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A NOTE ON JOINERY AND FURNITURE INDUSTRIES ✓
IN INDIA

by

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1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes that this is crucial for ensuring transparency and accountability in the organization's operations.

2. The second part of the document outlines the various methods and tools used to collect and analyze data. It highlights the need for consistent and reliable data collection processes to support effective decision-making.

3. The third part of the document focuses on the role of technology in modern data management. It discusses how advanced software solutions can streamline data collection, storage, and analysis, thereby improving efficiency and accuracy.

4. The final part of the document provides a summary of the key findings and recommendations. It stresses the importance of ongoing monitoring and evaluation to ensure that the data management processes remain effective and up-to-date.

Nature has favoured our country of India with a great forest wealth. The forest of India is scattered all over the country. In the North East, they start from Assam which is very well wooded and extends West-wards along the Himalayans and sub-Himalayan tracts through North Bengal, North Bihar, Utter Pradesh, Punjab and Himachal Pradesh and end in Kashmir. The next important Zone runs along the Western area from Kanara divisions in Bombay and Madras, along Malabar to Cochin and Travancor in the South. In central India there are extensive forest areas, chiefly in Madhya-Pradesh which form an important source of teak to users in North India, Bihar and Orissa have valuable forest areas where sal is available in good supply besides a number of other species.

Due to increase in demand for wood and the products manufactured out of wood, the need was felt some time ago in our country to start some kind of wood based industries in order to exploit our forest scattered wealth to its best possible use and also to give impetus to local resources and talents, with the idea of improving managerial efficiency and technical know-how. The emphasis was further laid for development of industries with a view to create employment and a self sustaining growth for our economy as a whole.

India's requirements of timber are far in excess of the available supplies. Before the second world war, India used to import annually large quantities of teak from Burma and some also from Thailand. Imports from these sources at present are negligible with the principal foreign source of supplies at present being Nepal, which contributes a very large quantity of Sal, Sisoo, Haldu and other hard wood to the North East zones.

Timber is required for a number of uses, and is procured from different parts of India by the purchasing departments of the Central and State Governments and by the trade and industry. Sometimes it does happen that timber is transported over long distances for some specific services when species suitable for the purpose could, with some effort be secured from nearby sources. The reason for this appears to be that, the forest contractors and the timber trades are generally not aware of the properties and uses of the various timbers they purchase from the forest departments under the common category of "Kukat" or jungle woods. After the useful species are removed by them, the rest of the timber is converted into fuelwood and charcoal.

The users also are often unaware of the species that could be used for their particular requirements in place of the costlier timbers they obtain from distant sources. Besides, even when they happen to possess a knowledge of suitable timbers occurring in nearby forests, they generally face difficulties in procurement. It is, therefore, considered necessary that information should be made available to the timber trade and forest contractors on classification of various important Indian timbers according to their occurrence in the various zones and the main uses to which they can be put.

The questions to be asked are how far we have succeeded in the successful running of the Units and what further improvements are necessary. In general we can say that the wood industry is still in its making and a lot of improvements are required to be made in various fields connected with it. The wood industry has not received until recently the proper attention from the Government nor from private institutions. The benefits of modern research and technology have not been conferred on it. Even no stable or concrete markets in or outside the country have been established or achieved. This situation is deserving of immediate attention. Some of the difficulties that are being faced by the industry are as under.

I. QUALITY CONTROL

Although our forest department has introduced standards for log and sawn timber it does not cover the whole field. Our earnest suggestion is that the Government should move to enforce the standards at all levels of trade activities so that the products of our wood industries are, competitive and acceptable outside the country markets.

II. RESEARCH

The market potential for wood and its different products either of joinery or furniture is quite encouraging but needless to say that no proper markets have yet been developed. In our opinion the following main points should be taken into account.

(a) While we may be proud of producing quality goods what then when the products are not being advertised in their proper perspective and their usefulness is not known to the general public. For instance, a wooden piece treated chemically (with Ascu salt) gets its life period more or less doubled when in use but a small percentage of the general public is aware of this. Therefore, cheap and efficient means of publicity should be involved so that wood products are widely known over India and also in foreign markets.

(b) The research on practical know-how for joinery and furniture items is to be made known to the industry in order to be in line with the modern trend.

(c) Education of the industry should be carried out so that it may learn of customer requirements, especially in the area of competition.

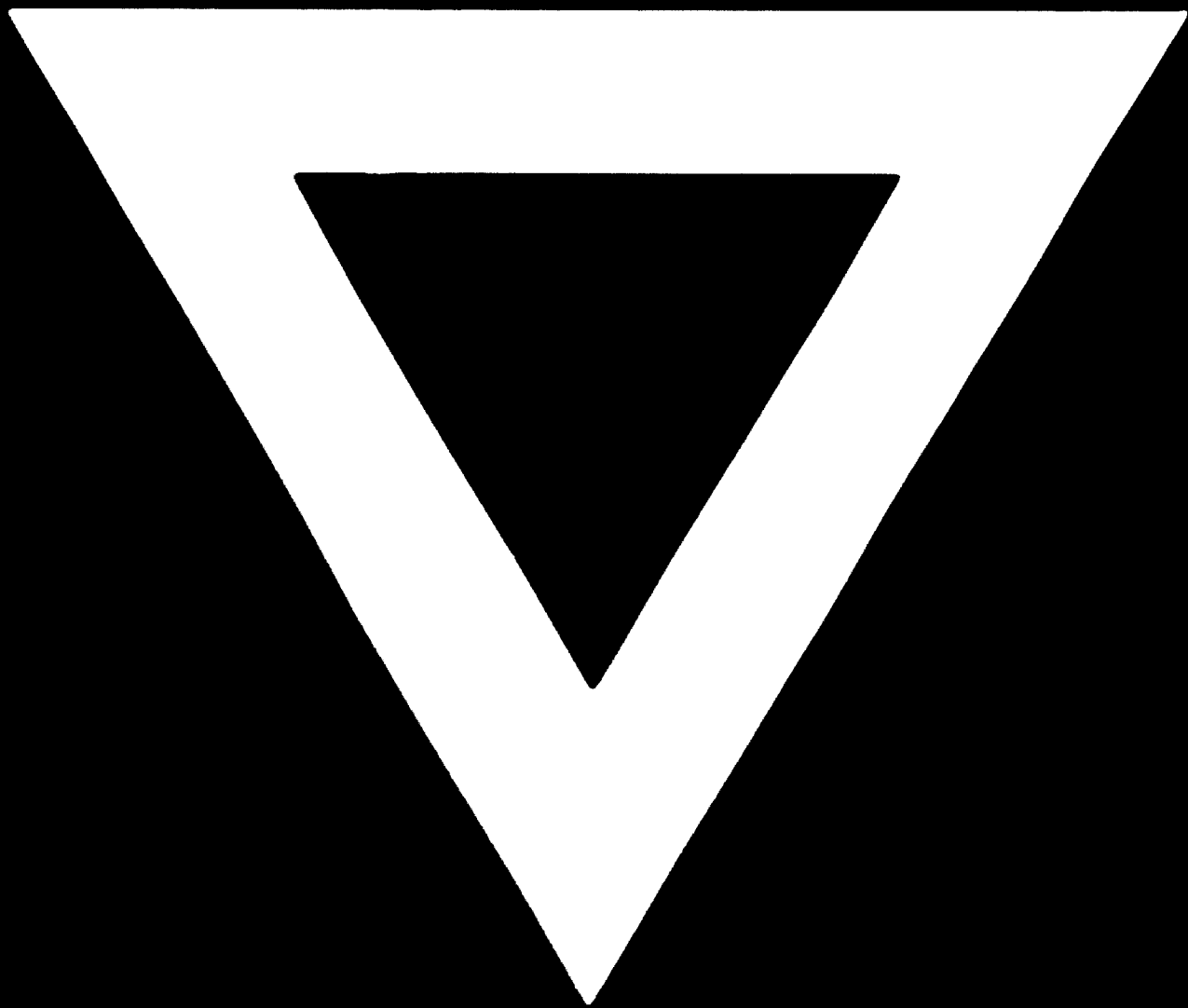
III. STANDARDIZATION OF PRODUCTS

The quality control and standardization of wood products are mutually connected. Therefore, success in one must be followed by success in the other. The fixation of standards is quite a scientific process and will require a great deal of training and understanding on the part of the industry. Once the standards have been established they shall have got to be approved by ISI. (Indian standard institution).

IV. MARKETING PROBLEMS

Because the qualities of seasoned and impregnated timber are not clearly understood either in joinery or furniture form by the general public, the customers or users hesitate to pay more for the product. Similarly the durability of these products is not known within or outside the country. This also needs immediate attention by way of having an effective marketing program set up to take care of both the domestic and export markets.





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