

Vigyan Ashram Status Report

Volume 29 Issue 4

April 2010

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GKN team visit to Pabal

GKN Group Director (Human Resource) Mr. Doug McIlldowie visited VA along with Mr. Mahesh Jha on 8th April. Architect Anita Joshi presented her plan for workshop shed and classroom. We decided to construct approx 6000 sq ft of PEB shed on the site of existing classroom and workshop.

Mr. Sunil Bhondage of M/S i-active educational solutions Pvt Ltd. presented plan for content development. Mr. Doug also visited Campus and saw safety measures taken at VA. VA PAC member Dr. Waghmare, D. Gowarikar, Mr. Ashok Kalbag were present for the meeting.

After the meeting team also visited ITI in Rajgurunagar. It is decided that Architect will get the estimate from contractors and send it to GKN for approval and release of funds.



Plan100 Projects (Lend-a-hand-India)

1) IBT School Head master's Annual meeting

Annual Head master (HM) meeting was held at Shikshak Bhavan, Pune on 16 April 2010. HMs of 62 schools were present. Vigyan Ashram's IBT team, Representative of LAHI Mr. Abhay Patil, Mr. Prabhakar Patil and Ms. Shilpa Ballal attended this annual meeting. Following issues were discussed 1) Measures to increase Quality of IBT implementation 2) School administration and recognition issues 3) Measures and planning for financial Sustainability of IBT 4) Advocacy of program with Govt.



Representative from BAIF gave presentation about WADI project as one of the sustainability model. All HM prepared their plan and submitted to us. It is also decided to take up issue of Govt. funding to IBT program with Government through teacher MLA. A team of five HM is

made to meet related MLA and put up our demand.

2) A booklet 'Vichare prashna .. shodha uttare' is printed. This is new concept to provide students with question bank. They are expected to ask these questions to their instructors after each practical and write answer in their books. We tested this methodology for last 1 year and as a result the booklet was published.

3) IBT and VA team worked on developing instructors manual. Drafts manual is ready and send for DTP. We plan to test this manual in instructors training program and later publish it.

4) Omkar and Kisan worked as SSC board examiner for Xth std IBT question papers. They were on SSC board duty from 23rd March – 7th April.

- 5) Team of 6 volunteers *GANTAR, SEVA MANDAL, PRAKRUTI & Save Bombay Committee from Gujarat* visited VA on 13th April along with Mr.Prabhakar Patil (LAHI). They visited Gawadewadi school and VA campus. They are planning to introduce IBT in selected schools from next year.
- 6) LAHI and VA team met on 10th April to discuss withdrawl plan for IBT, Career counseling for IBT graduates etc. It is decided to make a video on career counseling with the help of Shilpa.
- 7) Community services and happenings in the schools are available on www.lahi-impact.org

Suzlon Supported IBT

- 1) Ramakant and Omkar conducted meeting school principals in Sangli district. Meeting was organized at Dongarsoni on 6th April. Five principals attended the meeting. School in Ghatnandre and Nagaj decided to join IBT program from June 2010.
- 2) We have put a IBT stall in Chaitanya SHG federation meeting at Supa (A.Nagar) on 9th April.
- 3) Ramakant toured Suzlon villages in Dhule-Nandurbar district to introduce IBT program.
- 4) Kumar repaired five computers in Sugyan Center in Nandurbar, Khondamali, Brahmanwel and Sakri.

DBRT update (Asha for Education Project)

1) Foundation Stone laying ceremony

Hon.President of Maharashtra Legislator Assembly and local MLA Mr.Dilip Walse Patil visited VA on 14th April. He laid the foundation stone of new hostel building from his MLA fund. Now Pune Zillha Parishad's Public Work Dept will tender for the work. We used this occasion to update villagers and leaders about VA program. We prepared a handbill addressing villagers. After the meeting, there was a public meeting in Pabal village and all leaders supported our program in their public speeches.



2) Order for 15000 plants

As a part of Govt program of plantation drive to plant 2 trees per villager, Pabal Grampanchayat asks us to make 15000 plants. They provided us polythene bags, seeds. We have filled up 11500 bads by involving IBT students from Pabal, college students from pabal college and filled up 15000 bags. We will maintain the plant throughout the summer and handover to Grampanchayat before monsoon. Sarpanch also provided his own small pump on temporary basis to pump water from farm tank.

Grampanchayat agrees to pay us Rs.2.5 per plant for their maintenance. The plants will be distributed to farmers in monsoon.

- 3) Lupin Foundation sponsored 6 trainees for meson course. Trainees were given hands on project and the course is progressing well.
- 4) Seven students joined for MS office course.
- 5) Mr.Ravindra Godbole and team from M/S Cognizant foundation outreach program inaugurated new hostel room constructed through their financial support on 25th April 2010.
- 6) Principal of Shirur ITI visited ashram on 8th April for site inspection for vocational courses.
- 7) Animal husbandry
 - i) Poultry : There was 62 chicks from egg incubator and we purchased 100 chicks on 10th April.
 - ii) DAIRY : Sony cow delivered on 16th April

iii) Biogas

Biogas	Total gas	Feed	Qty	Amount
Biogas 1	31.15 m3	Cow dung	535 kg	535 *0.25= 134
Biogas 2	9 m3	Cow dung	330 kg	330 *0. 25= 83

Labor Charges - 150/-

Total (Rs. 357/-)

- 8) Anand gave talk on VA program at Yuva workshop organized by navachetana kshetrkruti prakalp, Pen Dist.Raigad on 24th April
- 9) Mr.Swami (DME) joined Engineering section as instructor.

DST Core Group

1) Selling boiled potato using Solar Cooker

We are trying to develop a business model around parabolic solar cooker. Idea we are testing is to sell , boiled potato in the retail market. Boiled potato is used as main ingredient in many recipes like vegetables and rice etc. We tried to sale it to hotels in Pabal. There is initial apprehension about buying boiled potato's. We had found out that fuel cost of boiling 1 kg of potato is Rs.1.69/- for domestic LPG. As a promotional activity , we are selling boiled potato at the same price of un-boiled potato.

We hope this can become a good business for atleast one women in a village. To get more feedback, we gave our parabolic cooker on rent to one women in Rajgurunagar. She is supplying 7kg potato per day to one hotel and looking for selling it through local vegetable vendor.

2) POLYHOUSE WORK (INDUSA)

Polyhouse plantation was badly affected by heat burn so that growth of the plants and yield were considerably reduced in April. Therefore we have fixed 50 % shed-net over it and they are recovering rapidly. Now plants growth is good and flowering to capsicum have started again. In the month of April we harvested about 52 Kg capsicum and sold to local market with average rate of 17 Rs/Kg. Rose plantation is in good condition and have started flowering.

Polyhouse manual (with structural designs) is ready now and its available on Vigyan Ashrams blog.

3) FARMERS GROUP PROGRAM-



On 18 and 19 April 2010 we have conducted training programme for Farmers Group on APECULTURE (Honey bee keeping) at VA .All DBRT students and 8 Farmers participated in the training. Shri.Vijay Mahajan from Talegaon Dabhade was invited as a resource person. He gave training on identifying bees, feeding them, harvesting honey from bee hive etc. He conducted practical training on bee hive in VA. Now we have purchased one Honey Bee Box and some equipment from him and try to learn more about Apeculture.

4) Food Lab-

A proposal to modernisation of food lab is submitted to Praj industries. Mayuri and Ranjit visited food processing machineries manufactures in Bhosari MIDC and we also met Mr.Gothkhindikar for discussing FPO licensing procedure for proposed Food-Lab. We got three Quotations (1 from Kudal and 2 from Pune) for machineries.

5) INDUSA solar project:

Mr. Ritest of M/SEssential Equipments Dhule visited VA on 20th April. He did site inspection and marking for civil work construction to install scheffler cooker & solar dryer. Accordingly PO is placed on M/s Essential Equipments. Civil construction work has started as a part of construction project to six masonry course students.



6) Papercrete Technology :

- i. We are trying to use rice husk in papercrete. Rice husk is good heat resistant, good insulator and harder than rock. (It has 80% wood fibre and 20% pure silica).
- ii. We made brick out of 2kg cement + 2kg rice husk directly. But as such the duo don't adhere at all. We also tried different combinations with paper + husk+ cement+ sand+ fly ash.
- iii. We are working on making Mixer for the same.



7) Solar domestic egg incubator:

- i) New sliding tray arrangement is made in order to move eggs every hour or two.
- ii) Design of solar egg incubator is under progress :



Basic design to maintain 37deg temperature is done. Design calculation for length of copper pipe & surface area of pipe required is calculated. We have decide to create required condition of temp & humidity in the old refrigerator cabin.

8) EWB(Engineer without border activities) :

Following information is provided to EWB students

- James lewis: Pabal survey on the Lighting solutions on the load shedding, conducted survey for 36 people of various age group & gender. The questionnaire was prepared by jamesLewis.
- Peter Armitage: cooling solutions to the existing houses of Pabal.
- Harry Williams: Sent reply to various queries asked on the solar water heating system at Pabal.

9) GPS service was given to village panchayat for checking feasibility of laying pipeline from water tank to Ganeshnagar.

10) Vinayak and Amitraj gave presentation on progress of fab lab project through video conferencing to other fab labs.

11) Fab lab is used by Mr.Gawade for making PCB for pedal power generators.

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

Other Tit-bits

1. Electricity bill: 1219 units , Rs.5560/-
2. Environment: Min temp 21°C, Max temp 43°C
3. Humidity: Min 55%, Max 91 %
4. Rainfall: This month 19.68 mm, Total: 768 mm
5. Water level: 5.2 meter.
6. Visitors to Pabal : Engineering college study tour – 300 students (21,22nd April), Jnyanada Sanstha, Pune (15 visitors – 25th April)
7. Yogesh visited Padsare (Tal.Pen) to check feasibility of introducing IBT from coming academic year.
8. Yogesh attended discussion on 'Right to Education' act organized by Narmada bachao Andolan and Aksharnandan on 29th April.

Data Report- All section wise data report are available on googlepages :

<https://spreadsheets.google.com/ccc?key=0An-4RfsZ2K2OdERiRVRLak14dGJLRWd1dW5NVEIWOXc&hl=en>

Photo Gallery:



MLA Mr.Dilip Walse Patil visited VA on 4th April



Mr.Doug McIldowie visit VA



DBRT Students' Exam



Training Program of APECULTURE



Students Preparing Dome joint plates



Board Designed in Fablab

More Photo's on:

<http://picasaweb.google.com/vigyanashram>