

Vigyan Ashram Status Report

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A] MSEB Electricity bill shock to Vigyan Ashram

Maharashtra State Electricity Board (MSEB) has send us bill of Rs.80750/-. Out of which Rs.71464/- towards the arrears for the difference in electricity charges from August 2012. According to MSEB officials, we were getting bill as per 'Industrial' category (Rs.5.06/-per unit) instead of 'Public Service Provider (Rs.5.35 per unit) category. They have changed the category for educational & training institutes from commercial to Public service category and hence they are recovering difference in the billed amount. The issues raised by us are :

- i) How can public service rate is more than commercial rate ?
- ii) Why they have not informed and billed the change in rate immediately in 2012 ?
- iii) They could not give us formula and basis of their calculation for the bill. We got computerized printed log but local officials could not explain us the calculations.

Since the bill was overdue and there was danger of disconnection, we asked facility to pay in installment of Rs.20,000 per month. They agreed to it and we paid the amount in-protest. We are following up with them for detail breakup and calculation.

We are facing similar problem with BSNL internet connectivity. The connection was down for almost 50% of the time but they charged us for 100% time. We asked for data log from BSNL and asked for reduction in bill for the time internet was not available. They had promised to adjust the excess amount charged in coming bills.

B] Vigyan Ashram got first 3D printer

We have purchased 3D printer for our Fab Lab. This is the basic printer and we hope to learn its use and master the art of 3D printing soon. It was installed on 20th Sept. Training was given to our engineers by the company service engineer.



C] Entrepreneurship Development program launched

We have started activities of entrepreneurship development program under STED (Science technology entrepreneurship Development) scheme of NSTEDB (National Science and Technology entrepreneurship development

board(NSTEDB)). Mr.Michael Francis joined VA and he will be program Manager for the project. We plan to help our IBT instructors to start technology based enterprises. We are also discussing with micro finance organization Rangde.org to support our students. Team from Rangde visited VA on 26th Sept to discuss the operational plan. Ranjeet attended meeting of STED at New Delhi on 15th Sept. The meeting was organised by NSTEDB to take review of STED project and convey DST's expectations and reporting system for the project.

L] DBRT Update

I) Biogas Repair Work

We have undertaken repair of 6m³ biogas plant. Tank was removed, leakages were fixed. Tank was painted. We added fresh cow dung (2000kg) and started the process again.



ii) Vigyan Ashram observed 'Safety Day' on 25th Sept. Students and teachers carried out safety audit of each section, they found out possible accident spot and corrective action were taken.

ii) Ganesh Visarjan : Student Hostel's Ganesh visarjan was done on 5th Sept. Students also performed



street band (Birchi) dance in village procession at Pabal ,Rajgurunager and Chas-Kaman and earned community service of Rs.22500. They purchased new dress for all students and also planning to purchase one additional 'Dhol' (drum).

iii) Students carried out earthing of 'Bhairavnath Patsanstha' in Pabal and solve their electricity leakage and shock problem.

iv) Agriculture Section : Students sow 35kg of Jawar seeds. Sold two (He)goats बोकड for Rs.6000/- . On 26th Sept goat, goat given birth to two male goat.

v) Students visited National onion and garlic research institute on 17th Sept

vi) Replanting of moringa plants was carried out.

vii) Dairy profitability: Gauri (Rs.1098), Sonu(loss Rs.215),Sonam (loss Rs.274), i.e total operational profit Rs.609/-

viii) Food processing : Following processing was done in food lab processing unit this month : 80 kg amla processing, 5kg nankatai, 5 kg lemon , 5 kg chikki, 5 kg mix fruit jam processing. Total amount of community service sale : Rs.6134/-.

D] IBT update

i) Design thinking workshop in different IBT schools

VA IBT team and EWB volunteers are experimenting design thinking methodology in different IBT schools. Simultaneously team is also working on loose ends in implementation and issues in conducting lessons in school.

- a) Swami Vivekanand High school, Devalpar : 18th – 20th Sept. Students carried out waste water management in school.



They studied the situation of waste water in schools, understand problems associated with it, discussed various ideas to solve the problem. They made small filter on kitchen waster and prepared soak-pit.

Please watch the video presentation of activity on :

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R9AltuuZOP0>

- b) Gopal Gandhi ashramshala, Mangaon : 26th – 27th Sept. Electric wiring of IBT workshop room was carried out using OER developed. It involved learning about electricity, drawing electric wiring diagram, selecting place for switch board, carried out wiring and costing.

Please watch video presentation of activity on :

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FF6SjJN9u70>

- c) Similarly design thinking and OERs were tested in following schools :

New English School, Anawali (Pandharpur) : 12th – 13th Sept. : Nursery, soil testing, seed treatment.

Kasoli, Pandharpur 10th – 11th Sept : LED making

Watch feedback on : https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=UU8tyRoA88Iclz_zGUW4yD_Q

- d) **Sample activities in IBT schools :**

Hingangaon school 2nd Sept : prepared Azolla plot and prepared Murghass as fodder.

Walsang High school, Sangli : They are constructing IBT room in ferro-cement.



- e) Books on IBT (V1) by DVET : DVET invited Dr.Yogesh to attend meeting to prepare books for IBT on 10th Sept at Aurangabad. We are reviewing the draft of books prepared by different author and giving them comments on content and its structure. Yogesh also attended meeting at SSC board on SSC board approval for IBT syllabus on 16th Sept.

- f) Chattisgarh Visit : Yogesh visited Raipur to meet RMSA and Unicef officials on 29th Sept. A proposal is submitted to introduce IBT as part of RMSA in Chattisgarh. Yogesh also met collector of Balarampur district and discuss possible technical support for Livelihood college in Balarampur.

Review of IBT progress in Dantewada and Bijapur was done with Rajshekhar.

- g) Yogesh visited Hemendra Kothari foundation (HKF) office on 23rd Sept and discussed status of the project with HKF-WCT team.

New video on IBT practical's on www.learningwhiledoing.in

You can see different educational video made by Vigyan Ashram

on <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFOH2Jf313u8OrQ3B-PohaA/videos>

E] Kitchen construction work: -

- i) Rain water harvesting storage tank work is completed (35 M³ ~ 35000 lit water storage capacity).
- ii) Ground floor soil filling, levelling, PCC work completed.
- iii) CC construction completed up to slab level (10 Ft columns completed).
- iv) Ranjeet visited Development Alternative (TARA machines division), New Delhi on 16th September to study housing technologies (bricks / tiles etc) developed by them. Cement roof tile making technology would be beneficial for small scale entrepreneurs.



TECHNOLOGY

I] SOW trainings in progress:

Four training sessions were completed on Dairy farming at Pondewadi (Tal-Ambegaon). Trainees now started calculating daily profit & loss, cultivation of Azolla etc.



J] Ranjeet visited Dr.BSKKV college of Horticulture and college of Engineering for discussing aquaponics project results and future scope.

K] Rice dehusking machine is ready with all modification. It will be suitable for Indrayani rice variety at present. We will conduct few trials before delivering.

L) Anil is working on two machines for roll slicers against order. One order is from customer in Delhi and another from Lonavala.

M) Egg incubator for 1000 eggs order was completed and machine was delivered and commission. Customer : Mr.Pandurang Chimaji Korade, At.Post.Mankeshwar, Tal.Junnar Dist.Pune.





N] D-I-Y Lab activity : A workshop on science activity was held on 6th Sept with 5 students. Electronic workshop was conducted by Mr.Santosh Tamboli on 7th and 8th Sept. Following projects are started under his guidance. - Power supply without transformer coil, PCB etching process, good from waste models etc. Suhas and Pradnya visited Infosys Lab on 10th Sept to discuss on Arduino and Raspberry pi applications in robotics.

K] Village Level Entrepreneur (VLE) in Chattisgarh and MP

- a) A solar installation and electrical wiring training is started at Balrampur (CG). We also got order for 85 - P50 lamps from livelihood college,Balrampu. Mr.Sandip Jundare is working as trainer for livelihood college.
- b) Yogesh visited Kanker and demo center near Kanker on 30th Sept.

M] Other tit-bit –

- i) Marathi Daily, Loksatta published story on ‘Vigyan Ashram’ on its front page 4th Sept in the series ‘सर्वदा सर्वे कार्यषू’
- ii) Visitors to Vigyan ashram : INORA group : 12th Sept, Mr.Rajesh Nair (MIT),Mr.TAKAGI, Shinya, journalist for the Asahi Shimbun newspaper of Japan on 26th Sept,
- iii) Weather record – rainfall of the month - 30 mm ,Max temp- 34⁰C , Min Temp –16⁰C , Humidity – 84% , Water height in well – 5.5 mtr
- iv) Energy consumption record- Electricity unit – Three Phase -751 KWH, Single Phase – 847 KWH, Diesel consumption for generator- 0
- v) Biogas consumption – Dung used- 1847 Kg, Gas produced- 0 m3.



Visit to Onion and Garlic research institute

Data Sheets : https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1F5_Q29GCluj-pCOjEy812HKBT4Gpev0YyWYt8DXSdA/edit#gid=216657473

