



BAMBOO SOCIETY OF INDIA

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Date: 07.12 .2022

Minutes of the Annual General Body Meeting of Bamboo Society of India, Bengaluru held on October 15th 2022.

Members present:

Sriyuthas,

1. Punati Sridhar: Chairman
2. Dr. Sruthi Subbanna: Secretary cum Treasurer
3. Ranganath Krishnan
4. Dr. K. K. Seethalaxmi
5. K P Murthy
6. Ar. Neelam Manjunath
7. Neelkanth Dnyaneshwar Aher
8. Dr. Jagadish Vengala
9. Sanjay Singh
10. Parameswaran Krishna Iyer
11. Aswathaiah
12. K S Anand
13. Raju Kanchibhotla
14. Dr. B. L. Chidananda
15. B P Hanumantharayappa
16. Venkat Startup Santana
17. Shivakumar
18. Chandru Forest
19. Sitaram
20. V C Patil
21. Sagar
22. Jayaram
23. Amar Sakaria
24. Raju
25. Anil Madhavrao
26. Anil Kumar Vempaty

27. Radhika Gopinath
28. C S Susanth
29. Prasad
30. Nagaraj
31. T K Damodar
32. Dr. Vivek N
33. Keshava Murthy
34. Paramashivaiah
35. Prasik
36. Syed salim Ahmed
37. Pratik Sethia
38. Raghavendra
39. U Sharanappa
40. Rajesh
41. Samir
42. Soorya
43. Yadaiah
44. Saldanha

More than 130 members

Proceedings of the meeting:

The Annual General Body meeting of Bamboo Society of India for the year **2020-21 and 2021-22 was held on 15.10.2022 at 11.00 AM** at Vanavikas Building, Malleswaram, Bengaluru-560003 which was also made available online to enable members to join from outside Bengaluru .

Mr. Punati Sridhar, IFS (Retd), Chairman BSI heartily welcomed all to the AGM. Since initially there was no quorum, the meeting was adjourned by 30 minutes and was reassembled and commenced at 11.40 am as per bye laws. The following matters were discussed and resolved:

1. Leave of absence was given to Dr K N Murthy, Dr D A Venkatesh and Ar. Sunil Joshi who informed in advance their inability to attend the meeting.
2. **Approval of the AGM proceedings dated 12.05.2021 for Meeting held on 29.04.2021:** The AGM deliberated on the said proceedings and the same was accorded approval unanimously.

3. **Action taken report on AGM Proceedings dated 12.05.2021:** The Chairman briefed about the action taken on the previous AGM proceedings and the same was accepted unanimously
4. **Discussion on and approval of Audit Report for the financial years ending 31.03.2021 and 31.03.2022:** the AGM deliberated on the Audit Reports already circulated for the periods ending 31.03.2021 and 31.03.2022 and unanimously accorded approval for the same.
5. **Briefing on activities of BSI past 2 years:** The Chairman briefed about the activities undertaken by BSI and its Chapters during past 2 years which were circulated to all well in advance.
6. **Appointment of statutory auditors for the year 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23:** The AGM accorded approval for continuation of appointment of statutory auditors MSRK & Co Chartered Accounts, Bengaluru for the years 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23.
7. **The Conveners of Working Committees briefed about their activities:**
 - a. **Working Committee for Engineering Technology including Industry, Green Technology Clubs for Institutions and Students: Sri. K. P. Murthy – Convener briefed their activities:**

There are primarily two challenges of bamboo; the common man visibility and stakeholder visibility of bamboo. Through the committee they have covered; student membership, industry and technology etc. Following actions are taken up.

From visibility point of view the focus was on plantation of bamboo oxygen tunnels in collaboration with Madhya Pradesh (MP); one in each of the major cities of MP and such 12 bamboo tunnels were developed by Shri Uttam Kumar Subuddhi IFS.

While receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Automotive Industry, he spoke with the director at the Government of India Automotive Research Center who readily agreed to set up bamboo tunnels in the global Automotive Center, Government of India in Chennai and also in Mohali. He is also advising BDA to convert an encroachment evicted park into a bamboo tunnel. This has two benefits (i) high oxygen level and (ii) 20% reduction in PM 2.5. This is the attraction not only for BDA, BBMP or any public parks but it is going to be a CSR focus for an industry in the time ahead.

Student memberships are being pursued and pursuit for formation of sustainable clubs is continuing and shortly one such club will be inaugurated in Christ University campus on Mysore Road. After Covid many colleges pan India are coming forward to form such clubs and efforts are on to enroll another 200 student as student members by March 2023 end.

Sent message to Automotive Industries to take up Ethanol use, design and manufacture of bamboo vehicle interiors similar to train bogies being formed with bamboo in bullet trains in China. Taking up with NTPC to use Bamboo pallets in place of coal in the biomass use program.

Met Dr Arun Sharma ji in Delhi who promised to get student membership in North East India. Sustainability becomes a mandate for most of the countries and their industries. Hence there is scope for role of bamboo in CSR activities.

VC Horticulture University Hyderabad is also willing to allow us to make use of their infrastructure for promoting bamboo awareness. He requested BSI members during the meeting to suggest more colleges for formation of Sustainability clubs.

The committee also intends to approach mechanical, electrical, electronics and computer science departments of various Engineering Colleges and advise them on various uses of bamboo in which they can experiment so that the students get involved with bamboo which can also help BSI enroll more student members to bamboo Society of India.

b. Working Committee for Architect & Design including Structural and Civil Engineering & Construction: Ar. Neelam Manjunath - Convener spoke.

From the Karnataka chapter in 2020, along with the World Bamboo Organization and INBAR, the committee had conducted the World Bamboo Day Program virtually, which had a lot of participation from different parts of the world. The event was kick started by BSI Karnataka Chapter and went on for 24 hours ending in America.

Multiple design competitions were also conducted. One was for the housing sector, one was for product design and the last one was for street furniture for landscape spaces and streetscapes. Initially due to lack of funds for the Prize amounts it was not very successful. However later with the involvements of Indian Institute of Architects, Karnataka Chapter; Indian Institute of interior designers Karnatka chapter and Indian Society for landscape architects, who agreed to fund the first prize for the three competitions the program could be held . They also helped in promoting the event and there were 150 registrations for the event. The event had an international jury like Marcus, Rosalie from Thailand and Daso, President from USA.

The BSI has signed an MOU with Council of Architecture which covers 440 architecture colleges across the country to incorporate bamboo in to architectural academics.

12 webinars were conducted on architecture, product design and civil engineering with good participation from colleges.

She also explained about her achievements individually. Justice Saldanha had approached CGBMT for the conservation of lakes through bamboo plantations. CGBMT prepared the report which was submitted to the High Court of Karnataka and was approved. This was especially for the Subramanya Lake and CGBMT would like to take it forward.

C40 Cities has the Women for Climate Program for Bangalore wherein she has been selected as a cohort. Here, she has taken up bamboo for climate mitigation in Bangalore as the main project. One of the issues is on using bamboo for wastewater treatment and also for mitigation of the air pollution. She is working with architect Chitra Viswanathan and BBMP and C-40 cities.

She also informed they she has also written a book, 'Let's Build With Bamboo' which will be released in the month of November in the Institute of Architects Southern Regional Conference.

c. Working Committee for Bamboo Production including nursery & plantation, Research & Development: Dr. K. K. Seethalaxmi – Convener informed:

She has not been very active as a group but individually she took up 100 acres plantation in collaboration with URAVU and the difference is they have selected the species that can be of use for industrial purpose along with buy back agreement. She has been planning a book on bamboo seeds, contributed to articles in Bamboo Newsletter of BSI Maharashtra Chapter, got a bamboo plantation done by NSS students and NCC cadets in a college in Wynad, a documentary for students was initiated, In addition, a walk through the Bamboo Setum of KFRI for introducing the diversity and the

potential of bamboo was also conducted. An article was published in TOI. Kerala Chapter arranged activities on Bamboo Day. She also suggested for conducting elections for Kerala Chapter.

d. Working Committee for Skill development & Capacity building, Marketing, Utilization and Entrepreneurial development: Dr. K. N. Murthy –Convener, Dr. D. A. Venkatesh, Mr. Parameswaran Krishna Iyer.

Since Dr. K N Murthy was absent during the AGM, updates could not be discussed in the meeting.

8. Directors of State Chapters also briefed about their activities as follows:

a) Telangana Chapter: as Director TC was absent, MC Member, TC, Mr KLN Raju Spoke and said they are concentrating on Bamboo Pallets and bamboo briquettes as every 500 MW coal thermal plant needs 500 Tonnes of coal every day. There is good potential for bamboo briquettes and pallets in view of the GoI GO for replacement of 5% coal with biomass. Further research is needed in this regard. NGC member Mr K P Murty added that the firing pattern required for NTPC has to be met by bamboo pallets which needs further researched by combining bamboo with other biomass and evaluated.

b) Maharashtra Chapter: The Director and all members Management Committee of Maharashtra Chapter were absent. Hence no feedback about their activities.

c) Andhra Pradesh Chapter: The Director was absent. No members have been yet nominated by the Director to the MC. Hence no feedback about their activities.

d) Karnataka Chapter: The Current Karnataka Chapter, Director Mr. Parameshwaran who took charge a month back spoke. Their initial plan is to have a model plantation in every district of Karnataka to match species with different locations in the state. They plan to do this with support from schools and colleges and over time one would know what species would grow well where. In addition, there is a plan to be part of the Krishi Mela which is to be held on November 3rd to 6th. Mr. Chidananda from GKVK is initiating it. He further informed that in Karnataka 3 species still required felling permission and transit permits. In other states also though no permits are required for bamboo, harassment happens in check posts. Permanent solution is required.

Chairman informed that a letter will be written to PCCfs of states in this regard. He also suggested need for single window clearance in NBM for Industries, nurseries, plantation subsidies and that a letter will be addressed to NBM. Chairman also said that not much is happening in NBM and expenditure has been very poor resulting in very meager allocation of funds to NBM during current FY. Bamboo Industry needs to be developed along with plantations so that there is assured supply of bamboo to industries and assured demand for the produce of farmers and further platform is being created to link up all stake holders through the WhatsApp group so that it benefits everyone in the value chain.

Venkat Startup Santana, informed he has been developing mementos from bamboo and wanted boards of 8mm to 10 mm thick and is not able to find them. Members informed that such material is not being manufactured in India and the same he will have to check in international market and import. Mr Muralidhar informed bamboo laminates are available.

Ms Neelam Manjunath informed that CGBMT in collaboration with Rural University has planned 100 bamboo villages in Gadag and in Bangalore Rural. She

has established CGBMT at Devanahalli and would be taking up various training activities for which resource persons would be required from BSI.

Chairman concluded by saying that a comprehensive model need to be developed to help strengthen the bamboo sector in India and there is tremendous scope for the same considering the extent of bamboo in forests and plantations. Bamboo industries need to be established along with their collaboration with nearby farmers to obtain raw materials which will be a win in situation for both. Till the local farmers grow and bamboo is available for harvest, the raw materials should be made available from forests. In fact forest bamboo areas need to be managed scientifically and harvested regularly combined with soil and moisture conservation activities and fire protection to enable the plants to yield more enhancing the productivity of such forests. In *Dendrocalamus strictus* and *Bambusa bambos* forests if the clumps are thickly congested and intertwined, initial clear felling and subsequent harvesting of mature individual culms would help manage more easily and improve yields. Making uninterrupted available of bamboo from natural forests would boost bamboo industry growth in the country.

He requested all BSI members to spare some of their time to volunteer for helping strengthen the bamboo sector.

The meeting was concluded with Chairman thanking all participants.



Punati Sridhar, IFS (Retd)
Chairman, BSI.

Copy communicated to all members of BSI for kind information and necessary action.