

# Vigyan Ashram Status Report

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### VA started facing pinch of rising cost

Vigyan ashram is experiencing impact of inflation and price rise on its budget. We have taken a review of our kitchen expenses and electricity expenses. We have found that we are now spending Rs.21500/-pm additional on these selected items. To face the challenge, we are using solar facility extensively. We are further brainstorming on idea's and alternative to bring down cost which are in our control.

Per month expenses of VA	Till Oct 2012	After Oct 2012	Remark
LPG Fuel @ 3 Cylinder	1350	3300	Cylinder price is increased from 450 to 1100 Rs /cylinder
Kerosene @ 20 Lit	300	900	Kerosene price is increase from 15 to 45 Rs / lit
Rice @ 150 Kg	450	4500	Rice we were getting on ration card @ 3 Rs/ kg , which is now stopped. We need to purchase it from open market @ min 30 Rs/kg +.
Vegetable	4000	8000	Vegetable prices are increased 40 to 50 % with due to drought condition and diesel price hike.
Food grain	5000	8000	Poha - 30 Kg , Rawa - 20 Kg , Dal- 30 Kg , Ground nut - 30 Kg etc required / month-- all these food items are increased by 35 to 45%
cooking oil @ 45 Kg	2700	3600	Cooking oil price increased from 60 to 80 Rs /kg
Approx Electricity consumption	8000	15000	Electricity load is increase from 3 Hp to 43 Hp so fixed charges / month will increase by 7000 Rs.
<b>Total difference</b>	<b>21800</b>	<b>43300</b>	

### INDUSA-PTI

1) Workshop on development of Open Education Resources (OER) was conducted at computer lab of Maharashtra Institute of Technology, Pune from 23<sup>rd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> Nov. The workshop was organised in collaboration with NIOS. IBT school co-ordinator from 15 schools participated in the development of OER. Total 37 OERs are completed so far. NIOS is doing production of OERs with graphic designers.



2) Mr.Mahesh Lade joined VA as a co-ordinator for INDUSAPTI project.

3) Translation of IBT books from Marathi to Hindi is completed.

4) To see the OER and content developed so far: [www.learningwhiledoing.in](http://www.learningwhiledoing.in)

### **7] Introduction to Basic Technology (IBT) – PLAN 100 update**

(Supported by Unicef, Govt of Chattisgarh, Lend-a-hand-India, Suzlon foundation, Hemendra Kothari Foundation)



**1) IBT instructors meeting** – IBT instructor organised a meeting to discuss various issues related to them. Major issues are with their payment and irregularity in getting payment on time. Most of them are working without any formal appointment and are not sure about continuity of their service etc. They wanted to collectively lobby with Govt for giving grant to IBT program. About 55 instructors from different schools gathered at Gawadewadi

on 26<sup>th</sup> Nov. School principal from Gawadewadi, Inchanal, Belewadi, Hingangaon, Pokhari were also present. Instructors invited Dr.Yogesh Kulkarni to answer their queries. Meeting went on for the whole day and each and every query was discussed in details and status was informed to everyone.

It is decided to form 'पूर्व व्यवसायिक अभ्यासक्रम कृती समिती' to follow up with Govt and to solve some of the issues. As a first step, it is decided to give presentation about IBT program and outcome to Commissioner of Vocational Education in Mumbai.

### **2) IBT instructors training feedback**

We have taken feedback of all 86 instructors who have attended training during summer 2012 at Pabal. They were interviewed over phone and was asked if they have implemented at least one new thing, they learned at training. Results are as follows –

Benefited : 38 ( 44%), Not at all benefited : 11 ( 12%), Those who are in process of implementing it : 18 (21%), Instructor resigned after training: 3 ( 4%), Instructors could not be contacted : 16 (18%).

Feedback of training was discussed and areas of improvement were discussed.

### **3) NCSD and HKF team visit**

Team of National council for skill development (NCSD) and HKF visited VA on 9<sup>th</sup> Nov. They wanted to understand VA's program and competencies. We also discussed possibilities of stating a pilot project in Nasik.

4) Yogesh attended Nai Talim conference at Sevagram – Wardha on 17<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> Nov. He gave presentation on Vigyan Ashram program. This was good opportunity to network with like minded organizations.

5) IBT schools in Maharashtra were closed



for Diwali vacation. Ashram schools in Chattisgarh were functioning. Following are update from them.

i) Bijapur pota cabin planted rice on ½ acres of plot. It is growing well. But Matwada school reported loss of vegetable crop due to heavy rains.

ii) Nelsnar school carried out fabrication repair work in school. Matwada IBT dept repaired 3 fans and tube lights.

iii) Five schools in Bijapur Dist got all tools and equipment. They also got separate workshop rooms for each section. District Govt decided to start IBT in additional 5 schools. Instructors were trained at Pabal but so far tool purchase is not initiated. Similarly only partial purchase of tools were done in 3 schools of Dantewada. We are following with District administration for the same.

5) Pench and Tadoba – Mudholi (Tadona) school send their resolution to start IBT program. Mr.Gautre resigned as Field officer to start his own business in Yawatmal.

### **School on Wheel (SOW) Project**

SOW project is started on 1<sup>st</sup> Nov as a joint project of VA and Vayam. It will be initially funded by Dr.Sudhir Prabhu. Idea is to develop replicable model to give training for improving livelihood at the doorstep of community. We are mainly targeting SHGs/ farmers under this program. Focus will be to start their business/activity and give them on the job training at their place only. We have identified 3 candidates for starting poultry in villages (Khokada/Dakari/Dhardhari) in Jawhar (Thane Tribal area). They were guided on preparing poultry shed, purchasing of chicks etc. Their poultry was started with 100 chicks each. Our instructor Vishal conducted initial orientation of 3 days and now guiding them by fortnightly visits and over telecommunication. We are using powerpoint / video developed under INDUSAPTI extensively for this distance training.



By the time first batch of poultry is done, their poultry will be established and training got completed. We are planning similar training on vegetable drying . food processing, honeybee very soon.



### **5] DST Core Support Projects:**

#### **A] Egg Incubator trial started –**

After 21 days, we got 75 chicks from 100 eggs. i.e Success of 75%. There are minor modification required for tray rotation , alarm system for humidity and temp control. Overall we are now ready to connect it with solar water heater.

B] Shirur MLA Mr.Ashok Pawar and other village representative visited Vigyan Ashram on 9<sup>th</sup> Nov to get information about latest technology development at ashram.

### C] Farmers Group

i) A concept note on ***Cultivation and Processing of Organic Vegetables – fruits*** is submitted to NABARD in support of proposal submitted by Farmers producers company M/S Sonai Agro.

### D] Solar Cooking Park –

Documentation of use of solar cooking devices in in progress. We are using solar dryer, concentrator and shuffler extensively. Food lab is using solar dryer for making their products.

- i) Solar dryer is used for drying of Amla candy (around 200 Kg) and Poornpoli mix (100 Kg).
- ii) Prince – 40 cooker is regular used for cooking Bhaji for lunch and dal and rice for dinner.
- iii) Solar scheffaler timer box is fabricated by workshop students and fixed on scheffler stand. Timer and battery unit is installed by Anil gadhe and now we are using it on trial basis for heating bath water.



### E) Shashiraj Food products –

SHG from Pabal headed by Ranitai Jadhav has completed food processing training from us last month and started their own commercial production of various processed products developed by us. They are manufacturing and selling as M/S Shashiraj Food products. They are manufacturing these products in our *Community Processing Unit*. *They have sold processed products worth more than Rs. 45000 in the month of November.*

We have purchased 2 new testing apparatus for fat and protein estimation. They are under installation.

### F) Fab Lab issues

Electronic Engineer and Head of Fab Lab has taken a long leave for urgent personal reasons. This affected progress of projects at ashram. We are struggling with operations of machines & general maintenance of software's and tools. Progress on admin device and LWSS is also not satisfactory. Both the candidate of VA for Fab Academy did not completed their project. Overall Fab Lab is not doing good and we need to put it on track.

**For more information on DST core activities. visit <http://vigyanashram.wordpress.com/>**

## 6] Staff quarter work [Supported by Mr.Dai Maghaji) –

Plastering is completed and it is almost ready. Plumbing / Electrical fitting work is in progress. Work of Door / window work and outside painting is in progress.

## 8] DBRT update (Supported by Asha for Education & Tech Mahindra Foundation)

i) DBRT Annual Examination - DBRT 2011-12 Batch NIOS Board Exam was held from 30<sup>th</sup> Oct to 9<sup>th</sup> Nov. 50 students including 10 IBT instructors also appeared for DBRT examination.

ii) 16 students took admission for welder cum fabricator course.

iii) Students are involved in plumbing, electrical wiring work of staff quarter. They are also working on window & door fabrication.

iv) Documentary film maker from NIOS carried out video shooting of DBRT activities and interview with alumni.

v) Food lab : Following products were processed in the food lab

→ Lemon Pickle : 50Kg,  
Tamarind pulp : 12kg, Wood  
apple jelly – 500 कौठांपासून ,  
10Kg Puran poli mix, 10kg –  
गव्हाचा चीक



vi) Agriculture dept made income of Rs.23,265/- by selling fodder (कडबा) to dairy dept. They spent Rs.2500/- for seeds and sowing. Rs.3400/- for fodder cutting, Rs.1750/- for transport. Total expenditure (excluding water and land cost) is Rs.7650/-. As per the market rate of last year, estimated selling price of Rs.30915/-.

vii) Dairy Management : Total milk production in November is 777 lits. Total expenses of dairy was Rs.12135/- and income of Rs.14032/-. Overall profit of dairy is Rs.1897/-.

Individual analysis of profitability of individual cows as follows :-

Sharada cow = Loss Rs.304/- , Sonam = Loss Rs.296/- , Soni = Profit Rs.1258/- , Gouri = Profit Rs.1229/-

viii) We have observed visual improvement in the health of goats after shifting it to new shed. We are documenting the results over next few months.

## 9] Other Tit-bits :

i) We have paid Rs.46860/- on 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov as deposit to MSEB and got 3 phase sanctioned load of 43HP.

ii) Account audit – Review of auditors queries about VA account was taken at meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> Nov at IIE. Most of the queries were related to absence of bills for travels & food in rural areas etc. Answer to queries were submitted. It is also brought to notice that interest on VA project fund and donations were not credited to VA account.

iii) A system to transfer funds to VA is formally documented and circulated to IIE concerned people. This is to avoid delay in releasing funds to VA.

iv) Yogesh gave invited talk at inauguration of students council at Women Law college in Aurangabad on 6<sup>th</sup> Nov.

#### v) Environment

Rainfall of the month: -- mm, total rainfall of the year: 433 mm

Water level in the well: 4.1 meter

Min Temp – 17.03 degree, Max temp – 30.46 degree

Humidity – 57.4%

ii) Energy consumption:

Diesel: 12 lits, Electricity (MSEB): 519 units (3 phase), Single phase bill : 493 units

Biogas consumption – 40 cubic meters

**Data Report-** All section wise data report are available on Google pages:

<https://docs.google.com/open?id=0B3-4RfsZ2K2OTWt2Q3V2SkxmYVU>

#### Photo Gallery:



Egg Incubator with Eggs



Result : 75 chicks from 100 Eggs



**NIOS,OER Workshop @ MIT**



**DBRT Exam: Water Testing Practical**



**Food Processing**



**Parabolic cooker on campus**

November photo link –

<https://plus.google.com/photos/115031434407012310423/albums/5822430262408107617>