

English Project-01

# THE DYING CRAFT

Bamboo Weaving



## Sneak a Peak

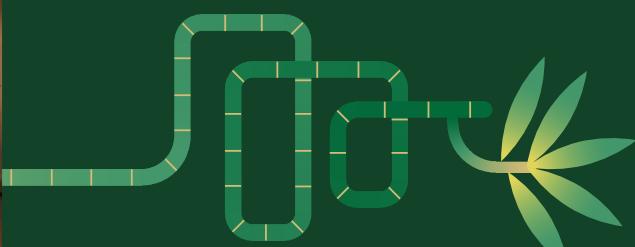


Made by:

Vijay.G.V  
10 - SRG  
Aditya Vidyashram

## Sources

News - [www.thehindu.com](http://www.thehindu.com)  
Design - [www.canva.com](http://www.canva.com)  
information - [blog.foreverbamboo.com](http://blog.foreverbamboo.com)  
images - [www.canva.com](http://www.canva.com)



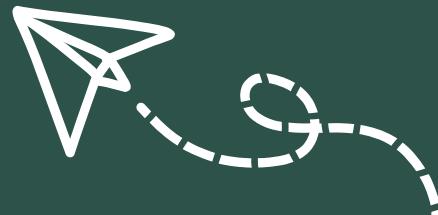


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# History of BAMBOO WEAVING

Ancient times.

## In ancient times, bamboo weaving was first originated in China

In China the Bamboo Waving Art obviously doesn't limit itself to rain hats. The product range is actually very wide, and items are classified according to their form and function. Some examples include baskets, trays, jars, boxes, cases, vases, folding screens, models of animals and figures, buildings, furniture, lamps and lanterns, bags, toys, fans and mats. Some are graceful pieces of art for decoration or enjoyment and some are indispensable commodities.

I think many of you have seen this rain hat made of bamboo and probably associate it with Chinese peasants. In China hand weaving hats from bamboo is an ancient folk art, and one of the first styles was precisely the round rain hat, which was later adopted by the Red Army during World War II, becoming known as the Red Army Hat.

BAMBOO RAIN HAT

China is rich in bamboo resources and has a long history of using and planting bamboos. The history of bamboo weaves can be even traced back to the Neolithic Age (around 6000 BC). Many relics of bamboo weaves (mainly baskets and other appliances for food storage) were found in Zhejiang Province archaeological sites, showing that bamboo weaves were widely used by people at the time.

Nowadays Sichuan Province, Hunan and Hubei Provinces, as well as Zhejiang Province are well-known for their distinctive bamboo products and bamboo weaving products, some of which are highly decorative. The style of the products often varies according to place of production. For example animal models are characteristic of Shengxian in Zhejiang province, woven surrounds for porcelain articles are from Chengdu and famous fans come from Zigong, Sichuan Province.



# **Major skills required for Bamboo Weaving :**

## **Eye sight**

A Bamboo Weaver should have good eyesight, hand-eye coordination, motor skills and vision (including near vision, distance vision, colour vision, peripheral vision, depth perception and ability to change focus).

## **Creativeness**

A Bamboo Weaver should be able to create many designs as he can do so, he should be able to make design from observing his surroundings and also taking help from our Mother Nature as much he can take.

## **Organised setup**

As we know that organised way of living is very important to have because it can reduce the tension on our surrounding working space, so it is mandatory for a Bamboo Weaver to have a organised working space

## **Don't give up easily**

Giving up is something anyone can do and one of the easiest things to do. You should never give up on what you are aiming for, because only you believe in what you are doing.



*"The Bamboo that bends  
is stronger than the Oak  
that resists"*

MODERN WORLD

# The Cause of Declination

of Bamboo Weaving

## MAJOR CAUSE OF DECLINATION OF OUR TRADITIONAL

### Bamboo Weaving Craft

- The baskets and mats made from bamboos are being used mainly to dry paddy and other agricultural products. With the advent of plastic products, which are more durable and easy to maintain, coupled with the shrinkage in the area of paddy fields, the condition of bamboo workers has become pitiable and many of them have moved out to other occupations.
- The inability of the traditional weavers to adapt to the changing requirements of the society and dwindling forest cover led to the shortage in raw material.

A NEWS FROM  
PALLAKAD DISTRICT  
ABOUT BAMBOO  
WEAVERS

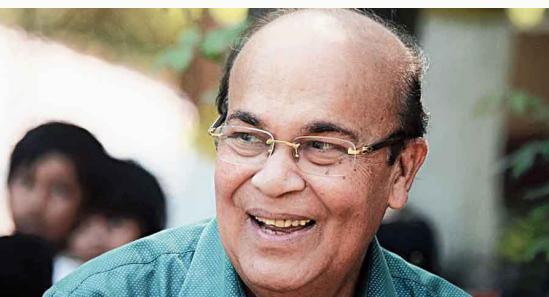
“There are around 50,000 bamboo workers in Palakkad district, who live in 200-odd clusters, in various parts of the district. Most of them are from the Paraya and Kavara communities who eke out a living making baskets and mats. Their condition continued to remain pitiable,” Palakkad District Bamboo Workers Union district secretary K V Vasudevan says.



## POSSIBILITY OF REVIVING THE DYING CRAFT

'THE HINDU' tells that,

*The Tripura government is trying to revive the dying art of fine bamboo weaving that can perk up employment in the State*



- It was at the Agartala Central Jail that Krishna Das Pal learnt the craft of 'fine bamboo weaving'. As a 'jail police', as local craftsmen refer to him, he fine-tuned the craft to such an extent that he has become a legendary name in the field. The Central Government also recognized his talent and honored him with the President's Medal.



- However, this fine art of bamboo weaving is on its way out. In just four decades, the art form developed, flourished, waned and is now dying. The reason for this is that the children of such weavers are taking to other modern-day professions, and for others too it holds little promise.
- "There are just three practitioners of this art form. Apart from my elder brother Krishna Das, my nephew Shukesh Pal has also learnt it," said Moti Babu, who is a Master Craftsman with the Tripura government.
- In this form, bamboo is shaved real fine and a die is cast of the structure to be made – usually these are masks or idols of deities like Ganesh and Durga. Then the mask is woven around the dye through the fine bamboo, said Mr. Babu.

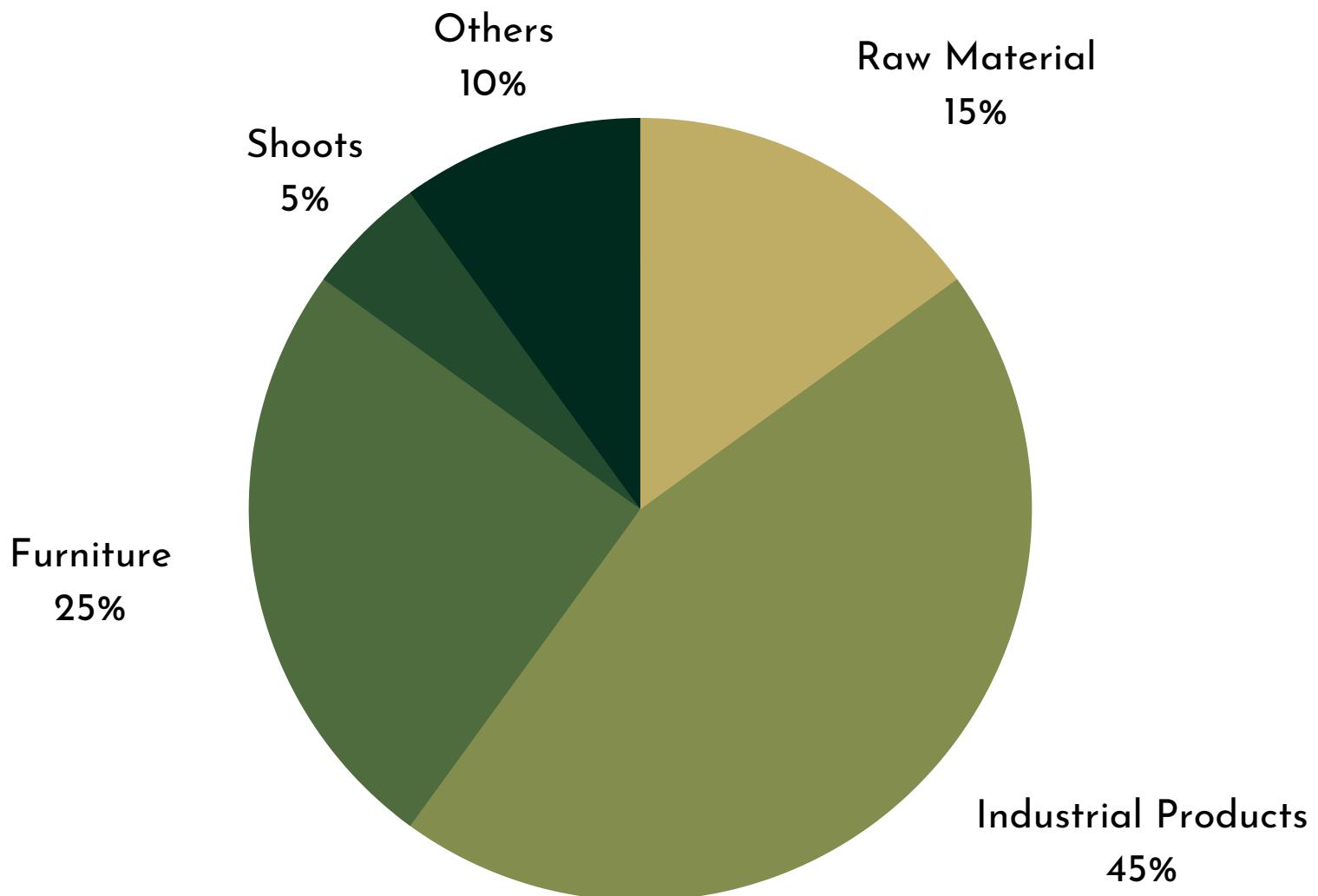
ALL INFORMATION GIVEN HERE ABOUT THE GOVERNMENT AND ITS MEASURE ON BAMBOO WEAVING WAS TAKEN FROM "**THE HINDU**".

- In these images, cane is also used for weaving the structure and for providing the background. The face is made of fine bamboo shavings, which give it a natural smooth, flowing and glossy texture.
- “It was in 1976 that I started working on this art form. All three of us hail from Masterpara, about four kilometres from Agartala. Our village got its name due to the large presence of teachers who taught at a nearby school.”
- Today, Moti Babu is trying hard to keep the tradition of fine bamboo weaving alive. “In our village of over 5,000 people, there are just eight engaged in bamboo weaving. About seven-eight persons help us, but they have not picked up the skill to the extent we would have liked,” he lamented.
- The work is painstaking, time-consuming but not so paying. “A normal mask takes about a week to prepare and making it costs Rs 700 to 800. It is sold by the artisan for around Rs 2,500 and further retailed for around Rs 3,800. The five-feet tall statues sell for around Rs 45,000 in the market.”
- Interacting with the media during a familiarization tour of the North East organized by the Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC), the North Eastern Council (NEC), and the Ministry of DoNER, recently, Moti Babu insisted that there are about 2,200 artisans now gainfully employed in bamboo work in and around Agartala.



*Bamboo is flexible, bending with the wind but never breaking, capable of adapting to any circumstance.*

# Global Bamboo Market



- The global bamboo market size was estimated at USD 59.30 billion in 2021 and is expected to expand at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 4.5% from 2022 to 2030. The growth of the global industry is expected to be driven by the growing investments in infrastructure development and the rising consumer awareness about sustainable, durable, and eco-friendly products



# NATIONAL BAMBOO MISSION



## Objective:

To increase the area under bamboo plantation in non forest Government and private lands to supplement farm income and contribute towards resilience to climate change as well as availability of quality raw material requirements of industries. The bamboo plantations will be promoted predominantly in farmers, fields, homesteads, community lands, arable wastelands, and along irrigation canals, water bodies etc.

## Strategy:

The Mission will focus on development of bamboo in limited States where it has social, commercial and economical advantage, particularly in the North Eastern region and States including Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Karnataka, Uttarakhand, Bihar, Jharkhand, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Kerala.