

# Vigyan Ashram Status Report

Volume 30 Issue 10

October 2012

## In this issue

- Goat farm inaugurated on 16<sup>th</sup> Oct
- Yogesh Kulkarni presented paper in IEEE conference in Seattle (USA)
- Community food Processing Center started its activities
- IBT camp in Pench - Madhya Pradesh

### 1] New Goat farm inauguration

Newly constructed goat farm was inaugurated at the hand of DBRT student Mr. Chetan Sinnerkar who worked on the construction as part of his project on 16<sup>th</sup> Oct. Mr. Vinayak Kelkar of Praj foundation was present on the occasion. The project is sponsored by M/S Praj foundation. New shed will have adequate space for 25 goats.

The facility is designed after studying other goat farms and taking into account ventilation, feeding and cleanliness needs of the goat farm. Cost of construction was Rs 1,10,000/-.



On the same day, work for poultry farm began. Ground breaking (भूमिपूजन) ceremony was done at the hand of students who will be working on the project.

### 2] Presentation in IEEE conference

Dr. Yogesh Kulkarni presented paper on 'Technology transfer to villages through schools : The Vigyan Ashram Experiences' in IEEE – Global humanitarian conference held in Seattle (USA) between 21<sup>st</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> Oct. Conference organizer sponsored the cost of travel, accommodation etc. The visit also gave opportunity to meet ASHA for Education group in Seattle. This group is supporting VA's DBRT and IBT program from long time and closely following VA's activities. A presentation and discussion was organized by Asha team in Seattle.

During return journey, Yogesh visited Houston to meet long time mentor and supporter of VA, Dr. Kishan Bhatia of INDUSA. He organized an interaction with Seva International members in Houston. It was good opportunity to brainstorm many project ideas with Dr. Bhatia and also review progress of INDUSAPTI.

### 3] Community Food Processing Center: Activities

- i) We have established community food processing unit at VA, with the support of Praj foundation. One of the SHG's group headed by Mrs. Ranitai Jadhav from Pabal took training in food processing on recipes (Amla/Tamarind/ ready to eat products) developed by VA. They have processed 800 kg of fresh Amla in the processing unit against order and also for participating exhibition in Nov.
- ii) 50 Kg fresh vegetables (Beet / Cauliflower/ Carrot) were processed against order from Nobel 21.



iii) Farmer groups in Pabal village form a primary producer company M/S Sonai Agro Pvt Ltd. The company submitted its proposal for NABARD's support. Members of the group adopted Dr.Yogesh Kulkarni as expert Director on their board. This will be non remunerative and consultative position.

iii) Our farmer club member Mr.Ramchandra Agarkar received JRD TATA NVA fellowship award organised by M.S.Swaminathan foundation, Chennai on 27<sup>th</sup> Dec. Mr.Agarkar is credited with organising farmers in Pabal and form primary producers company. He was nominated by VA for this fellowship. Mr.Ranjeet

Shanbag was invited on behalf of Vigyan Ashram to attend the function along with Mr.Agarkar.

#### 4] INDUSA-PTI

Interviews were conducted and Mr.Mahesh Lade is selected for heading INDUSAPTI project.

PowerPoint and OER made by EWB volunteer Emma are ready for upload.

A submitted proposal in Google RISE competition for INDUSA – CARE (Computer application for Rural education) project.

Our website [www.vigyanashram.com](http://www.vigyanashram.com) was renewed and updated. Work on [www.learningwhiledoing.in](http://www.learningwhiledoing.in) is in progress.

#### 5] DST Core Support Projects:

A] Ranjeet attended seminar on “Strategies for livelihood generation & financial Inclusion organized by Yuva Parivartan (Khervadi foundation) in Nagpur on 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec.

B] Dry fruit roll cutter machine –

Anil and team completed order of खजूर रोल Dry fruit roll cutter machine from Mr. Vishwas Bhikaji Ranwade . The machine was developed

as per customer requirement. Total cost of the machine was Rs.50000/- and it took 4 month to develop this machine.



#### C] Hand Operated Amla cutting machine-

Hand operated Amla cutting machine is also manufactured against order by Anil. This machine is low cost version of Amla cutting machine. Detailed report is available on wordpress blog.

#### D] Egg Incubator trial started –

Solar egg incubator trial started with 100 eggs on 17<sup>th</sup> Oct. It is expected to complete on 8<sup>th</sup> November. All modifications done like Temp/

humidity and tray rotation are working fine with LPG backup. This trail is running on grid power supply but whenever required (on power cut) LPG used as second source of energy. The controller Circuit was made in the fab lab which adds a delay in the processes like to turn on/off the light & blower. Purpose of this circuit is to protect light & blower from fluctuating power supply. New trays are fabricated by Anil for placing egg after 18 days of incubation as per industry standard.

**E] Dryer –** We have taken some trials on new dryer manufactured by SGS Wealth creator Pvt Ltd. Since we have not received all the trays in the dryer, we could not conduct the trial properly.

**F] Trial on Aquaponics model is going on;** still we are facing problems with fish growth and mortality rate. I am trying to found out proper solution for this by talking Fishery experts from Fishery College, but very less work is done so far on high density fish farming in India.

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

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

RCC construction work finished completely with total of 2800 Sq ft build up area. plumbing wiring work is in progress, DBRT students are doing it as their academic course work. Outer plaster work started, expected to finish in first week of November. Tile fixing work is going on expected to finish by first week of November. Order for door/ windows / painting work is in negotiation.

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

(Supported by Lend-a-hand-India, Suzlon foundation, Hemendra Kothari Foundation)



1) IBT Camp in (Pench) Madhya Pradesh – A camp was organised in three schools in district Sivani (MP) with the support of Ashok Piramal group from 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> Oct. Students made bamboo solar dryer, box type solar cooker during the camp.

2) Patharai (Pench-Maharashtra) school constructed new workshop for IBT program. It was inaugurated on 4<sup>th</sup> October in presence of Mr.Kiran Inamdar and forest officials. A meeting of past students of short term course and DBRT students was organised. A meeting of youth in Pench was organised with Pratham volunteer and 19 of them applied for their

hospitality management course.

3) Suzlon foundation : Due to financial problem M/S Suzlon energy Ltd. Suzlon foundation informed their inability to release further funds during this financial year. Schools were informed about the situation. Schools agreed to continue the program on their own. The financial situation will likely to impact activities in newly started schools.

3) Suzlon employees gave following powerpoint presentation in IBT schools

Diesel engine(8 <sup>th</sup> Oct),	New English School (Sakri)
Manufacturing process	Ashram Shala (Sakri)(10 <sup>th</sup> Oct), Shanimandal(9 <sup>th</sup> Oct)

Wind energy	Shevali(6 <sup>th</sup> Oct), Amkhel (13 <sup>th</sup> Oct)
Solar (8 <sup>th</sup> Oct),	Chadwel Korde
Refrigerator(10 <sup>th</sup> Oct)	Khondamali
Internet (6 <sup>th</sup> Oct)	Tilali
How aeroplane works (9 <sup>th</sup> Oct)	Brahmanwel
Right to Information Act (6 <sup>th</sup> Oct)	Aichale
Plastic Money (11 <sup>th</sup> Oct)	Nizampur

4) Yogesh gave presentation on 'Towards work centered education' on 11<sup>th</sup> Oct at Homi Bhabha center for science education & research (HBCSE), Mumbai.

5) Following are few examples of activities on the ground. We are trying to include report from different schools every month.

School Name	IBT activity
Manchi Hill (Sangamner)	Students made 10 tube lights from old CFL for hostel. IBT student Mahesh Shelke alone repaired 25 CFL lights of his neighbors at his home. Repaired 15 bench and 4 chairs.
Sadhana (Shanimandal)	Made 22 mosquito repellent coil using local herbal plants. Sold 7 coils and earn Rs.35/-. Sold electric board and earn Rs.40/-. Agri product (मुळा व चक्की) sale Rs.125/-
Nizampur	Two कोठी stand : Rs.500/-
Gatam (Chattisgarh)	Students fitted 10 water tap. Done wiring of toilets and bathrooms.

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

i) Kojagiri poornima was celebrated on 29<sup>th</sup> Oct. Students did camp fire, played antakshari, musical chair etc. Till late night.



ii) Dipika joined VA as computer assistant. She will look after website update, facebook and blog update.

iii) DBRT first section exam was over on 7<sup>th</sup> Oct. New sections started from 8<sup>th</sup> Oct.

iv) Insect killer is installed in food lab and students started electric wiring of staff quarter.

v) Sugar cane seedlings (8500 seedlings) are ready for delivery to farmers.

vi) DBRT students are involved in

various technology projects and staff quarter construction work.

vii) A 7mtr dome was constructed on 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct near farm tank as per the instruction from Mr.Chandu of Half way house.

**9] Other Tit-bits : Environment :**

Rainfall of the month: 187 mm, total rainfall of the year: 433 mm

Water level in the well: 4.1 meter

Min Temp – 31.48 degree, Max temp – 22.51 degree

Humidity – 81.8%

ii) Energy consumption:

Diesel: 10 lits, Electricity (MSEB): 1160 units (3 phase), Single phase bill : 447 units

Biogas consumption – 30 cubic meters

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

<https://docs.google.com/open?id=0B3-4RfsZ2K2OcnI4OVphTkVnVU0>

**Photo Gallery:**



Sakri Ashram shala – Students fabricated rack



Yogesh with Asha group in Seattle



Yogesh met INDUSA founder Dr.Kishan & Kiran Bhatia @ their home in Houston.



Inauguration of IBT workshop in Patharai



**DBRT community Service**



**RCC slab work : Staff Quarter**

-----  
October photo link –

[https://plus.google.com/photos/115031434407012310423/albums/5803140267009844833/5803476089835576002?authkey=CO\\_ZnbPfoIOEGQ](https://plus.google.com/photos/115031434407012310423/albums/5803140267009844833/5803476089835576002?authkey=CO_ZnbPfoIOEGQ)