

Vigyan Ashram Status Report

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www.dsttara.in (TARA – Technology Application for Rural Areas)

Vigyan Ashram has developed a website for promoting technologies developed under DST (Dept of science & technology) core support by different organizations. Each organization can update information about their technologies. This website was inaugurated on 4th March at the hand of Secretary, Science and Technology (Govt of India), in a DST core support meeting at Delhi.

Yogesh and Ranjeet attended Group Monitoring Workshop (GMW) of core support group at New Delhi from 4th – 6th March. We presented work done under DST core support to the expert committee members. We also made 1 min video clip of all our new technologies. These video are available on www.dsttara.in and also on www.vigyanashram.com

Skills on Wheel (SOW) project

In SOW project, training is provided at students place and on the job. Trainer will be mobile and will guide students throughout his training. We learned from initial pilot poultry course at Jawhar. It is observed that absence of full time co-ordinator and close monitoring is crucial for the success of the project. We were struggling to get co-ordinator at Jawhar. Therefore it is decided to appoint a co-ordinator at Pabal and take up initial pilot in rural areas in Junnar Taluka. This is tribal area, 70 -100kms from Pabal and VA do not have presence over there. This will become ideal site for testing

SOW methodology.

VA team (Yogesh,Ranjeet, Mahesh and Sandeep) visited Jagruti Mahila

Sanstha in Belhe on 27th March to explore possibilities of starting SOW program. Backyard poultry and Solar drying are immediate program that can be taken up in collaboration with Jagruti.



Introduction to Basic Technology (IBT) – PLAN 100 update

(Supported by Asha for Education, Unicef, Govt of Chattisgarh, Lend-a-hand-India, Suzlon foundation, Hemendra Kothari Foundation)

1) Visit to Bijapur – Dantewada

Yogesh visited Bijapur –Dantewada from 13th – 16th March along with Mr.Sheshgiri of Unicef. He visited IBT program in Nelsnar, Matwada, Bijapur, Dugaiguda and Sangampalli. They met instructors and discussed progress made during last year. They had a meeting with district collector. IBT schools were facing problems like delay in release of funds for raw material etc. Appropriate instructions were given by the Collector for the same. Training program for IBT instructor is planned in May at Bijapur.



Flooring & handle rest for hand pump : Dugaiguda IBT

Important notes for IBT team during the visits are :--

i) Work activities which do not require funds were also not done in some schools. ii) Work activities in their surroundings like Charcoal briquetting / smokeless chulha / forest produce processing need to be given emphasizes during next training. lii) IBT registers and log book need to be checked regularly.

2) Advertisement from Directorate of Vocational Education & Training for new IBT schools

DVET gave advt. in Pudhari newspaper for registering new schools for starting pre-vocational program. New advertisement only asks application for program from IX std (Instead of from VIII std.). They are also made it mandatory to have min. Rs.5 lacs balance and three phase electric connection. Most of our schools find this condition difficult to fulfill. Yogesh met Minister of Technical Education Mr.Rajesh Tope along with Dr.B.D.Pawar (MS-IIE) on 12th March and briefed him about the problems faced by schools. He promised action and instructed officials.



Agriculture - Patharai

Kailash attended meeting of schools in Maval area on 6th March and informed them about IBT program. Omkar visited schools in Nagpur and also Tribal Welfare Dept officials to introduce IBT in Govt run ashramshala's.

Following schools submitted their applications to start IBT program. I) Swami Vivekanand (Devalapar), ii) Navjeevan (Patharai), iii) Jnan Prabodhini (Harali-Osmanabad) iv) Dahanukar Vidyalaya (Shrirampur) v) Rayat Shikshan Sanstha(Thangaon-Nasik) vi) Jamgaon (A.Nagar) vii) Valasang (Sangli) viii) Kharsing High school (Kathemankal,Sangli) ix) New English school (Pasali,Pune)

3) IBT SSC Examination : IBT team provided technical support for all IBT schools for preparing for SSC exam. We send previous question papers, material list for conducting exam etc to schools by post and e-mail.

4) IBT book progress : Omkar submitted 4th proof of Xth std IBT book to SSC board on 12th March.

5) IBT Training Calendar : Training calendar is made for 'IBT instructors summer training'. Due to shortage of water and drought condition, we have shifted all training program at Pabal by June end. Training program for schools in Vidarbha region is scheduled from 16-22nd April at Devalapar (Ramktek). Training program for Chattisgarh instructors is scheduled from 6th – 12 May at Bijapur (CG).



LED lamp using old utensils

DST Core Support Projects:

A] Training Manual on Solar installation

We have developed training module and manual for solar panel and street light installation. This manual is developed on assignment from Urja Future Pvt Ltd. They are undertaking training program in partnership with MCED. MCED is going to publish the book. VA will conduct initial two training program and training of their trainer.

B] INDUSA Practical Training Institute (INDUSAPTI)

i) INDUSAPTI is shifted to new classroom. It is at the ground floor of new workshop building. First course was started of computer hardware and it begins with making computers for INDUSA CARE program. Component for 5 computers (2 desktop and 3 terminals) were purchased and assembly lesson was started from 27th March.

ii) Two tablets PCs are purchased. Mahesh and Pankaj will explore them in next month for different application especially for rural enterprises. We are looking for drawing, project planning, accounting apps.

C] Technology Review Meeting -

A review of all technology projects handled by VA was taken on 23rd March at Pabal. We have invited Dr.Arun Dixit and Mr.Ashok Kalbag as observer and expert for the meeting. This review become necessary since new people joined VA in recent months. We specified objective of each project and expected deliverables are decided. Primary responsibility is also distributed among the members.

Link to worksheet is on :

<https://drive.google.com/?tab=mo&authuser=0#folders/0ByXh2Q0qdpp0WDIGVDZCV01yZFE>

It is decided that we will have monthly and quarterly review of the project progress on regular basis.

C] Egg incubator Trial :

Trial on new egg incubator was successful with 82% success. This batch was of 100 eggs. It consumed 39 units (Rs.136/-) of electricity and 30lits of water. This machine was delivered to Khiroda high school against their order.

Aquaponics Project-

Comparative study of cucumber with aquaponic water and normal water is in progress. We have



harvested 114 Kg of fresh cucumbers. Meanwhile we lost few flower buds due to fungal disease. The query was posted on Aaqua and as per their suggestions fungicides were sprayed for controlling this attack. Initially this fungal disease was confused with boron deficiency and therefore we sprayed water soluble boron. Due to this dose boron toxicity is developed (leaves turn yellow with scorching). This cause was identified from internet

references. All these experiences will help us to develop ideal cucumber cultivation package of practices.

E] Fodder making Machine – We are conducting experiments in closed cabinet by maintaining temperature of 32 ° C and 70 % Humidity for 9 days. We obtained height of grass as expected but weight gain is less than 50%. Leaf color of maize sprout was light yellow which shows less light for photosynthesis. A violet LED light used as artificial light source doesn't show any significant effect on

growth. We also observed uneven growth in tray, mainly because of improper water spray. We are doing required modification.

F] Shetkari Melawa – Pabal Farmers club programme-

VA- Farmers club in Pabal village and Agriculture department organized one day meeting at ashram on 5th March. 100 farmers participated in the meeting. Information about various farmers Schemes was given. We also discussed new technologies like azolla cultivation, Aquaponics trial plot, Goat farming etc.



G] Praj Animal Husbandry Proposal-

Dairy shed repair work- Flooring work in dairy shed (milking parlor) is completed by DBRT students. Poultry shed construction work has not progressed further because of water scarcity. For more information on DST core activities. visit <http://vigyanashram.wordpress.com/>

DBRT update (Supported by Asha for Education & Tech Mahindra Foundation)

1) Azolla Training : Farmers are regularly visiting VA for training on Azola cultivation. We made 3 beds for Azolla cultivation and one demo bed for practical's. 16 farmers took training this month.



2) We are now using water from tanker for drinking hence a RO filter is repaired and installed outside kitchen.

3) Yogesh visited NIOS, Noida (Delhi) on 7th and discuss OER project and duration of DBRT program with Director (Vocational), NIOS. Ranjeet visited Agriculture exhibition at PUSA(Delhi) on 7th.

5) Dairy summary

Total expenses in March : Rs.7254 , Milk collected : 609 lits , milk sale : Rs.10325 Cow dung sale : Rs.1309. Total margin : Rs.4381. (Labour charges not included)

6) Food Lab : This month total sale from Community processing unit : Rs.3390/- and by DBRT students Rs.2075/- . Total : Rs.5465/-

Other Tit-bits :

i) Induction Training of new Staff : Induction training of 5 new staff members were held and sessions on VA philosophy was conducted on 19th March.

ii) Donation : Mr.Amit Dahanukar donated Rs.51000/- to VA.

iii) Visitors : Following important organisations/persons visited VA this month

Symbiosis college of Arts & commerce, Pune (1st March), Madhav ji from Madhya Pradesh, Pipariya, Bankhedi, President – Nationalist congress party (Pune district), Prayas sanstha, Mumbai, Akar Sanstha, Lonavala(25th March), Sewavardhini – Vidyabharati (MP)(31st March), Snehalaya Team , A.Nagar (9th March), Piramal foundation(10th), Azim Premji university fellow (12- 14th), Mr.Dough (GKN Plc) & Dr.Bhattacharjee (GKN sinter Metal) on 28th March, Nileema Mishra (2nd March), Mr.Ram (Rang de, Chennai- 2nd Mar)

iv) Management committee meeting –MC meeting was held at Pabal on 24th March. Mr.Ashok Kalbag, Mr.Vijay Kumar, Mr.Sunil Kulkarni, Mr.Pravin Mahajan, Mrs.Kalbag (Amma) and Dr.Yogesh Kulkarni attended the meeting. Various decision related to administration and projects were taken.

v) Environment: Rainfall of the month: -- mm, total rainfall of the year: 433 mm

Water level in the well: __ meter

Min Temp – 26 degree, Max temp – 30 degree , Humidity – 31 %

ii) Energy consumption:

Diesel: (N.A) lits, Electricity (MSEB): 667 units (3 phase), Single phase bill : 741 units

iii) Solar Scheffler (INDUSA facility) : 35.16 hrs & 1503 chapattis

Biogas consumption – cow dung used : 1017 kg, biogas produced : 45 m³, Biogas used : 31 m³

iv) Two wheeler – 500 kms, Petrol consumption: 8.55 lits (N.A)

Data Report- All section wise data report are available on Google pages:

<https://docs.google.com/file/d/0B5g18a0l4MeIjXzNkZ2JTSm8/edit?usp=sharing>

Photo Gallery:



Water Tanker from Gram Panchayat : 10000 lit/week for Vigyan Ashram



Repairing of floor mill by DBRT students.



Bar bending practicals



Pipe threading practicals



DBRT students visited Krishi seva kendra and understand their operations.



Anil with his Egg incubator and result – Chicks



VA team @ GMRT ,Science Exhibition, Khodad, 1st March ,

For Regular update : Facebook : www.facebook.com/vigyan.ashram.pabal