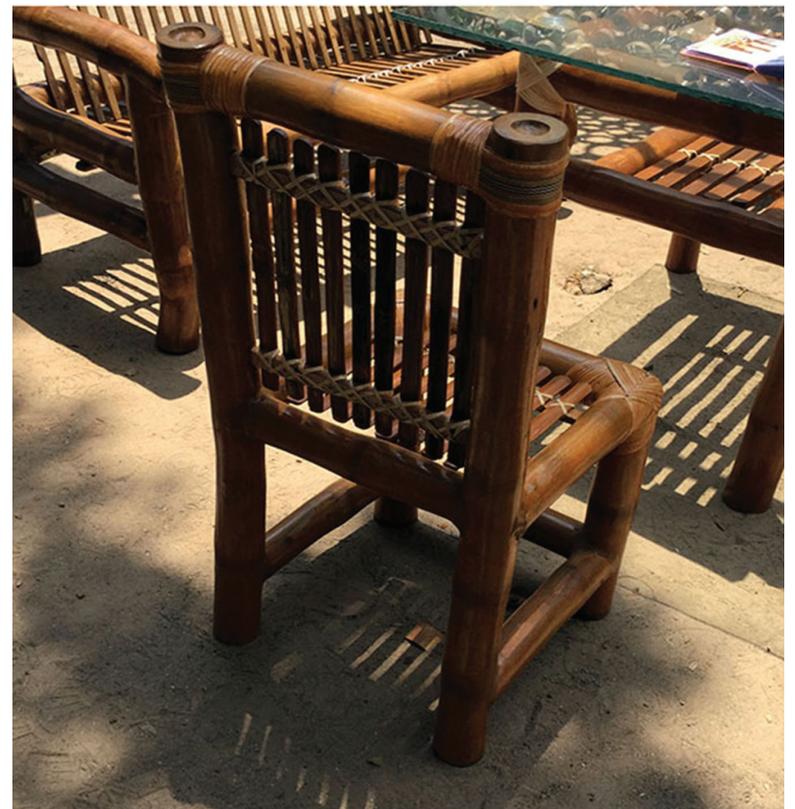


Possibility of filling with different elements makes the bamboo structure interesting





Furniture with a raw bamboo look has its own statement. Individuals looking for a unique craft identity find such designs very attractive and often are ready to take the trouble of transporting them at high cost. Art element overrides concern of high cost of transportation, maintenance, etc.,!





Chief guest(district judge) testing the bamboo furniture



IDC students who were in Uravu as Interns last 2years

- Shashank, Abhijit, Hirom, Sony, Nikhil
- Antik, Arnab and Arjun
- Shobha, Amey(this year)

Uravu has the unique advantage of working with big dia. bamboo..

With the production facility at Uravu , 5mm thick bamboo strips of 5cm width become available to make furniture.

For last 3 to 4 years Interns from IDC have been participating actively. The chair and stool at the top as well as leg rest have been developed by IDC students.

I have been playing a mentoring role for interns from IDC and other design Institutes.. Last year prof. Lance Rake and me were there for 4 to 5 days ,solving detailing problems of furniture designed by an architect for their resort, at Uravu Eco Links.

Bamboo is a challenging live material to deal with. It would be a good idea for IDC to enter into a MOU with URAVU to bring bamboo furniture into urban Markets.



- Design has to be understood as ‘Relay race’ where several individuals contribute to design and development activity. This is especially true in the areas like bamboo craft!
- Individuals do get identified with the design if they come out with unusual, creative solutions which work, not a mere variation which needs many iterations to make into a workable design!



bench designed for the resort



A simple chair and table are still very much looked for in Bamboo.

Details and technology has to play a bigger role. Flat surfaces for a chair to sit or for table top are not readily available. Better technology only can bring competitive materials to readily available ply wood and formica(melamine). Larger companies need to get into this business.

We are still dependent on joints developed for wood, for 'their use in bamboo furniture and construction', as they are readily available! Great scope stares at us for Innovation and production in these areas!

A quantum jump is necessary!
