

**Minutes of meeting with brick kiln entrepreneurs from Karnataka** (held at TERI, Southern Regional Centre, Bangalore on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2010)

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A meeting with brick kiln entrepreneurs from Karnataka covering Malur, Kolar, Mulbagal and Anekal clusters was held on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2010 at TERI– Southern Regional Centre, Bangalore. The details of the discussions are given below:

**Objective of the meeting**

To discuss about the possibilities of demonstrating an artificial green brick dryer for different brick clusters in Karnataka

**Discussions**

It was expressed by the brick manufacturers expressed that green brick drying is one of the major bottlenecks for the brick industry in Karnataka. They are interested in adopting alternative solutions for green brick drying that would enhance the green brick drying and have sought the help of TERI. The meeting was also attended by a technical expert in drying system, Mr S Vijay Kumar. He conveyed that waste heat from flue gases from kiln outlet/ chimney can be effectively utilized for this purpose. A continuous drying system can be adopted for Hoffman kilns whereas Downdraft kilns can be equipped with intermittent drying system. Two types of artificial drying systems were suggested and further deliberated by the group. These include (1) Tunnel dryer, (2) Batch dryer or chamber dryer, and (3) Hot air blower system. Because of its continuous type of operation, tunnel dryer will be able to handle more mass of bricks as compared to others. The investment requirement for tunnel dryer is the highest among all.

For the selection of a dryer for demonstration, it was decided that it must match with the production capacity of the existing Hoffman kiln, which is equivalent to about 20,000 bricks per day. The moisture content entering the tunnel dryer will be substantially higher (about 20%). A batch dryer can handle effectively about 5,000 bricks per day and tunnel dryer can match about 20,000 bricks per day. Hence it was decided to study the possibilities of adopting a tunnel dryer in Karnataka brick industry.

**Next steps**

Two brick manufacturers – (1) Mr N Srinivas, Vaishnavi Brick industry, Mulbagal and (2) M P Manjunath, Malur Bricks and Tiles, Malur, have expressed interest in adopting tunnel dryers in their units. Following activities are planned:

- (1) Visit to the identified units during December along with Epsilon representative for collection of data and information
- (2) Detailed quotation for tunnel dryer

## **Participants**

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1. Marikamaba Tiles and Bricks: Mr Srinivas , Malur
2. Vishnavi Bricks – Mr N Srinivas, Mulbagal
3. Sri Hanuman Tiles and Bricks – Mr A Srinivas (ALA) – Masthi road, Malur
4. Venkateshwara brick industry, Narasapura road, Malur: Mr. Venugopal Krishna
5. Sri Raghavendra brick industry – Mr Jaibal, Malur
6. Bhiraveshwara Brick industry – Mr Paramesh
7. Maruthi hollow bricks- Mr Kamanna, Malur
8. Malur bricks and tiles- Mr Manjunath M P , Malur
9. Lakshivenkateshwara Tile works- Mr Munuswamy K, Malur
10. Anjaneya bricks and tiles- Mr Raghavareddy, Bangalore
11. Tirupathi brick works- Mr C E Ravi, Malur
12. N R Bricks and tiles- Mr N Ramakrishna, Anekal, Bangalore
13. Mr S Vijay Kumar, Technical expert, Epsilon, Empowering process instrumentation, Bangalore
14. Mr H S Sathya Narayana Rao, Consultant, TERI, Bangalore
15. Mr Yabbati Nagaraju, TERI, Bangalore
16. Mr Arupendra Nath Mullick, TERI, New Delhi
17. Mr Vasudevan, TERI, New Delhi