Bamboo- A wonder grass

Syllabus subtopic: Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation.

Prelims and Mains focus: about the workshop; Importance of bamboo in improving livelihoods.

Context: The deliberations of the two-day workshop-cum-exhibition on Bamboo with the aim of creating opportunities for the sustainable development in Jammu and Kashmir concluded at Jammu.

- The workshop-cum-exhibition was organized by the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region, North Eastern Council, Govt. of India and Govt. of Jammu and Kashmir through Cane and Bamboo Technology Center (CBTC), Guwahati, Assam and the Department of Social Forestry, Govt. of Jammu and Kashmir.

The recommendations for the growth of Bamboo industry in Jammu and Kashmir on the pattern of North Eastern Region.

The recommendations are:

1. Identify and increase the coverage of appropriate species of bamboo in Jammu and Kashmir through tissue culture research and establish nurseries and distribute endlings.

2. Formation and promotion of bamboo-related farmers and organisations and bamboo clusters throughout the bamboo producing areas of J&K with the involvement of PRIs.

3. Capacity building of J&K farmers/artisans and bamboo enterpreneurs at CBTC Assam.
4. Technical collaboration of CBTC with the J&K Government for setting up of Common Facility Centers and Bamboo Technology Parks.

5. Promotion of the use of bamboo as construction material for eco-tourism, rural housing and community buildings in rural areas.

6. Partnership between NEHHDC and J&K Government to assist the J&K artisans for the promotion and marketing of bamboo products and handicrafts.

**About the workshop**

During the two-day workshop-cum-exhibition, various technical sessions were held on Bamboo Wood Making and its Products, Cane and Bamboo Handicraft experience of North Eastern region, Status and Scope of Bamboo Stick industry with special reference to Agarbatti making and Potential and Uses of Bamboo in Housing and Construction. The participants had a threadbare discussion on the topics they spoke about. They elaborated the contents of their presentations with respect to the relevant topics on Bamboo cultivation and its scope in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

As a part of the workshop, several interactive sessions were held in every module to provide participants an opportunity to attain better understanding of various topics covered in the workshop-cum-exhibition.

The artists also performed a live programme for the Bamboo promotion in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

Pertinently, the workshop-cum-exhibition was held with an aim to promote Bamboo cultivation which will ensure greater opportunities for the sustainable development in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.