

Vigyan Ashram Status Report

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Work centered Education – Experiment at Pabal.

Vigyan Ashram believes in the philosophy of 'Learning while doing' and 'work should be medium of



instruction'. We wanted to develop a method so that staff can easily link work with the theoretical concepts in the books. A project was given to EWB volunteer Ms Sarah and Abi to actually implement syllabus for Engineering section as per Work centered Education (WCE) methodology. They were asked to make power point slides for each lesson so that same lessons can be used with new work activities. Lessons started with identification of the needs of the community. Students surveyed the village and decided to take a project on designing stall for vendors in weekly bazaar. They interviewed the vendors and did the need analysis from different requirement viz. hygiene, storage of goods, convenience for buyer, portability etc. The requirement was divided into three groups i) small vendor ii) wholeseller iii) vendors on cart. Students were divided into three groups and they were given different vendor category for study. Students studied different designs, forces and stress, trusses and engineering drawing. Lessons

was conducted everyday but discussion was revolving around the 'stall'. They made different design and then fabricated stall in the workshop by using different manufacturing processes.

At the end, they took the model of stall made by them to the market. They demonstrated the staff in the weekly bazaar and most satisfying thing is they sold the stalls to the vendors in the market.

Complete syllabus of DBRT engineering section was completed by keeping the project of 'Stall for street vendor' at the center. We are now

planning to use the powerpoints generated for new batches and with new examples.



Geodesic Dome Training

A geodesic dome construction training for architect students was conducted on 24th and 25th Sept at Indore. Zonal National Architectural Students Association (NASA) organised this training. A dome of 8 mtr dia was constructed. 30 students participated in the training. Dr.Ashok Mathur conducted theoretical & design part and Mr.Anand Gosavi & Mr.Kasim Inamdar gave practical lessons to students.



Finishing school progress (M/S GKN Sinter Metal Supported Project)

- i) DBRT students fabricated grills for the workshop. They manufactured grills worth Rs.60000/- as a part of their welding course.
- ii) Civil Work : Plastering and painting work was completed. Fixing of aluminum windows was done.
- iii) Mr.Doug , Mr.Nighojkar and GKN team visited Pabal on 26th Sept. GKN-India agreed to sponsor epoxy flooring.
- iv) Finalization of partition quotation was done in the PAC meeting on 18th Sept.

DST Core Support Projects :

A) INDUSA Practical Training Initiatives

INDUSA endowments sanctioned proposal for development of virtual practical training institute. Idea is to make all content, manuals on rural technologies available online. It can be accessed on the website www.learningwhiledoing.in . To begin with all the resources for DBRT and IBT courses, new project ideas, Do-It-Yourself manuals will be available on this website.

B) Farmer's Group Programme –

- i) **Farmers groups in** Jategaon, Pinpare gurav, Pimpale khalsa opened their account in bank and submitted their files in NABARD office.
- ii) Mr.Agarkar from Pabal farmers group is interested in starting his own food processing unit. We are helping him in market feasibility survey and bank proposal. Our PAC member Mr.Sunil Kulkarni is guiding him.
- iii) Mr. Subhas Dhople Progressive farmer of **Karndi** village , having Stevia plants nursery. He is facing problems in seedling marketing from last 1 year. We are helping him in establishing contacts with different agencies and also recommended him proper processing methods.

iv) Oleoresin Project –

Dryer work- Oleoresin dryer fabrication is still under modification. Following is the status –

- **Trials-** Trial of empty dryer is taken, in this trial temperature reduced from 29 deg to 5 deg in 10 min. But it was not moving below 5 degree, may be because of faulty temperature sensor setting or empty dryer (Hot air circulation inside). Temperature sensor was set as per standard settings (P4,P5,P6 that is -10 to +10 deg C with 2 deg starting point) and locked.
- **Beet root trial** -Freshly harvested 42 kg red beet root is purchased @ 5 Rs/Kg. Its cleaned – cut with amala cutter – chopped – shredded (in existing paper-creat shredder).
- After nearly 10 % of shredding , paper-create shredder motor got problem , so further shredding done with home grinder .
- New blower is fixed on the upper section of drying chamber to facilitate, easy and fast air circulation. This blower fixing decision is taken as hot & humid air was settling down on inner wall of drying

chamber.

- Final touch-up is given to dryer and wiring, sensor setting work is done.
- Final dryer drawings are prepared in Auto-cad with all measurements details.

v) IBT Instructor entrepreneurship programme –

For encouraging entrepreneurship in IBT school instructors, a new entrepreneurship consultancy programme is started in this month. In first part of this programme, needy instructors will be selected on the basis of their performance and personal visit. Then consultancy, training, bankable proposal writing and financial support will be provided. For providing financial support VA will make proposal with all details and will try to contact different micro finance/ funding agencies for loan. The proposal was discussed in PAC on 18th Sept. PAC members also suggested to organise a meeting of all past instructors, who have started their enterprises and documents their experiences.

Ranjeet visited Pokari IBT school on 13th September and Dhule-Nandurbar suzlon supported schools during s 18th to 23rd Sept to meet instructors and understand their needs and expectation.

vi) Food Lab (Praj foundation) –

- i) Labels are made for food lab products. In the month of September around 150 kg of tomato puree is converted in to ketchup/spread. Test sample were given to GKN sinter metal canteen, hotels in Pabal, local glossary shops, VA visitor etc.
- ii) Vegetable pickles, Drumstick leaves powder, drumstick oil are the other product developed as trial experiment.
- iii) Work of Food testing lab is complete with partition wall, colouring, wiring work, doors & windows fixing. Food testing equipments and other tools will be shifted in new building in the first week of October.

vii) Aquaponics Project –

Aquaponics student's projects are under study. Two (2) NFT systems are in working conditions with few difficulties, but flood & drain system is still not in working properly as basic bell & siphon system is still having some problems & submersible pump in under repair. We will start fresh trials with new DBRT students. visit <http://vigyanashram.wordpress.com/> for more information on DST core activities.



PAC meeting-

Quarterly meeting of PAC was held on 18th of Sept. Following members were present :



Dr.Waghmare, Mrs.Mira Kalbag ,Mr.Ashok Kalbag, Mr.Sunil Kulkarni, Mr.Anil Bahuman, Mr.Vijay Kumar and Dr.Yogesh Kulkarni. Following issues were discussed → Last year's VA account statement, Account issues with IIE a/c, staff appraisals, recruitment of staff on vacant post, partition, status of different project etc.

It is decided that Dr.Waghmare and Mr.Ashok Kalbag and Yogesh Kulkarni will meet financial advisor of IIE, accordingly a meeting with financial advisor of IIE was held in presence of CEO-IIE on 21st Sept.

It is decided that financial advisor will make two visits to VA per month and streamlines the VA accounts and IIE account so that financial reports will be made available regularly.

IBT School program update

i) KARNATKA IBT PROGRAM:

Omkar & Tukaram visited Bayer supported IBT schools in Karnataka (19 Sept. -22nd sept.11). The program is in 4th year now. We experimented in implementation strategy than regular IBT curriculum. Schools teachers are asked to plan work activities in line with the theoretical topics covered in the school. One can observe instructors and teachers referring to text books while conducting IBT practical. A manual got developed in kannada language. We conducted training of making a sky lantern & pantograph

Omkar also visited Domberanhalli school and also solved some of the difficulties in practicals and taught them few new activities.

ii) SSC BOARD MEETING: Omkar attended SSC board meeting on 13th and 14th Sept for proof reading the Marathi syllabus of IBT.

iii) Suzlon supported IBT

• IBT students Graduation record

First batch of IBT students from Dhule-Nandurbar school graduated in June 2011. We have taken follow up of all students and helped them in taking admissions to colleges. Details as follows →



	Name of the village	Students No	Diploma	I.T.I	M.C.V.C	Science	Commerce	Arts
1	Sakri Ashram school	23	0	0	9	1	3	10
2	N.E.S.Sakri	37	2	2	0	13	11	9
3	Shewali	40	5	3	3	13	2	14
4	Bramhanwel	16	2	2	0	10	0	2
5	Chadawel korde	40	1	6	0	26	0	7
6	Khondamali	35	4	2	2	12	1	14
7	G.T.P. Tilali	31	3	4	0	8	0	16
	TOTAL	222	17	19	14	83	17	72

Out of 222 students 133 opted for technical and science stream. There is visible increase in students going to science and technical courses. Teachers acknowledged that this is due to IBT and career counselling program conducted by us.

- Ms. Moa and Helena, consultants for Suzlon Foundation are conducting a Multi-Stakeholder Perception study of the CSR projects. They visited Pune office on 16th Sept and also Nandurbar school project area on 27th Sept.
- IBT students Adarsha prashala Nagaj visit Infosys , Pune ,Date , 24 sept.11 , Total 24 students come for this , HM Mr. Zambre also come with students.
- Mr.Ranjeet met instructors in Dhule and Nadurbar from 19th -21st Sept.and discussed possible entrepreneurship opportunities in the village.

- Nagaj students sold मेथी आणि कोंथिंबीर grown in agricultural practicals and earn Rs.250/-. Similarly all schools in Sangli district are preparing for Diwali items.
- After interview and survey of Villages of Nandurbar Region Village Rajale is selected for the Sugyan centre and Mr. Pravin Nandre is selected as a 'चालक' for Sugyaan centre. Pravin Nandre visited Pabal on 8th Sept to discuss plan of action.

Plan100 Project (Lend-a-hand-India)

- INFOSYS VISIT: 16 IBT schools and 900 IBT students visited Infosys company in Pune under its SPARK program.
- Avinash attended Plan100 meeting on 9th September to clear account & other implementation queries.
- EWB volunteer Sarah & Abhi visited shindavne & Bhivadi school. They conducted small session on engineering with bhivadi school students .

Pench IBT Project (Hemendra Kothari Foundation (HKF) supported Project)

- We are in discussion with placement consultant Mr.Shubhang Gore for placement of short term students. Mr.Gore visited Pench area and discussed with students of welder cum fabrication course.
- We also discussed possibility of enrolling students under MES courses of ITI for certification.
- Swami Vivekanand school IBT section arranged a stall in Anand mela in Devalapar
- Navajee highschool IBT and short term students construct a room for IBT workshop.
- IBT students of Gurukul –Devalapar conducted blood group testing camp.



- More details on : <http://hkf-vigyanashram.blogspot.com/>

DBRT update (Asha for Education supported Project)

- i) We have purchased four batteries for online UPS
- ii) DBRT students made 3 tables for food lab
- iii) Students prepared 50 kg Chiki under the guidance of Mrs. Sunita Jadhav (Pabal)
- iv) Wiring of food lab was done.
- v) Agriculture →
 - a) Compound for custard apple plants is completed.
 - b) Students planted potato of farmer Mr.Sarjerao chowdhary.
 - c) 1000 fish seeds of Katala variety put in the farm tank.
 - d) Sowing Jawar seed of 30 Kg.
- vi) Practical training Camp for Aksharnandan School Students →

35 students and 15 teachers & parents participated in the activities. They done following practical -
 a) Dome kit assembly b) Seed Treatment c) Seedling tray filling d) Measuring Cow temperature,
 Calculating cow & goat weight

vii) Other Activities

- Celebrate Teachers Day on 5th Sept.- DBRT students took all the responsibility of ashram.
- Celebrate Ganesha Utsav 1st Sep. to 11th Setp.
- 25th Sept is observed as Safety Day – 25th Sept. → Students and staff surveyed VA campus and listed potential areas of safety hazards. We also repaired things that are not in working conditions. In Morning, we discussed safety rules and precautions .

Photo link –

<https://picasaweb.google.com/vigyanashrampabal>

Other Tit-bits

- 1) **Important Visitors :** Mr. Gosaliya - Exel Industries, Gujarat 07th Sep. 5 persons, Mrs. Archana Mane MIT college Alandi – 60 B.E. Class Students, New English School Nighoj Parner, A.nagar – 200 students
- 2) Environnement: Min temp 23 °c, Max temp. 34 °c
- 3) Humidity: Min 64 % Max 83 %
- 4) Bio gas data:

	Total Gas	Feed	Rate	Total
Biogas no. 1	--			--
Biogas no. 2	68.38 m3	1316 Kg	0.50	658
Labour				150
Total				808

- 5) Water level: 4.55 meter.
- 6) Electric bill – 1868 units , Diesel for generator – 11.3 liter.
- 7) Rainfall this Month: 408.86 mm

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

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/ccc?key=0An-4RfsZ2K2OdFpCak1xYU1BS242anNPNHZqZ0txbFE>

Photo Gallery:



Ganesh festival



Sarah and abi (group photo)



Food Testing lab



Partition in the basement



DBRT students visit to Ralegan Siddhi (Village Of Shree. Anna Hajare)



Grill photo

More Photo's on: <https://picasaweb.google.com/vigyanashrampabal>
