About Vigyan Ashram

Vigyan Ashram (VA) is a center of Indian Institute of Education (IIE), Pune. A scientist turned educationalist Late Dr.S.S.Kalbag started Vigyan Ashram in 1983 to solve the problems in Indian education system.

For us “Vigyan” means ‘Search of Truth’ and “Ashram” symbolises ‘Simple living and High thinking for us, an organization where all are equal, it’s a modern version of old Gurukul system’.

VA believes in the usage of technology to increase productivity and pace of rural development. It has developed a comprehensive program called RDES (Rural Development through Education System). The program is given in both formal mode (IBT) and non formal mode (DBRT) of education.

VA is a core supported organization of Department of Science and Technology (DST) as well as Technology Resource Centre of CAPART. Vigyan Ashram has developed several innovative technologies and successfully commercialized them by training school dropouts. For more details visit www.vigyanasram.com
**Program overview**

Diploma in Basic Rural Technology (DBRT) is a full-time 2-year diploma program recognized by National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS, New Delhi). This course is designed for students not interested in only book-centric educational methodology, and like to learn different things through hands-on activities. DBRT course is based on “Learning while doing” and “Multi-skill training”, philosophy of education. Students in this program learn by hands-on experience which helps them to stimulate the intellect by going through concrete operations and then abstracting the concepts. This course opens the door of modern technology based skill for empowering students to choose better career opportunities by knowing their aptitude and demand of local area.

This 2-year diploma program consists of 1st full-time residential skill training in Engineering—construction (Metal Fabrication, Civil Construction, Carpentry etc.), Energy—Environment (Electrification, Motor rewinding, survey techniques etc.), Home and health (Personal health & hygiene, food processing, bakery products etc.) and Agriculture & Animal Husbandry (Modern agricultural techniques, dairy-goat-poultry farming etc.). After successful completion of 1st year, students are provided placement for 2nd year on-job internship training as per their aptitude.

**Objectives of the course & scope**

The main objectives of this course are:

1. To train the students the philosophy of ‘Learning while doing’
2. To train them for income-generation through self-employment
3. To train students in multi-skills
4. To train students in different technologies & transfer these technologies to the society through them
5. To involve students in various rural development activities as a project work, thus integrating rural development and education.
6. To make available various services to the community at a modest cost and giving real-life training to the students

**NIOS Recognition**

This diploma is recognized by NIOS (National Institute of Open Schooling, New Delhi Govt. of India) under Open occasional Education Program.

**Eligibility Criteria**

The admission for Diploma in Basic Rural Technology is open to students who have passed class 8th, so that the student can read and write fluently and knows basic calculations.
Career Opportunities

DBRT program gives more emphasis on skill training for self-employment through entrepreneurship attitude development. However, multi skill and hand-on real-time training approach of course typically opens opportunities in following four major fields for students as –

1. Workshop in small scale industries/construction sites/fabrication units
2. Agriculture and polyhouses/animal husbandry units such as poultry, dairy, goat farming, etc.
3. In food processing industries
4. Electrical and electronics workshops

The student is well-trained to start his own enterprise as well

Program Curriculum

Syllabus

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<th>Paper</th>
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<th>Duration</th>
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<tr>
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Pedagogy and Evaluation

The pedagogy is a mix of lectures, hands-on work and peer learning. The evaluation comprises the following components:

Mission

Our mission is to revolutionize the education system. We need an education system with the below mentioned characteristics:

1) Suitable to 90% of our population, who at present often opt to remain out of school.
2) Work activity should be the base for education.
3) Learning should be by “Learning While Doing”
4) The quality of education should be same for all. Technology is the best social equalizer. We must use modern technology to improve quality of education.
5) We must do this within our present time, money and resources constraint.

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Other Important features

- Batch size - 40/60 students
- Duration: 300 working days of 8 hours each (1st July to 25th June)
- Hostel (For boys & girls) facility for all residential student
- On campus kitchen
- Personality development through meditation, motivational story sassions & student seminar.
- Learn & Earn Scheme and Special Scholarship for girls as well as marginalize students
- Personalize guidance to every student for enterprenuership development

Learning Approach

Following outline the basic principles of Vigyan Ashram's program:

1. Learning While Doing – Students will learn by actually doing things in real life situation i.e ‘Natural way of learning’.
2. Multiskill training – Students will learn multiple skills in nature. Nature is the syllabus.
3. School must be a production center - Students are expected to provide services to community. Community is expected to pay for the services. They will learn to work on real life problems of community and find solutions to it.
4. Instructor must be an entrepreneur – He must have demonstrable skills.

Student Feedback

DBRT course helped me to boost my self-confidence. After completing course, I went back to my village and formed friend’s group. I trained my friend in basic painting and house electrification work. Now we friend, work as local contractor for house painting and electrification work. I have also started advanced vegetable cultivation on 1.5 acre land using drip irrigation, mulching paper technologies which I learnt during DBRT course at Pabal. As profession I also work as IBT instructor in nearby school.

- Nemendra Mohare
At- Chichala ,Post- Nagorthan, Taluka- Ramtek , Dist-Nagpur (DBRT 2011-12 Batch student)

In true sense DBRT , helped me to change attitude in my life. Now I am more positive and stable in choosing carrier option in my life, currently I am working as full time electrician in Sri.Takhatshinji Hospital, Bhavnager and also take house electrification contracts. DBRT was life changing experience for me.

- Mehul Hamirbhai Solanki
Bhavnager, Gujarat (DBRT 2010-11 Batch Student)

I was very introverted and shy type of girl before joining DBRT. I never travel out of Assam and Auranchal Pradesh state. But, because of multi-skill experience and other personality development activities at Vigyan ashram, campus I changed completely.

Now I am working as skill training instructor for Vivekanand Kendra, Tunsukhia institute and travelling in almost all North-East states for providing skill training to rural School as social worker.

- Miss. Rupali Timunjpi
Karbianglong, Assam.

Contact Us

(Vigyan Ashram is located at approx 70 kms from Pune, on Rajgurunagar - Shirur Road.)
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