

Vigyan Ashram Status Report

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A] Kitchen Shifted to new building

We have shifted kitchen to new building on 31st Dec 2014. Everyone work hard to meet the deadline. Still there are many things to complete viz. furniture, installing chulha, fabrication of shelf inside the kitchen. But we are happy to shift to new place in the year 2014. DBRT students completed flooring, electrical wiring, plumbing etc. Students and staff did Shramdaan on 28th Dec to clean the building materials left in surrounding areas of kitchen building. Room for chulha was completed build by students as their project. Total Expenses on the project so far are Rs. **14,34,874/-**



B] STARS forum conference

Vigyan Ashram hosted 5th Annual conference of 'Skills Training for advancement of Rural Society (STARS) forum' on 27th and 28th Dec at J.P Naik Center. Theme of the conference was on 'Livelihood



opportunities in rural areas'. Total 86 participants from 67 organizations representing 13 states participated in the conference. Speakers includes Mr.Vasudoji (Vivekanand Kendra), Mr.Kushlendra (Kaushalya foundation), Dr.Lal singh (Himalayan resource group), Dr.Pramel Gupta (Vrutti), Dr.Ravi Chopra(Peoples

science Institute) and many other distinguished speakers. We discussed emerging opportunities, innovative practices adopted by different organization. Details proceedings & presentation of speakers will be soon posted on www.starsforum.org

C] Badminton Training

Mr.Manoj Harkare and his friends volunteered to coach DBRT students to play badminton. They decided to take 4 -5 sessions with students and prepare them for tournaments. Sessions will be planned on Saturday (weekly off for DBRT students). First session was held on 6th Dec. It was received well by students and staff. They are practicing daily before and after the working hours.

Similarly, Mr.Michael who is marathon coach started coaching DBRT students. His friends donated running sports shoes for few interested students.



D] Village Level Entrepreneur (VLE) Meeting

i) A get-together of all VLEs trained by us was organized on 25th Dec at Dantewada. The project is nearing completion and objective of the meeting was to motivate the VLEs. District officials were invited for the program. Total 140 people were present. 7 Village Level Entrepreneurs were awarded for their work in promoting solar lights. Various issues related to products and marketing strategies were discussed. We also recorded feedback of some of the user of lamps. It is available on :



<https://docs.google.com/file/d/0Bx0fGy4Q4AMwN2R0NDdpaFBMOWM/edit>

ii) Ranjeet and Aniruddha attended workshop on financial management, MIS, legal obligation on voluntary sectors organized by World bank for Development Marketplace winner on 17th & 18th Dec at New Delhi.

iii) Solar Gram made this month : Choti Chohaji, Kheda, Rathodi

E] Technology Development

i) High density fish farming experiment- Following are the important tasks completed in December –

- Fish tank cleaned, leakages removed and covered with tin sheets.
- Bio-filter bed prepared with 3 tractor load of bricks, 1 tractor load of sand and stone metal (Khadi).
- Plumbing work of bio-filter completed.
- Fish cage (for sampling fish) was fabricated.

We are planning to start trials by introducing fish seedlings in 2nd week of January.



ii) Sonai Dairy-Agro producer Pvt Ltd. – This is a company incubated by Pabal farmers with the support of VA. Board of meetings of Directors was held at VA on 2nd Dec. It was decided that company will start manufacturing Amla and dried vegetables products using VA’s food processing unit. VA will help in manufacturing & packaging of selected processed products at cost. In the month of Dec, we have processed 123 Kg of Amla for making products like Amla candy(20Kg) , Powder(5.9 Kg), Pickle(45 kg) , Supari (1.5 Kg) for Sonai Agro.

iii) Solar cooking experiment-

Under guidance of Mr.Ashok Mathur, we have successfully baked whole wheat biscuits on Solar on 23rd Dec. Trial were successful with following details –

- We required approximately 110° C temperature (hot plate) for backing Whole wheat (thin) biscuits.
- This is achieved by placing hot plate (Chapatti tawa) inversely on solar scheffler with aluminum foil coating. The biscuits are backed in double layer of aluminum foil so as to get indirect heat.
- Within 15 -20 min 250 Gm biscuits were backed.



This proves that, wheat biscuits can be easily made on solar cooker (Scheffler & PRINCE-40). Now we are working on designing simple bakery for mass production.

iv) Dr. Lal sing from Himalaya Research Group (HRG) visited VA on 26th Dec. He guided us on dairy feed concentrate & silage making. He gave suggestion for modifying our dryer. We also discussed their specific needs that can be taken up as Fab Lab projects.



v) TIED (Praj foundation supported “Technology incubation cum entrepreneurship Development centre”) –

- Rice De-husking Machine – Prototype tested with 95 % de-husking efficiency. Field-tested with Chaitanya NGO (Rajgurunagar) under progress.
- Loksatta published information about it on 1st Jan 2015- <http://epaper.loksatta.com/407731/loksatta-pune/1-01-2015#page/5/2>
- Documentation of incinerator is uploaded on <https://vigyanashram.wordpress.com/2014/12/15/sanitary-pad-disposal-unit/>

vi) Entrepreneurship Accelerator Dept :

- a) Finalized proposal for SHG women entrepreneurs with Chaitanya. They have submitted it to Tata Motors.
- b) Range-De online setup for our proposal is complete.
- c) Business plan for Mrs. Vandana P. Pandit (Shirval IBT) is done and Identified potential entrepreneurs among IBT instructors.

F] DBRT Update

- i) We have received two pre-fabricated poultry cages from Sahyadri Industries, Pune on 27th December. These are multi layered, pre-fab type of cages, made-up cement panel boards as per poultry farming standard. Size of the cage is → 8*4 Ft with 120 bird capacity & 6*4 Ft with 80 birds capacity. We are planning to conduct trials with different breeds of birds as DBRT products in coming days. We got the cages in lieu of the poultry farming training, we will be conducting for Sahyadri employees.
- ii) Food processing : Total value of community service from Food section in Nov 2014 is Rs.12100/-
- iii) 35 DBRT students & 5 staff members visited Kisan Exhibition on 12th Dec.
- iv) Agri section : Poultry batch started with 400 birds on 2nd Dec.
Dairy : Milk : Gauri 248 lits (Profit Rs.2959), Soni 67 lits (Profit :Rs.11), Sonam 73 lits (Rs.250)
Goat farm : 1 goat died, 2 goats sold
- v) Workshop students fitted STP assembly on tractor against order. They did construction of chulha shed, tiles fitting, plumbing work of new kitchen.
- vi) One day orientation camp :→ 61 students of Exploratory science center, Nigadi on 14th Dec, 16 students of Inspire Academy, Bhosari on 28th Dec.



G] IBT updates :

- i) Team visited all candidate schools for model IBT project. Proposal and action plan is made for 16 schools.
- ii) Yogesh and Farzana attended meeting with trustees of Talasari school on 17th Dec to review IBT program.
- iii) Unicef team and Child development officers from Chattisgarh visited Pune office on 29th Dec to



get information about IBT program.

iv) Yogesh wrote article in the magazine 'Parivartanacha Watsaru' in their 16th Dec issue on 10 years after NCF2005.

v) IBT team worked with Shindave high school to make a model IBT setup. Annual meeting of school HMs is planned on 3rd Jan at Shindavane. We made idea posters of 100 projects done by IBT schools and prepare a presentation. Also two CDs containing all OERs developed so far are prepared for distribution during the meeting.

vi) A MOU is signed with Jnan Prabodhan Mandal to start IBT program school in Belgaum & Jamboti.

vii) Inchanal School made a project of multipurpose agriculture cycle. Its video is available on :

<http://youtu.be/CVgvTAIGvrU>



H] D-I-Y Lab :

i) Siddharth bagrecha student of IIT completed his internship. He conducted pilot activities of proposed 'Tod-Fod-Jod' center in two schools (Ambedkar high school (22 students), Mohit Patil vidyalya (45 students). He made documentation of four gadgets.

Please visit following link for video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5p4MGWlmg4E>

ii) Dr.Jagdale and Mr.Vinayak Inamdar of S&T Park visited JPNC to see the place for proposed Tod-Fod-Jod (TFJ) center on 19th Dec. Science and Technology council has given us a letter of intent to start Tod-Fod-Center at JPNC.



iii) Suhas completed documentation and project work of 'Wireless Remote Controller' circuit. It will help user to control all household gadgets with one remote.

I] Other tit-bit –

- 1) Interviews for the post of mechanical engineer, enterprise development officer and science communicator was held on 19th, 20th and 21st. Mr.Vijay Adhav, Mr.Prashant Rane and Mr.Hemant Pawar are selected.
- 2) Vigyan Ashram fab lab featured in German magazine dt.17th Feb
<http://www.srf.ch/wissen/technik/wenn-ich-das-kann-kannst-du-das-auch>
- 3) Weather record – rainfall of the month – 4.79 mm ,Max temp- 34⁰C , Min Temp –10⁰C, Humidity – 54% , Water height in well : mtr
- 4) Donation received : Mr.Krishna Kranti gave royalty of his book, Mrs.Shivani bhat, Mrs.Sunanda Walimbe, Mr.Vasant Masurekar, Mr.Chintamani Gadre, Mrs.Subada Gadre, Mrs.Supriya Gadre, Mr.Supriya Agashe, Mr.Jayesh Kulkarni, Mr.Sameer Jag, Ms.Swati Joshi,

Mrs.Shilpa Paranjape, Mr.Abhijeet Vaidya, Mr.Yogeshwar Bapat, Mr.R.Gandhi, Mr.Sunil Natu, Dr.Dabadgaonkar, Mr.Haddval

- 5) Number of visitors to Vigyan Ashram in Dec 2014 : 1171
- 6) Energy consumption record- Electricity unit – Three Phase -1573 KWH, Single Phase – 126 KWH, Diesel consumption for generator- 0
Quality of electricity : There are 103 interruption in electricity and no electricity for 109 hrs.
(No supply :12.79% time, High voltage : 7.62% time)
- 5) Biogas consumption – Dung used- 1364 Kg, Gas produced- .. m3.

J) INDUSAPTI Content Development :

Following content is finalized and uploaded on www.learningwhiledoing.in

- a) Bamboo preservation and making its products :

<http://learningwhiledoing.in/InnerPages/LessonDetails.aspx?LessonId=77&Category=Engineering&SubCategory=Bamboo&CategoryId=3&Title=Main%20Lesson%20Bamboo>

- b) Basic Engineering Concepts

<http://learningwhiledoing.in/InnerPages/LessonDetails.aspx?LessonId=65&Category=Engineering&SubCategory=Basic%20Engineering%20Concepts&CategoryId=3&Title=Basic%20Engineering%20Concepts>

- c) Video of Making Apple jam : https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4I_tzpN_ZDE

Following lessons are finalized and uploaded on www.learningwhiledoing.in , Also visit Vigyan Ashram U-tube channel on : <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFOH2Jf313u8OrQ3B-PohaA>

Data Sheets : <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B3-4RfsZ2K2OLVhrZXEyZjBCeXM/view>

Photo Gallery :



Repairing solar water heater @ workshop



Hydroponic fodder cultivation



Construction of chulha shed



Tractor fitted with STP fitting



Shramdaan : To clean construction area.



Visit to Kisan Exhibition



Azolla bed : Sadhana Vidyalaya



Making Jam : Anoli high school

For regular update @ VA activities please like : www.facebook.com/vigyan.ashram.pabal