

PRESS RELEASE

As with the rest of the country, the Cane and Bamboo Technology Centre (CBTC), Guwahati celebrated “World Environment Day”. Apart from other activities, the main focus of the Centre was to increase the Green Cover and create a natural Oxygen Bank in the heart of the city. Towards this end, three species of bamboo were planted in the campus of the Assam State Zoo. This was done in collaboration with the officials of the State Zoo authorities.

Mr. Kamesh Salam, Project Coordinator, CBTC, Guwahati along with Mr. N. Mahanta, Divisional Forest Officer, Assam State Zoo, Guwahati planted a few saplings of bamboo. Both Mr. Salam and Mr. Mahanta expressed the hope that this token bamboo plantation would be the beginning of a close cooperation between the two Organizations. The event was largely attended by Forest Officials and officials of the CBTC, Guwahati.

The Assam State Zoo authorities also have plans to establish a *bambusetum* in the immediate future. This *bambusetum* will house most of the species of bamboo found in the North Eastern region of India. The CBTC, Guwahati will assist the State Zoo in the establishment of the *bambusetum* and will bring in exotic species of bamboo such as moso and guadua from other countries. At present, The Assam State Zoo houses only six varieties of bamboo and this number is likely to go up to fifty or more.

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