

Vigyan Ashram Status Report

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Development of permaculture garden @ JPNC

We have started development of permaculture garden @ D-I-Y Lab. Work has been started on 10 guntha plot. Initial soil testing results showed absence of organic carbon in the soil. Therefore we have taken Dhencha/Tag/Sprout Mixture crop during monsoon and leveled the land using tractor. Following projects are initiated i) raised beds with Stones, Bricks and other materials ii) Constructed Keyhole garden and Spiral garden iii) Hot Compost heap iv) Vegetable and Herbs planting v) Amrut Jal , AmritMati vi) Vermi-composting. Total 20 people interested in agricultural activities are taking part in these activities.



Camp activity / scrap revolution



Dr.Arund Giri visited Lab & interacted with DIY students

Winter Camp : Following winter camps were organized for students.

- 1) 9th Nov – 12 Nov : 36 Students
- 2) 14 Nov – 16 Nov : 17 students

We have received lots of useful scrap from M/S Texol Engg Pvt Ltd. 27 makers participated in 'Scrap Revolution' activities and made different innovative projects from scrap.

Open Education Resources (OER) Workshop

i) 'Nayee Talim Samittee' organized a workshop to prepare 'OERs' for implementing 'Learning through productive work' activities. The workshop was hosted by Gujarath Vidyapeeth and supported by Azim Premji University. It was held at Sadra - Rural campus of Gujarath vidyapeeth, Ahmedabad from 18th – 22nd Nov. Vigyan Ashram was technical partner for the project. We prepared template for the workshop and also offered our website www.learningwhiledoing.in for hosting the OERs developed. VA team of 8 people including four IBT school teachers participated in the workshop. Total participation in the workshop was 70 people from various states. Total 13 draft OERs were made in the workshop.



ii) A new format for uploading OERs was made. IT is being tested on the link www.naitalim.in/lwd

iii) Video shooting for Solar street light installation was carried out on 12th Nov at Pabal with Urja future team.

Introduction to basic technology (IBT)

IBT school updates –

1) Committee for revision of IBT syllabus

DVET appointed Committee for revision of IBT syllabus met on 11th Nov at Mumbai & on 25th Nov at Pune. First draft syllabus in the NSDC & SSC board format was made and submitted to DVET.

2) *Visit to Badoda* – Munni Seva ashram: Yogesh visited Munni Seva Ashram @ Baroda on 17th Nov. They have boarding school and they want to start IBT program in coming academic year.

3) Kailash visited Tandulwadi School to help them to plan for X Std project. They also visited Dhamari School.

4) *DBRT annual exam*- DBRT board exam was held in batches from 9th – 16th Nov. Total 84 students appeared for the exam at Pabal. Written examination was held at Bhairvanath Vidyalaya at Pabal, practical's exam was conducted in ashram. There were 20 IBT instructors among those appeared for the examination. Three students from Symatak also appeared for exam from Vigyan Ashram center.



5) Mr.Prafull Dhandre and Nemndra joined VA as field officers. They will be based in Ramtek. They

underwent orientation at VA. They were introduced to all schools from 19th Nov. Master data for all schools were updated.

6) IBT school principals meeting in PENCH schools, was organised on 28th Nov. Mr.Kiran Inamdar (WCT) and Mr.Ranjeet attended the meeting. Review of the work done so far and planning for next semester was done. It is also decided to conduct training of drawing & costing for all instructors. Ranjeet also visited Chandrapur on 26th Nov and visited ITI and District vocational officials for getting their help in locating resource persons as instructors.



5) Mr.Rajendra Pawar, Chairman of Baramati Agro Development Trust visited VA on 27th Nov. The visit is to explore possibility of starting IBT program in their schools as part of quality improvement program.

6) Pawan is operating from Dantewada and launched IBT program in all 17 porta cabin schools of the district. Activity plan is made for all schools.

7) Ganesh visited KVK , baramati and Progressive farmer in Sangamner to study fodder cultivation methods.

DST Core support project

1. **Aquaponics Project:** Trial is on way with satisfactory plant growth. We are maintaining growth data for selected 48 plants (24 from of control + 24 aquaponics) like plant height, number of shoots, number of buds / fruits per plant etc. We are also consulting to KF biotech, Narayangaon KVK, polyhouse farmers for technical support on fertilizer / pesticide / watering schedule for plants.

2. Training on advance farming techniques-

As per the need expressed by the farmers, training program was conducted on advance farming technique. A team of 3 subject matter experts from Narayangaon KVK (Mr.B.G.Temkar , Mr.Yogesh Yadav , Mr. Dhanesh Padva) conducted training on foliar fertilizer application, pesticide formulation, effect of soil EC on plant growth, bio-pesticides / fertilizers etc. Total of 17 farmer from Pabal / Khairnager / Zarkar wadi area attended the training.



As a result of training, many farmers requested irrigation water/ soil electrical conductivity (EC) analysis from us. Soil - Water EC is very critical factor in increasing efficiency of mobility fertilizer / pesticide applied through foliar spays.

Because of low rainfall and deep water level (bore wells of 400 + ft), water in Pabal area, contains higher amount of salts (Ca, Mg, Na, I etc), so it has higher EC. In the month of Nov,

we tested 5 samples of water and 4 samples of soil for EC and found that average water EC is 1.0 + mS/cm and soil EC 2.0+ mS/Cm. (This can be suggested that foliar spray recommendations should be reduced to 50 % concentration in Pabal area due to higher water EC)

3. **Mango (Fruit) pulp candy roll / Dryer modification –**

Trial to dry 18 Kg of mango pulp to form candy roll was completed. During trials, it is found that, it took 12-15hrs to dry batch of 3 Kg pulp. Further drying was not uniform in all trays. We took guidance of Mr.Arun Dixit to overcome dryer problems. He visited VA on 23rd Nov. Following areas are identified to work further - modifications in air circulation, air temperature sensor and compressor run time.

4. **Praj foundation supported Animal Husbandry project –**

- a) Silage making – Trial on plastic bag silage making method with Bacillus sp bacterial culture was conducted. 200 Kg chopped green sugarcane fodder was sprinkled with silage culture and filled in plastic bag. While filling bag care taken for removing air pockets inside bag by pressing it, then bag was sealed for avoiding outside air contact. (Silage will be ready by next 60 days of fermentation)
- b) New poultry batch – New batch with 350 poultry birds started on 21st Nov.

DBRT (Supported by Asha for Education)

- 1) Food Lab Training : Need based training was given to following person →

- i) Ms Aparna Kulkarni – To make **aloevera** oil
- ii) Anita Pansare – To make Til and Javas chikki

- 2) Mr.Kolhe(Pabal) gave 20kg Amla for making Amla candy. Hotel owner Mr.Rajaram Pingale got his water tested in H&H lab.
- 3) Stall in Agrowon Exhibition: We have participated in Agrowon Agricultural exhibition-2013, at Pune from 22nd Nov to 26th Nov. We have displayed Egg incubator, different food products in the exhibition.
- 4) Workshop activities – Koba for gotha shed (Dairy farm), shed for azolla nursery, fabrication of handle to lift workshop gate, brooder for poultry – 3 nos, railing in gotha shed



Other tit-bit –

- I. Alfa Laval donated old freeze, TV, furniture, trade mill etc to VA.
- II. Mr.Arvind Kasargod donated Rs.25000.00 to Vigyan ashram.
- III. A blower is purchased for laser cutting machine.
- IV. Mr.Laxmi Narayan, DIG Andhra Pradesh visited ashram on 25th Nov. They are planning to start IBT in AP.
- V. Visitors: Mr.Rajendra Powar (President, Agriculture Development Trust, Baramati), Mr.Mohamad Sadak Khan (Asst director NIOS, Pune), team of teachers from Salumbre Gram Prabhodhani IBT School, team of John dear Pvt Ltd- CSR unit.
- VI. There was a forest fire (Vanava) in the plantation area on 15th Nov. It was immediately brought under control, but we lost many newly planted samplings during fire.
- VII. Weather record – rainfall of the month -24.69 mm ,Max temp-27.86 °C, Min Temp –15.60 °C , Humidity – 50 % , Water height in well – 5.69 Meter.
- VIII. Energy consumption record- Electricity unit – III Phase -314, I Phase -977.
- IX. Diesel consumption for generator- 5 lit.
- X. Biogas consumption – Dung used- 1297 Kg, Gas produced- 770 Ft3.
- XI. Two wheeler – NA Km, petrol consumption – NA
- XII. Total visitors to www.vigyanashram.com – 1202 (New visitors- 909 , repeated visitor- 213)
- XIII. www.dsttara.in : Total Visitors: - 120 (New: - 5, Old: - 125)

Data Report:

https://docs.google.com/file/d/0ByXh2Q0qdpp0endxS1pNb1dPTGM/edit?usp=drive_web

(Work of VA is supported by Asha for Education, Unicef, Govt of Chhattisgarh, Lend-a-hand-India, Suzlon foundation, Wildlife conservation Trust, Dept of S&T, RGSTC, Praj foundation and many individuals and foundations)

Photo Gallery:



Permaculture garden setup at D I Y Lab J.P.Naik centre of Education, Pune.



Andhra Pradesh state DIG, Mr.Laxminarayan visit on 25th November.



Agriculture section plot at IBT - Gurukul Ashramshala, Nimtola (Devlapar – Pench)



Visit of Mr.Rajendra Pawar , President Agriculture development trust ,Baramati.



DBRT (Energy & Environment section) students performing motor re-winding practical



Forest fire (Vanava) at new tree Plantation area.

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