

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
INDUSTRIES AND COMMERCE DEPARTMENT  
JANATA BHAWAN, BLOCK-C, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR  
DISPUR :: GUWAHATI-6

ORDERS BY THE GOVERNOR OF ASSAM  
NOTIFICATION

Dated Dispur the 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2019

No.CI.227/2019/61:- The Governor of Assam is pleased to enunciate the "**The Assam Bamboo and Cane Policy, 2019**". The Policy will come into effect from 01.01.2020 and will be valid for a period of 5 (five) years.

Sd/-(Dr. K.K. Dwivedi, IAS)  
Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Assam,  
Industries & Commerce Department

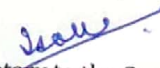
Dated Dispur the 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2019

Memo No.CI.227/2019/61-A

Copy to:

- 1) All Addl. Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Commissioner & Secretary/Secretary to the Govt. of Assam for kind information.
- 2) The Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister, Assam, Dispur, Guwahati-6 for kind information.
- 3) The Principal Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Finance Department, Dispur, Guwahati-6 for kind information.
- 4) The Resident Commissioner to the Govt. of Assam, Assam House, New Delhi for kind information.
- 5) The Agricultural Production Commissioner, Assam for kind information.
- 6) All Commissioner of Divisions, Assam for kind information.
- 7) The Commissioner of Taxes, Kar Bhawan, Dispur, Guwahati-6 for kind information.
- 8) The Under Secretary to the Govt. of India, Ministry of Commerce and Industries, Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion, Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi-110011, for kind information.
- 9) All Principal Secretaries of the Autonomous Councils, for kind information.
- 10) The Commissioner, Industries & Commerce, Assam, Bamunimaidam, Guwahati-21. He is requested to make wide circulation of this notification and to upload in the website.
- 11) All Deputy Commissioners, for kind information.
- 12) The Managing Director, AIIDC, Bamunimaidam, Guwahati-21. He is requested to upload the same in their website.
- 13) The Managing Director, AIDC Ltd., R.G. Baruah Road, Guwahati-24. He is requested to upload the same in their website.
- 14) The Managing Director, ASIDC Ltd., Bamunimaidam, Guwahati-21. He is requested to upload the same in their website.
- 15) The Staff Officer to Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Dispur, Guwahati-6 for kind appraisal of Chief Secretary.
- 16) The Mission Director, State Bamboo Mission, O/o the Commissioner, Industries & Commerce, Assam, Bamunimaidam, Guwahati-21 with a request for wide circulation of the policy.
- 17) The Director, Information and Public Relation, Assam, Dispur, Guwahati-6. He is requested to make wide publicity of the Notification.
- 18) The Deputy Director, Assam Govt. Press, Bamunimaidam, Guwahati-21 with a request to publish the Notification in the next issue of the Gazette and to submit 50 copies of the Gazette notification.
- 19) The Deputy Mission Director, State Bamboo Mission, O/o the Commissioner, Industries & Commerce, Assam, Bamunimaidam, Guwahati-21 with a request for wide circulation of the policy.
- 20) All General Manager, DI&CC, for kind information.
- 21) P.S. to Minister, Industries & Commerce Department for kind appraisal of the Hon'ble Minister.
- 22) All P.S. to Ministers/Ministers of State, Government of Assam, for kind information.
- 23) The P.S. to Additional Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Environment and Forest Department for kind appraisal of Addl. Chief Secretary.
- 24) The P.S. to Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Industries & Commerce Department for kind appraisal of Commissioner & Secretary.
- 25) Investment Cell for uploading the same in the Departmental website.
- 26) Office Copy.

By order etc.,

  
Additional Secretary to the Govt. of Assam  
Industries & Commerce Department.

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*(GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION NO.CI.227/2019/61 DATED 28/11/ 2019)*

# **The Assam Bamboo and Cane Policy, 2019**

## **State Bamboo Development Agency**

**Industries and Commerce Department**

**Government of Assam**

## **I. Preamble:**

Bamboo has been an integral part of the cultural, social and economic traditions of the state of Assam. It is a renewable and versatile resource and an important component of the wealth of Assam. It grows in the natural forests and is cultivated in homesteads, groves and on private plantations. The important characteristics that make Bamboo so useful are- (i) It has a short growth cycle which makes it highly renewable (ii) Different parts of the plant have different uses and are obtained at different stages of its growth thus rendering the plant useful during its entire life span (iii) Bamboo shoots of some species are edible and have high nutritional value (iv) The plant improves the environment in many significant ways including acting as an atmospheric and soil purifier. (v) It is hardy, light and flexible, thus a good substitute for wood (vi) In the hilly and mountainous areas as well as riverbanks elsewhere it protects the slopes from erosion as an effective soil binder. (vii) Bamboo forests are also home to many endangered wildlife including a large number of birds. For the Wild elephants, endangered Hollock Gibbons and some other fauna, it forms a major part of their diet.

Statistics reveals that the NER constitutes as much as more than 60% of the country's growing stock of bamboo and Assam is one of the major source of both naturally and home grown bamboo in the entire North East Region. This bamboo sector if harnessed properly has the potential to generate ample employment and revenue.

The Government of Assam too felt the importance of the sector and its potential for employment creation and livelihood generation and the new "State Bamboo and Cane Policy 2019" is a reflection of that endeavour.

## **II. The Vision- Bamboo and Cane(Rattan):**

The Government of Assam will encourage, promote and support the Bamboo sector in a comprehensive manner through a multidisciplinary, multidepartment and multi-dimensional integrated approach to provide economic benefits to the people of the State apart from realizing the social and environmental potential of the bamboo resource of Assam.

The Government of Assam will promote and support the Cane (Rattan) sector through a programme of conservation and development of rattan resources of the States and through support to the craft and small enterprises involved in cane (rattan) sector. The Government shall also encourage value addition in cane (rattan) based handicrafts through improved processing, product diversification, design development and enhanced shelf life.

## **III. Aim and objectives:**

Broadly the policy aims at sustainable development and utilization of bamboo and Cane resources in the State through scientific management and stakeholders' participation. More specifically, the policy aims at:

1. Protection and conservation of biodiversity associated with bamboo and Cane forests and bamboo growing areas.

2. Enhancement of resources through promotion of bamboo and Cane plantation in forest areas, wastelands as well as in private lands and through its sustainable and scientific harvesting.
3. Improvement of productivity by use of improved planting stock and scientific management practices.
4. Promotion of bamboo based industries at cottage, small, medium and large scale levels for utilizing the available resources at a sustainable level and towards generating assured income. Cane based industries will also be promoted.
5. Revival and promotion of traditional sector for producing handicrafts and other value added items. Promotion of product diversification and value addition in the organized sector.
6. Enhancing employment opportunity and livelihood security of the bamboo and Cane dependents at all levels through assured supply of raw materials and establishment of appropriate institutions.
7. Improvement and promotion of traditional bamboo houses and establishment of modern bamboo houses, thereby reducing pressure on forest wood
8. Use of bamboo and Cane for environmental protection, greening up of degraded lands and other diversified activities such as watershed protection and river banks and as geo material in construction of roads and bridges.
9. To promote skill development, capacity building, awareness generation for development of bamboo sector from production to market demand.
10. Development of effective marketing for Bamboo and Cane based products.

#### **IV. Approach:**

The approach of the policy in achieving the above mentioned objectives would be based on the following :

- 1) Community and private individuals participation along with the various departments in bamboo and Cane development
- 2) Support to activities focussed on conservation of bamboo and Cane resource
- 3) Plant propagation.
- 4) Enhancement of the production base
- 5) Management Information System (MIS), inventory and database development
- 6) Promotion of handicrafts for Cane and Bamboo
- 7) Promotion of furniture making for Cane and bamboo
- 8) Industrial utilisation and entrepreneurship development for Bamboo sector
- 9) Use of Bamboo and Cane for soil erosion prevention and for the reclamation of waste lands
- 10) Bamboo utilisation in building material and low cost housing

#### **V. Strategies :**

The strategies will be as follows:-

##### **1) Conservation of the resource**

- a) Providing better source of income generation through cultivation of Bamboo & Cane and sustainable harvest will definitely pave the way for conservation of the vast resource.

- b) Covering maximum area under plantation programme, preferably with superior species having wider uses like *Bambusa tulda*, *Bambusa balcoa* and *Calamus rotang*.
- c) Introduction of high yielding varieties for commercial cultivation after proper Research & Development by appropriate Government Agencies.
- d) A Bambusetum, which would contain a live collection of different bamboo species, would also be established within the next 2-3 years, to enable local artisans, bamboo growers and farmers to get first hand information about morphological features, aesthetic properties and growth characteristics of these plants. Information systems would be put into place for all to be made aware of this facility and to encourage overall and specific varieties' usage.

## 2) Plant propagation

Plant propagation is essential as there is shortage of bamboo planting material for large scale cultivation

- a) Existing use of rhizome as planting material will be continued as the rural masses are using this method traditionally and have the expertise but only rhizomes that are 1.5-2 years old can be used for propagation. Hence, alternative methods of propagation will be explored.
- b) Establishment of Nurseries-A sizable quantity of quality planting material will be required to meet the targets set. Nurseries (Small, Big & High-tech) shall be established in public & private sector. Tissue culture raised planting materials of superior germ plasm should be resorted to wherever required to ensure quality and productivity.. Vigil will be kept on incidences of bamboo flowering and adequate arrangements will be made for collection and utilization of the seeds as it flowers gregariously. These measures may be through Forest Departments, User Industries, Research Institutions, Universities, Farmers Groups, Self Help Groups, KVKs / NGOs and individual farmer / unemployed youths. Commercial production in private sector shall be encouraged for regular and sustained supply of planting material

In order to ensure quality of planting material, the Rain Forest Research Institute(RFRI) will be the certifying Agency.

The types of Nurseries to be established as per National Bamboo Mission Guidelines are:-

- i. Hi Tech Nurseries: For supply of quality planting material in large quantities, which is free from diseases and viruses, Tissue Culture Units shall be set up. Efforts will be made to set up these units in Regional Forest Research Institute, Jorhat & other organisations in private/ public or cooperative sector. Tissue culture Units would be set up under the close supervision and technical support from RFRI. Each nursery shall produce a minimum of 50,000 nos. of sapling/ seedlings per ha per year of mandated species duly certified for its quality. Nursery should have own composting unit, drip irrigation system and green house /shade/mist chamber for temperature regulation. It should have its own tissue culture lab or tie up with accredited tissue culture lab.
- ii. Big Nursery: Each nursery shall produce a minimum of 25,000 nos. of sapling/ seedlings per ha per year of mandated species duly certified for its quality.

- Nursery should have own composting unit, proper source of certified seeds/propagule/ irrigation system and green house /shade/mist chamber
- iii. **Small Nursery:** Each nursery shall produce a minimum of 16,000 nos. of sapling/ seedlings per year of mandated species duly certified for its quality. Nursery should have own composting unit, and proper source of certified seeds/propagules.

### Interventions with cost norms and funding pattern (As per NBM)

Sl.	Tentative Activities	Maximum Incentives (Rs. in lakh)	Pattern of assistance	
1.	Bamboo Nursery both in public and private sectors including Strengthening (project based)	1)Hi-tech (2ha) 2)Big (1 ha) 3)Small (0.5ha)	50 16 10	100% of cost to Govt. sector and 50% of cost to private sector as credit linked back ended Subsidy

The departments like Forest, Panchayat and Rural Development and Agriculture having permanent Nurseries will also be approached for increasing the production of saplings.

Rattan is mainly propagated through seeds. Both the Govt Agencies and Departments and private parties will be approached for providing certified saplings. Tissue culture is also an option. Facilities in RFRI and Assam Agriculture University will be explored for Cane propagation.

### 3) Plantation:

Plantation can be carried out either in Forest land or Non- Forest land. The Forest Department will carry out the plantations inside the Forest area through their own schemes. The sustainable harvesting shall be done as per the Working Plan. The nearby Joint Forest Management Committees shall also be involved in plantation and harvesting activities. The State will mainly focus on plantation outside the Forest area. For Bamboo, new plantations can be raised either in Government/Panchayat/ community land including waste lands or in Farmers field either as block plantations or in their homestead gardens. The identification of land is a pre-requisite for raising new plantations. The State Bamboo Development Agency will advertise from time to time regarding the requisite of areas for the plantation. The preference will be given to individual Farmers, Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), Farmer Producer Companies (FPCs), Village Producers' Organizations (VPOs), Self Help Groups (SHGs) and the like. All plantations are to be geo-referenced.

The provisions under **National Bamboo Mission** are as follows:-

- i) **High density plantations:** The species to be planted would be as per the approved plan. Certified planting material to be used so as to ensure quality and high yields. Maintenance funds in subsequent 2 years shall be linked to survival percentage - minimum 80% after 1<sup>st</sup> year and 100% after 2<sup>nd</sup> year, with replacementsaplingsofthesameageasthatoftheremainingsurvivingones.
- ii) **Block plantation/boundary plantations on farmers' fields:** Expected

numbers would be 375-450 plants per ha at least. It should be ensured that certified planting material of desired species is provided to the farmers along with proper agronomic practices so as to maximize overall returns from bamboo + agricultural crops. Maintenance in subsequent 2 years shall be linked to survival percentage- minimum 80% after 1<sup>st</sup> year and 100% after 2<sup>nd</sup> year, with replacement saplings of the same age as that of the remaining surviving ones.

#### **Interventions with cost norms and funding pattern( as per NBM Guidelines)**

Sl.	Tentative Activities	Maximum Incentives ( in Lakh)	Pattern of assistance	Minimum area to be planted (as suggested by State Bamboo Development Agency)
1.	High density Bamboo plantation on Govt./ Panchayat/ Community land including waste lands	Rs 1.00 lakh per ha over a period of 3 years	100% of cost to Govt. sector and 50% of the cost upto 2 ha (~ <3000 plants), 30% of the cost for 2 - 4 ha (up to 10000 plants) over 3 years (50:30:20). For plantation above 4 ha no subsidy will be provided. Maintenance funds will be linked to performance (survival % )	0.5 Ha
2	Block Plantation/ Boundary plantation on farmer's field	Rs.1.00 lakh per ha (equivalent to Rs 240 per plant)	100% of cost to Govt. and 50% of the cost of Private Sector over 3 years(50:30:20). Maintenance funds will be linked to performance (survival % )	0.14Ha(1 Bigha)

Free sapling distribution will also be arranged amongst the farmers who will be going for plantation in the area less than 0.5 Ha.

Cane can be preferred for reclamation of wastelands. Since, it's a thorny species, it is generally not preferred in homestead gardens.

#### **4) Transfer of Technology:**

Transfer of technology through training, frontline demonstration, publicity and training of the trainers are an integral part of the Policy. Under this programme, skill development / training of farmers, field level workers and Entrepreneurs will be taken up. Appropriate training is required to be imparted to the farmers for the adoption of scientific measures (pre and post harvest management) for high yielding plantations of bamboo and harvesting as per respective end utilization. These important activities are to provide resource material to the trainees and acquaint them with various farming techniques through exhibitions and demonstrations. This activity will be carried out both by the government as well as private sector and NGOs in accordance with the

National Skill Qualifications Framework (NSQF) and respective Sector Skill Councils. Training to bamboo farmers on scientific harvesting of bamboos and bamboo shoots will also be encouraged.

Provisions under NBM are:-

	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Maximum Incentives (in Lakh)</b>	<b>Pattern of Assistance</b>
1	Training of Farmers/ Artisans/field functionaries/International training/ visit for exposure of NBM staff/ field functionaries including farmers and entrepreneurs in bamboo sector to upcoming technologies	Cost norm of Skill India Mission will be adopted.	100% assistance
2	Organizing workshop/ Seminars/training at international/ National/ State/District	Project based	100% assistance
3	Participation in domestic trade fairs/ international trade fairs/exhibition etc. including travel + boarding/ logging of participating artisans	Project based	100% assistance

#### **5) Post-harvest storage and treatment facilities:**

Bamboo is affected by several insects and fungi during growth, storage and after product manufacture. Preventive and remedial measures employing physical, chemical and biological techniques are available. Integrated pest management is suggested for managing these problems. Raw bamboo falls in class-III (non-durable category). However, with technology developed so far, its durability can be increased beyond 50 years if treated with preservatives. Pre-harvest and post-harvest treatments are effective in reducing damage by fungi and insects. Several preservatives have been developed and commercialized. It is also possible to treat bamboo with fire retardant chemicals but the cost is generally high. Finding a suitable and cost-effective treatment for protection against biodegradation and fire needs further research. The processes leading to engineered bamboo products also protect it against biodegradation. Once the bamboo crop is harvested from the field, it is required to be transported safely and stored properly. For this purpose, suitable warehouses need to be constructed near the villages. While storing the produce, it needs to be treated to enhance its durability.

Establishment of primary processing units close to the production area is imperative to reduce transportation costs, utilize the entire bamboo to move towards zero wastage and improve economies. Dovetailed will be the micro/medium processing units so as to improve livelihoods of the local communities through upgradation of traditional artisanship and introduction of new skills.



Provisions under NBM are:-

<b>Promotion and Development of Infrastructure for Bamboo Market</b>				
	<b>Tentative Activity</b>		<b>Maximum Incentives (in Lakh)</b>	<b>Pattern of Assistance</b>
1.	Establishment of bamboo depots and godowns	In Govt. sector/ Private sector	50 (PB)	100% of cost in Govt. sector. 33% assistance as credit linked back ended subsidy in for private sectors
2.	Promotion of bamboo mandi (bamboo market place) and e-trading	In Govt. sector/ private sector	100 (PB)	100% of cost in Govt. sector. 33% assistance in private sectors
3.	Rural Haat	Retail direct marketing	20 (PB)	-do-
4.	Bamboo bazaar	Retail outlets for value added products prominent places in the states	15(PB)	-do-

#### 6) Inventory , data collection and Research:

Detailed inventory of bamboo resource inside forests and outside forest areas is essential. The data regarding Cane resource availability is also limited. The database for Cane resource is also essential as it has a very high potential in Assam. It will be collected by engaging some Government Agency and/or through private Agencies or contractual functionaries. Research for the identification of genetically superior varieties/ Species, establishment of Tissue culture lab , Demonstration plot establishment and Bamboo Market Research will also be promoted.

The provisions under NBM are:-

Sl.	Tentative Activities	Maximum Incentives (Rs in lakh)	Pattern of assistance
1	Identification of genetically superior species / varieties	Project based	For private sector upto 10 Lakhs and for the Government sector, 100% assistance will be provided
2	Establishment of tissue culture lab including strengthen for propagation of identified species/	-do-	-do-

	varieties + field trials		
3	Demonstration plots to exhibit best practices to farmers	-do-	-do-
4	Incubation centre	-do-	-do-
5	Bamboo Market Research	-do-	-do-

Bamboo Market Research is essential for assessing the needs, requirements and profitability of low and medium value bamboo products that are being made. This market survey, apart from estimating the demand supply chain and present players and future demands, will also highlight how bamboo products will have to be positioned and the market entry strategy thereby indicating pricing, supply position and branding. This project based activity would be done by the NBM/ BTSG's directly through a suitable Agency to be identified, after floating tenders and assistance will be 100%.

Incubation Centre is drawn from a similar scheme of the Ministry of MSME and similar norms and processes will be followed.

#### 7) **Encouragement of Bamboo entrepreneurs**

- a) Small and medium scale industries would be promoted through entrepreneurship development and by providing appropriate incentives and linkages with appropriate agencies such as the Indian Plywood Industries Research & Training Institute (IPIRT, Bangalore), Building Material & Technology Promotion Council (BMTPC, New Delhi), NECTER, Shillong, TIFAC, Bamboo Technology Centre, Guwahati, Assam North East Bamboo Development Council, etc.
- b) A Diagnostic Study and Revival Plan of the existing sick as well as closed units would be done. The closed plywood industries of Assam would also be explored for converting the same to bamboo processing areas.
- c) Appropriate funding mechanism would be established under the aegis of North East Development and Financial Institutions (NEDFI), AIDC, KVIC, Assam Gramin Vikash Bank etc.
- d) Bamboo utilization in bulk sectoral uses of agarbati sticks, fishing rods and umbrella handles and other export applications, would be promoted through market linkages and appropriate incentives.
- e) Use of bamboo housing particularly in rural areas would be promoted through appropriate standardisation of species, grouping and preservation techniques/processes for different structural elements to make it a fire resistant, durable and tough building material under local conditions. International Network of Bamboo and Rattan (INBAR) would be associated for a project on low cost bamboo-based housing.
- f) Bamboo Processing Zones (BPZ) are to be set up at identified locations where the facilities from primary processing stage to manufacture of value added finished products would be made.

- g) Facilities for bamboo quality verification and testing would be developed at all CFCs along with appropriate processing and treatment facilities for value addition. A system of certification would be put up in place to promote sustainable improved quality material in order to meet the buyer needs.
- h) Local talent for product design, development and diversification would be promoted by providing regular tie up with market and design institutes such as National Institute of Design (NID, Ahmedabad, Jorhat) and other agencies. An extension/exchange based program would be structured for ongoing inputs into the design process involving artisans.
- i) Market Research which is targeted towards working backward and forward linkages would be conducted.
- j) Tie up with Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs), Diploma Institutions and Engineering Colleges for introduction of bamboo and cane technology subjects in the curriculum to provide technical manpower required for the sector.
- k) Promotional activity to build the market, to create awareness about bamboo wood timber shall be made by way of News Paper Advt., Hoardings, audio-visual aids etc. Also bamboo product showrooms at high footfall areas like Railway Stations, Airports etc. Also efforts shall be launched for developing the necessary market mechanism with support towards promotion and marketing of finished products, participation in exhibitions to artisans.
- l) Interactive workshops, buyers-sellers meets, preparation/updation of catalogues and showcasing of products and capabilities would be promoted. Support from the organizations such as National Informatics Centre (NIC) would be sought whose Community Information Centre program will help increase the reach of learning materials through the web. Various digital media could be leveraged for providing training as well marketing of the products.
- m) Government would actively consider the use of value added bamboo products for its own requirements and programmes. This will motivate the people to use bamboo as a wood substitute. Bamboo housing would be promoted through District Rural Development Agencies (DRVs), Rural Development Deptt. and other similar agencies.
- n) Handholding support to be provided to the Entrepreneurs right from the availability of quality raw materials, their Primary Processing, land and other infrastructures, encouraging of handicrafts though improved processing, product diversification, design development and enhanced shelf life, to produce quality products at par with international standards and to increase the trade in home and export. Free toolkit & training to the needy local artisans to be arranged.
- o) Appropriate funding mechanisms would be established under the aegis of North East Development and Financial Institution (NEDFI), which has a mandate to perform this task in the North East. Banks will also be approached for providing “Green Loan”
- p) If possible, International organizations/ Foreign countries will be approached for funding in Cane and Bamboo sector.

The following provisions are there in National Bamboo Mission:-

<b>A. Promotion of bamboo treatment and preservation</b>			
<b>Activity</b>		<b>Maximum</b>	<b>Pattern of Assistance</b>

			<b>Incentives (in Lakh)</b>	
1.	Establishment of bamboo treatment and seasoning Plants	In Govt. & private Sector	20 (Project based)	50% of cost as credit linked back ended Subsidy
2.	Establishment of carbonisation plants	In private Sector	30 (PB)	-do-
3.	Establishment of livelihood business incubators	Govt./Private sector	100 (PB)	100% to Govt. agencies & 50% to Private sector for purchase of plant & machineries only.
<b>B. Product Development and Processing</b>				
1.	Establishment of processing units for value addition of Bamboo(in Nos.)	Setting up of unit for cross cutting, slicing, splitting, knots removing, shaping etc	30 (PB)	60% of cost
2.	Management of Bamboo waste in primary processing units	For making of value added products like pellets & activated carbon.	25(PB)	-do-
3.	Establishment of Micro/Medium processing units (in Nos.)	Handicrafts/Cottage Industry	15 (PB)	- do -
		Furniture making	25 (PB)	- do -
		Fabric/Jewellery Making	15 (PB)	- do -
		Bamboo shoots Processing	20 (PB)	- do -
		Incense stick making	25 (PB)	- do -
		Fabric/Fibre extraction	50 (PB)	- do -
		Common facility centre (CFC)	25 (PB)	-do-
		Bamboo board /mat/corrugated sheets /floor tiles making	200 (PB)	40% of cost as credit linked back ended subsidy.
		Bio Energy extraction	200 (PB)	- do -
		Activated Carbon Product	200 (PB)	-do-
	Ethanol Gassifier	500 (PB)	30% of cost as credit linked back ended subsidy. Additional 10% for NE States.	

<b>C. Promotion and Development of Infrastructure for Bamboo Market</b>				
1.	Establishment of bamboo depots and godowns	In Govt. sector/ Private sector	50 (PB)	100% of cost in Govt. sector. 33% assistance as credit linked back ended subsidy in for private sectors
2.	Promotion of bamboo mandi (bamboo market place) and e-trading	In Govt. sector/ private sector	100 (PB)	100% of cost in Govt. sector. 33% assistance in private sectors
3.	Rural Haat	Retail direct marketing	20 (PB)	-do-
4.	Bamboo bazaar	Retail outlets for value added products at prominent places in the state.	15(PB)	-do-
<b>D. Development of tools, equipment &amp; machinery</b>				
1.	Technological enhancement of indigenous tools, equipment & machinery		Project based	100% grant to Govt. institutions for development of design etc., 50% grant to those machine making units who are developing these Machines
2.	Import of technological superior tools, equipment & machinery in Common Facility Centre		-do-	-do-

### 8) Development of Infrastructure/Bamboo Cluster

- a) The State Bamboo Mission will set up Bamboo Cluster with basic facilities like provision of shed, power, water supply, Effluent Treatment Plant etc. The cost of the Projects will depend on the location, size of plot, facilities to be created and other related factors.
- b) Development of effective value chain from the sourcing of raw material to finished product marketing. Facilitation for marketing of bamboo products by engaging product designers, marketing agencies and registration with online portal companies. For marketing of bamboo products, to invite global value chains to do bamboo products sourcing from Assam. Enabling business environment needs to be provided to the global chains to achieve this objective.

- c) The State Bamboo Mission and Industries and Commerce Department, Government of Assam would consider projects on PPP Model. Financial support upto 50% of the project cost may be provided to the Bamboo/Cane based Manufacturing/ Processing units for promoting the Bamboo/Cane plantation and arranging for the buy back of the same.

## 9) **Marketing**

Marketing is the most important factor for the success of any enterprise. Large enterprises have enough resources at their command to hire manpower to take care of marketing of their products and services. MSME sector does not have these resources at their command and marketing is one of the weakest areas where MSMEs face major problems.

Under the Bamboo and Cane Policy of Assam, the State Bamboo Development Agency shall take the following initiatives for providing market linkage for the bamboo based units:-

- a) Bamboo and Cane products shall be promoted through advertisements in the print & electronic media.
- b) Zonal & State Level Exhibitions on bamboo and Cane products shall be organized.
- c) Participation of bamboo and Cane based units in different exhibitions under the Biponi -the state marketing promotion scheme will be facilitated.
- d) Establishment of “Souvenir shops” for bamboo and Cane products in the places of tourist attraction.
- e) Marketing tie up with ARTFED, BRAWFED, AGMC etc. shall be facilitated.
- f) Bamboo and Cane based units shall be sponsored for participation in India International Trade Fair, Gift Fair & other international fairs within the country.
- g) Buyer seller meets in different national/international B2B fairs shall be organized.
- h) Marketing tie up with NEHHDC shall be facilitated.
- i) Training on documentation & procedure and on e- commerce for international marketing shall be organized.
- j) Support from MSME schemes of Govt. of India shall be sought for marketing promotion and trade facilitation of Bamboo and Cane.

Further for marketing of bamboo products, the Government of Assam would encourage Government agencies to utilize bamboo for door frames, doors, window frames, windows, indoor and outdoor furniture, flooring, wall cladding and outdoor decking in all Government Projects and also in Private Projects.

Existing regulations relating to trade and movement of bamboo and Cane would be reviewed to ensure income generation to growers and extractors to stimulate bamboo growing as an economic activity in the State.

## **VI. The Implementation Mechanism**

The State Bamboo Development Agency has been constituted to promote and support the Bamboo sector. Apart from, State Bamboo Development Agency, the Environment & Forest Department, Agriculture Department, Panchayat & Rural Development Department, Soil Conservation Department, Water Resources Department etc, will also implement the schemes related to Bamboo and Cane sector with the participation of various stakeholders. The Cane sector shall be promoted by the State Bamboo Development Agency, the Environment & Forest Department and Industries and Commerce Department as and when there is fund availability.

Other Departments and agencies under both the Govt. of India and Govt. of Assam funding and financial agencies and other organisations would also be approved by SBDA for undertaking activities in the Cane & Bamboo sector.

## **VII. Monitoring and regulation**

The SBDA shall be implemented through appropriate action plans which shall be approved by the State Level Executive Committee headed by Senior Most Commissioner & Secretary, Industries & Commerce. The SLEC shall monitor the progress of Action plans and implementation programmes for each strategic segment. The SBDA shall revise the Policy from time to time.

## **VIII. Period of validity of the Policy**

The policy will be effective from 01.01.2020 and will be valid for a period of 5 years. All eligible new units as well as the existing units which go in for substantial expansion/Modernization/Diversification, and which had commenced commercial production within the period of validity will be eligible for the incentives.

## **XI. General Fiscal Incentives**

The units will be eligible for the fiscal incentives given by:-

- a) Industrial & Investment Policy of Assam,2019;
- b) North East Industrial Development Scheme (NEIDS),2017;
- c) National Bamboo Mission;
- d) Incentives under the Assam Bamboo & Cane Policy,2019;
- e) Other categories of incentives as may emerge and stand applicable.

Subsidy for any particular purpose will be given from only one source out of the above mentioned schemes. It is to be ensured that there is no duplication.

### **Additional incentives:-**

- a) CIS @50% Capital Investment Subsidy on eligible Plant & Machinery and Internal Electrical Installations subject to a ceiling limit of Rs.5.00 Crore.
- b) For the Startup in Bamboo & Cane sector, a grant of upto Rs 5 lakh will be provided for innovative ideas.

- c) Under the scheme ‘Distribution of Tools and Machineries for the artisans in Bamboo & Cane sector’, the following tools and implements will be distributed by SBDA to the Beneficiaries:-
- (i) Tools for Bamboo & Cane Furniture making( Manual& Power),
  - (ii) Tools for Incense stick making(Manual and Power),
  - (iii)Tools for Bamboo Mat and other items making in Handicraft sector(Manual and Power).

***For the above three items, 100% grant will be provided by the state.***

- d) 100% sponsorship of training in ITI & Skill Development Centres
- e) No dual incentives will be admissible unless specifically mentioned.
- f) Separate Rules, Application forms etc will be notified for the implementation of the policy.
- g) 50% Subsidy on Fixed Capital Investment including Civil Works for establishment of “Souvenir shops” for bamboo and Cane products in the places of tourist attraction with a maximum ceiling of Rs 5.0 Lakh whichever is lower.
- h) 50% Subsidy on the cost of development of Online portal for marketing of bamboo and Cane products with a maximum ceiling of Rs 5.0 Lakh whichever is lower.

## **XII. Right of the State Government:**

The Government of Assam reserves the right to amend any provision(s) of this policy as and when required.

## **XIII. Conclusion:**

The State Bamboo & Cane Policy, 2019 has sought to cover various aspects of Bamboo & Cane sector i.e. conservation, propagation, sustainable harvesting, industrial and non-industrial processing and marketing in a comprehensive manner.

Ensuring sustainability, enhancing productivity, eco-conservation, adoption of green technology, greater farmer remuneration and holistic promotion of Bamboo and Cane in all walks of life would be achieved through effective implementation of the State policy.

Since this sector is an emerging area with tremendous potential, new possibilities may arise, for which the Govt. of Assam would seek to come up with detailed schemes & approaches in support of the framework defined in the State Policy.

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