

Vigyan Ashram Status Report

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Vigyan Ashram Received MSRLIF award

Vigyan Ashram received 'Maharashtra State Rural Livelihood Innovation Forum (MSRLIF)' award for communicating technologies to rural population through IBT schools. Award was presented at the



hands of Rural Development Minister Mr.Jayaram Ramesh on 27th Jan in a function held at Mumbai. IBT co-ordinator Mr.Kailash Jadhav accepted the award on behalf of VA. We also put up a stall in an exhibition about IBT program. Award consists of amount of Rs.2 lacs and trophy.

This award will help us in promoting IBT program under livelihood mission.

A jury presentation for this award competition was held at TISS on 22nd Jan.

Accounting Service Provider Course

We have launched practical course in accounting as part of INDUSA CAREs. 16 students from Pabal village enrolled for the course. All of them are pursuing B.Com from college in Pabal. This course is conducted on 'Learning while doing' methodology of VA. Students have taken community service job of maintaining accounts of Self help group using Tally package. We are expecting them to provide accounting service to small businessmen in villages as a 'Service Provider'.

Aakaash Tablets for IBT students

With the support from IIT-Mumbai, Aakaash Tablets are given to 120 IBT students of VIII std. These students underwent training on use of Tablets at ashram. OERs, Powerpoints and CDs developed on IBT/DBRT course are loaded on the tablets. Tablets were distributed in a function held at Bhairavnath High School, Pabal in presence of Z.P member Me.Pingale & local village representatives.

We have downloaded 44 apps and installed them on tablets. These are related to biology, maths, chemistry, English, Hindi, and geometry.



List of PDF	English	Hindi
Agriculture	6	17
Home and Health	17	15
Engineering	18	6
Electrical	28	2

List of power-point uploaded on tablets are given in the table. We are planning to monitor use of tablets and its usefulness over next one year.

OERs are available on website www.learningwhiledoing.in

Introduction to basic technology (IBT)

i) **IBT school Principal meeting** was held at JPNC on 4th Jan. Total 76 persons including principals of 46 schools attended the meeting. It was chaired by Mr.Ankush Kale, Principal, Mangaon school. Mrs.Sunanda Mane and Mr.Raj Gild (Lend-a-hand-India) also took part in the proceedings of the meeting. Various administrative and financial issues were discussed. Schools presented new initiatives undertaken under IBT program.

This meeting was held after the gap of 2 years and it is decided to organize such meeting regularly. Representatives from our partner organization Lend-a-hand-India, Praj foundation, Awardee teacher association, CSR Pune and others were present for the meeting.



ii) IBT stall in Rangeela Bal Mahotsav at Dantewada

Rangeela Bal Mahotsav is a 3 day students festival was organized at Dantewada from XX to XX. It also has Meena Bazaar. 17 - IBT schools together put up their products for sale in a stall. Following items made in IBT were sold.

- i) Apple Jam ii) Mix-Pickle iii) Lemmon grass iv) Methi Powder v) Tomato Saus vi) Besan Laddu vii) Peanut Laddu viii) Photo frame ix) Switch Bord x) Vegetables xi) Handcrafted items xii) Aawala Supari

Apart from this, student made posters about perticular topic like earthing, soak pit, cultivation of crop with costing etc.

Chief Minister of Chattisgarh Mr.Raman Singh and his Minister, District collector visited IBT stall & appreciated students work.



Chief Minister of CG @ IBT stall in Dantewada



IBT stall in Rangeela Mahotsav

3) School wise 'Group photograph of IBT students' in Pench and Tadoba region were taken. Every student was given photograph of his batch. We have provided information for career guidance and contact number of counselors on the photograph. We hope that students will preserve the photo and will contact us when they wanted to have career guidance in future.

4) Community Service highlights :

a) Botoni School –Welding to Bullock cart wheel – Rs.240/-, Submersible pump repair – Rs.200/-, Electrical wiring of villager : Rs.300/-

b) Mandwa school : Taking wheat crop on 10 guntha as a Xth std project.

c) Patharai school : Made 5 window grills against order from villagers.

5) Mr.Kailash and Ranjeet visited RMSA office and Skills Development Society office in Mumbai on 27^{8th} Jan. This visit was to follow up for IBT proposal and VTP recognition.

Village Level Entrepreneur (VLE) training :

Training program on assembly of LED lights was organised from 10-12th Jan at Bijapur. 51 trainees from Bijapur district participated in the training. Certificates



Bijapur VLE Trainees

were given to trainees at the hands of District Collector. As a part of training, students marketed LED lights in weekly bazaar of Bijapur. Two Field officers are recruited for the project & they will be based in Dantewada and provide support to VLEs. Mr.Ashish met Let.Gen.Mr.Girish(Exec.Director-Innovation Alchemy) at Raipur on 12th Jan to discuss progress of IDM project.

DBRT (Supported by Asha for Education)

- 1) **Geodesic Dome in 'Kite Festival'** : DBRT students erected a dome at Balewadi stadium for kite festival on 26th Jan. It started with fabricating dome kit using press machine. They took the kit to Pune and erected at Balewadi stadium. There contract also includes dismantling dome and bringing it back to JPNC. The project was undertaken against order from the organiser of the event.



Manufacturing of dome kit



Erecting dome at Balewadi Sport complex

2) Inauguration of 'Dream House'

We have decided to demolish one of our old housing unit. The unit was made in ferrocement construction. When we started demolishing, we realized that angles, frame and structure is intact and in good condition. We came with an idea to create a shelter for visitors. DBRT student completed this as a project. We have received donation from Mr.Arvind Kasargod for Rs.25000/-. We used the money to re-construct the structure. Students called it 'Dream House'. It was inaugurated on 26th Jan at the hand of MIT



students Mark Jeunnette, Katherine (Katie) Taylor and Marcos Esparza.

3) Republic Day Celebration

Republic Day 26th Jan was celebrated with flag hosting and cultural program. Pradnya and Vishal took lots of efforts with the active support from all staff and students. They made it almost compulsory for everyone to perform on stage. Student did shramdaan on 25th and carried out fencing of plantation.



4) Food Lab : Following food items were made : Pooran redi-mix (27 Kg), Chikki (5Kg), Tamarind sauce (12kg) , Amla pickle (10kg), Wood apple jelly (14kg)

5) We kept 125kg of Palak vegetable for drying. But due to untimely rain, it got spoiled.

6) Food Lab Training : 1 student from Pune and 1 from Akole underwent food processing training.

7) Agriculture :

i) Gauri delivered male calf on 31st Jan @ 6.15am. Weight of the calf - 13kg.

ii) Since all our Cows are in dry period , Dairy is in operational loss of Rs.15435/- this month.

iii) In poultry, birds were sold on 16th Jan. Total number of birds : 350 , 16 birds died. Total sale of 334 birds : Rs.49357/- . Profit earned : Rs.16395/-

iv) Sold 5 sannen goat in Loni market on 29th Jan for Rs.11,500/-

v) Agri produce : Chilly : 9.6 kg , Spinach : 113.5 kg

vi) Soil testing : 5 nos from farmers

vii) New Admission : 2 students for poultry and goat farm management

8) Workshop : Students completed following order : Cot from Mr.Thite, Piping – Jain English medium school, Window grill – Mr.Gavhane

9) Electrical Students carried out electric wiring of new home of Mr.Avinash Chowdhary.



DST Core support project

Aquaponics Project -Tomato trail –

Harvesting of tomato started. So far we have harvested 78.86Kg of tomato's (37.92 Kg control + 40.94 Kg Aqauponics plot). Fruits are fairly large in size with maximum recorded single fruit wt of 148 gm. There is no significant difference in aquaponics treatment & control plot so far. But observed more number of shoot and buds in aquaponics plants than control plot. We are hoping to continue harvesting till March. Harvested fruits were sold at Rs.8/kg average rate.



De-humidifer - Dryer trials and modifications –

We have received 200kg of guava pulp , pomegranate and coconut shred for drying from different customers. Following are the results of drying.

Date of trial	Material	Initial Weight	Final Weight	Total time required	Electrical unit used	Remark
17 to 19 Jan	Spinach leaves	20.380 Kg	24 Hrs	30	
19 to 21 Jan	Mango Pulp	17.900 Kg	6.000 Kg	48 Hr	96	2 trays infected with fungal growth. 4 New fans added for air circulation
21 to 23 Jan	Guava Pulp	14.500	3.600 Kg	48 Hr	104	Little over dried. 4 Trays took extra time for drying.
25 to 27 Jan	Fresh Coconut shreds	7 Kg	3.580 Kg	48		Coconut sheds tern brown with rancid flavor due to higher drying temp.
25 to 30 Jan	Pomegranate	9 Kg	1.961 Kg			
25 to 30 Jan	Pomegranate skin	7.5 Kg	1.813 Kg	64	234	

Praj Animal Husbandry Proposal-

1) Sprinkler irrigation system is installed on new fodder plot. We have planted Lucerne grass. We hope this plot will produce sufficient green fodder for our dairy and goat farm.

Water Evaporation Project-

A project to monitor and reduce water evaporation is re-started from 10th January. We have found errors in recording the reading with 2 sets of experiments (PET bottles and recycled



thermocool balls). MIT student Mr. Kevin visited VA on 28th. We found out that possible error occurred while taking the measurement. We have fixed the scale for each tank.

Other tit-bit –

1. Fab Camp for Vinyl cutting and screen printing was held on 25th Jan. 10 students from Pabal village participated in it.
2. Weather record – rainfall of the month -1.22 mm ,Max temp- 31.54° C, Min Temp – 19.58° C , Humidity – 54 % , Water height in well – 6.46Meter.
3. Energy consumption record- Electricity unit – III Phase -834, I Phase -702.
4. Diesel consumption for generator- 5.11 Lit (Rs.300.00)
5. Biogas consumption – Dung used- 1576 Kg, Gas produced- 99.5 m³. ,
6. Two wheeler – NA Km, petrol consumption :-
7. Total visitors to www.vigyanashram.com – 1332 , www.dsttara.in : 123
8. Donor: We are thankful to the following donor for their support to VA. : Mr.Shekhar Potnis, M/S Radison Engineers, Mr.Parkhe, Mr.Vasudha Deshpande, Mr.Vinay R Deshpande, Mr.Shyam Mahabaleshwar.

Data Report :

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/ccc?key=0An-4RfsZ2K2OdFNwSHYzRHlpaTFVYWxnMXBXaWs5QWc&usp=sharing>

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

Photo Gallery :



DBRT students carrying out earthing



VA staff on 26th Jan



IBT students got group photo with contact information for career guidance. - Dahoda



IBT stall @ MSRLIF function in Mumbai



Dome @ Balewadi exhibiting different kites



Agriculture plot : Mandwa IBT school



Selling goats in Loni Market



Selling poultry birds

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