

Vigyan Ashram Status Report

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Multipurpose cultivator

We have received multipurpose cultivator from Chudekar industries. Our associate M/S SGS wealth



creator is exploring idea of developing 'Agriculture service providers'. There is a shortage of labour for doing agriculture task. Idea is to create 'Agri service provider' in every village, they will use machines to provide various agricultural services. To develop and test feasibility of idea, we got multiple cultivar from Chudekar Industries. It can perform various agricultural operations like soil preparation, weeding, hoeing, spraying, shredding etc. We are testing it and planning to provide various agricultural service to local farmers on chargeable basis.

'ShriGaMa Vidhayak Krutishilata Purskar 2014'

'Manus Pratishthan,Pune' awarded 'ShriGaMa Vidhayak Krutishilata Purskar, 2014' to Vigyan Ashram. This award is given in the memory of Editor of 'Manus' Late Shri.Majgaonkar. Mrs.Vandana Bhale and Mr.Dhanjay Majgaonkar visited Vigyan Ashram on 20th Feb. Mr.Anand Gosavi accepted the award on behalf of VA team.

We took this opportunity to express our gratitude towards all our

friends, well wishers and supporters, who are helping us to continue our work.



Introduction to basic technology (IBT) Progress

i) 360° review of IBT project :

360° annual review of IBT schools in Pench & Tadoba area was conducted between 22th & 26th February. Idea is to take review of the progress by involving all stake holders viz. Funding partner (HKF), villagers, parents, Govt officials, VA and other NGOs working in the forest areas. We visited 4 IBT schools to take review of IBT activities. After visiting schools, a meeting of various stakeholders was held at Dahoda school.



School Principal, IBT coordinator & instructors, Dahoda village sarpanch and villagers, Mr.Kiran Inamdar and Dr.Avinash Jadhav from WCT, Dr.Yogesh Kulkarni, Mr.Ranajeet Shanbhag, Mr.Praful Dhandre participated in the meeting. A detailed discussion on program management, instructors, govt recognition etc was done and decisions were taken.



ii) IBT Exhibition @ Belewadi : New workshop for IBT at Anandrao Patil Prashala, Belewadi kallama (Dist.Kolhapur) was inaugurated on 17th Feb at the hand of Hon Minister Mr.Patangrao Kadam. Exhibition of IBT product was organised on the occasion. We used this opportunity to introduce IBT program to Hon Minister.

iii) IBT Chattisgarh :

Yogesh Kulkarni visited IBT schools in Dantewada and Bijapur from 23rd – 27th Feb.

a) Yogesh and Unicef Education Official Mr.Sheshgiri jointly met District Collector- Bijapur. Problems faced in getting funds and availability of raw material was discussed. It is decided that Unicef will support the program for next academic year 2014-15.

- b) Yogesh visited IBT schools in Dantewada and met district collector –Dantewada. It is decided that training program for IBT instructors will be held in Dantewada in the month of May. Yogesh also attended meeting of IBT instructors on 26th Feb.
- c) Yogesh met group of Bachapan Banao Fellows. These fellows are working in different porta cabin schools. They will be completing their fellowship period in April.
- d) Yogesh gave a talk on 'Education for 21st century' at Laksha Training center for competitive exam at Dantewada.

Sample IBT Community Services of the month :

- i) Vadadhasol school : Made Bench (Rs.2000), constructed ramp (Rs.1200), Fabricated grill (Rs.3000), Agri - Lady finger (Rs.300)
- ii) Wadacha Pat school : Plastering vermin compost bed (Rs.1500), T-poy (Rs.1000), Vermi compost sale (Rs.2200), Assembled mixer (Rs.5000), Food item (Samosa, chakali, shankarpali, nachani ladu) Rs.2800, Fan fitting (Rs.300), Board cutting (Rs.750)
- iii) Hasur Khurd school : Phynyl sale (Rs.1600), Perfume (Rs.1500), Study table (Rs.1350), House wiring (Rs.1000), Making spade against order (Rs.900)
- iv) Smokeless Chulha were constructed in Mendholi, Gumda & Bachel school.



IDM Project : Village Level Entrepreneur (VLE) training :

- i) Dr.Godbole (Hiranar) agreed to be consultant for the World Bank project. He will help us in identifying demo centers and potential VLEs in Chattisgarh.
- ii) Mr.Sundarlal is appointed as a dealer in bijapur for solar lamps & charger.
- iii) VLE Training was conducted at Narayanpur on 27th and 28th Feb. We exhibited solar lamps in Kisan Mela at Ramkrishna Math, Narayanpur.



- iv) Yogesh and Ashish visited Raipur to identify potential partners and Demo centers.
- v) Mr.Aniruddha visited MP and contacted NGOs in Tamia & Bhurabhagat. Our field person Mr.Avinash is stationed in MP. Promotional camps were organised in Alirajpur.

FAB LAB Progress :

- 1) Fab Academy : Amitraj,Pradnya, suhas and Tarunima are undergoing training in Fab Academy. They are joining video conferencing session on every Wednesday from Pune office. They are also completing the required assignment.
- 2) All machines Laser, modella and Vinyl are up and running on linux operating system.
- 3) Fab Camps are launched. Every Saturday and Sunday, students from Pabal are using the lab for their projects. 29 students learned to use vinyl cutting machine.
- 4) Tarunima joined Fab lab as a volunteer on 11th Feb.
- 5) D-I-Y Lab: Nine Students of Jignyasa Learning center are using Lab every Wednesday. Similarly, seven students of Gurukul School come to Lab on every Saturday. They are working on different projects in the lab.



DBRT (Supported by Asha for Education)

- 1) Our alumni Mr.Darshan Dixit is a professional photographer. He runs studio & photography institute in Vashi. He conducted one day basic photography training for DBRT students.
- 2) DBRT students participated in Science Exhibition at GMRT-Khodad on 28th Feb & 1st March. We kept demonstration of students project.
- 3) Introduction to **Basic Skills (IBS) Training** (24th – 26th Feb) :- 16 students from Anand Niketan, Nasik completed IBS training. They learned basic skills in carpentry, electric wiring, electronics etc.



- 4) DBRT students (9) and 2 staff member learned paper curing from Mrs Vandana Kharote of Anand Niketan.
- 5) Food Lab : We used 50kg tomato produced in our polyhouse and made tomato sauce. Also made pickle from 17 kg lemon. Pooran redi-mix (17 Kg), Chikki (5Kg), Wood apple jelly (4kg), TOTAL sale : **Rs.8370/-**
- 6) Agriculture :
 - i) Osmanabadi goat delivered bokad on 4th Feb. Weight is 3 kg.
 - ii) New poultry batch started with 663 RIR birds on 6th Feb.
 - iii) Dairy is in operation loss of Rs.1816.3/-. Goat farm is showing operational profit of Rs.968/- in Feb 2014.

- 7) We were facing problem in cleaning wheat/rice grains for VA kitchen. Mr.Raju Agarkar brought grain grading machine but the machines were not is use. DBRT student Rajesh Padawi has taken a contract to clean grains using this machines. He supplies Atta to VA using these machines.



- 8) **DBRT Cycle Trek :**
23 DBRT students went on cycle trek between 19th – 21st Feb. They covered distance of 265 kms in three days. They visited 'Goat Institute @ Narayangaon, Ojhar sugar factory, Ozhar & Lenyadri ganesh temple, Shivneri fort and Bhimashankar temple.

INDUSA CARE & SOW project

- 1) Uploaded 10 OER with videos, related documents and IBT books on
- 2) www.learningwhiledoing.in
- 3) Organized training on dairy at Junner on 10th Feb under SOW project for 20 women's with Chaitnya. In this training we had conducted introductory session on weight & feed of animal, Azolla, Sillage making, Green fodder etc.



DST Core support project

A] Aquaponics Project -Tomato trail –Tomato plants has achieved 10 to 15 ft height with lots of shoots and flowers initiation. Average number of shoots were 62.95 per plant (61.8 shoots per plant in Aquaponics Vs 64.1 in Control) whereas average number of flowers were 23.1 per plant (24.6 in flowers per plant in Aquaponics Vs 21.6 in control) till end of February. So far we have harvested **295.24 Kg of tomato's** (158.19 Kg from aquaponics and 137.24 Kg from control plot). These tomatoes were sold to VA kitchen, food processing unit and Pune/ Pabal market. We are getting lot of online enquires and visitors from all over Indian to learn about aquaponics experiment.

B] Farmer's club – As a part of National University of Singapore (NUS)- COSMIC project, a survey was undertaken from 6th to 13th February. 120 farmers (including 25 female farmers) were surveyed for mobile (android app) ICON design survey. This survey was conducted with Pabal, Khairnager, Retvadi, Dhamari & Jategaon farmers.



On 9th February- a half day workshop was conducted for selected 20 farmers on Advanced mobile technology based agricultural applications with demonstration of Mpest and other android apps on AKAASH tablets. User feedback survey study was also conducted - on Mpest and villageTree (SMS based pest management solution by NUS) in this half day workshop.

C] Food processing unit- Dryer trials and modifications –

We continue to work on Dehumidifier dryer. At present working on design of dryer with 3000 lit (volume) capacity, FRP body , SS304 food contact part , 1.5 ton capacity compressor, automated humidity / temperature control system. This is made against the order from M/S SGS Wealth Creators Pvt Ltd.

Date of trial	Material	Initial Weight	Final Weight	Total time required	Electrical unit used	Order by	Remark
14/02/2014 to 19/02/2014	Mango Pulp	17.500	7.980	78	SGS Wealth Creators	Fungal growth in Trays , mainly because of infected trays.

D] Praj Animal Husbandry Proposal-

1) New pure sannen male goat weighing 18 Kg was purchased @ 600 Rs/ Kg from Aai Goat farm ,Sindavale. This buck was purchased to introduce pure sannen breed by changing blood –line of our present goats.

2) 4 goats (3 to 3.5 month old) were sold as a part of regular goat sell.

3) DBRT students and agriculture instructor attained one day training on hydroponics green fodder cultivation and polythene bag silage making @ Sangamner. Students will adopt these 2 techniques in animal husbandry section as a part of their DBRT project.



E] Water Evaporation Project -

Project is on its way with 2 treatments as PET bottles and Thermocol ball treatment. In case of PET bottles treatment, we have observed 13 % less evaporation rate compare to control treatment, whereas in case of Thermocol ball treatment recorded 2 % less evaporation as compare to control tanks. We are discussing this readings with Mr.Klevin(MIT) and deciding further improvement.

Other tit-bit –

1. Weather record – rainfall of the month -1.22 mm ,Max temp- 32.17° C, Min Temp –19° C , Humidity – 39 % , Water height in well –6.2Meter.
2. Energy consumption record- Electricity unit – III Phase -701, I Phase -1174.
3. Diesel consumption for generator-
4. Biogas consumption – Dung used- 1718 Kg, Gas produced- 28 m³ . ,
5. Two wheeler – NA Km, petrol consumption :-
6. Donor: We are thankful to the following donor for their support to VA. : Mrs.Arati Mehendale, Shri.Arvind Jag, Mr.Sameer Jag, Mr.Ashish Alase, Mrs.Madhuri Deshpande, Mr.Mandar Bhopatkar, Mr.Hement parakhi, Mrs.Jayashri Vaidya, Mrs.Namrata Thakur, Mr.Nanu Kalbag.

Data Report :

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1r6i6zmawBTjgOAHTc4ju4qWHLwFa_mqF0qrbwqOpVnc/edit?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 :



Cycle trek to Shivneri & Bhimashankar



Dr.Yogesh with Hon Minister Mr.Patangrao Kadam during visit to IBT stall



LED – VLE training in Alirajpur (MP)



GMRT khodad Exhibition onn 28th Feb



Yogesh with Bachapan Banao Fellows in Dantewada



Using cultivator in ashram



IDM : Solar promotional stall : Narayanpur



Vadadhasol IBT : Making vermin compost bed



Manufacturing mixer for food lab



IBT : Shivkar school : Learning fan winding

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