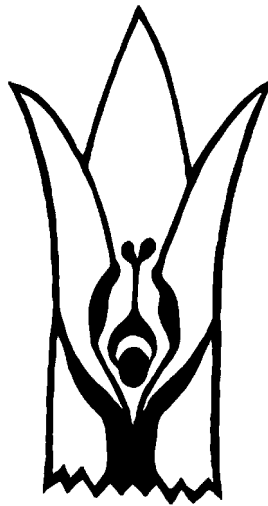


Annual Center Activity Report 2007 – 2008



VIGYAN ASHRAM

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Progress Highlights:

A) Diploma in Basic Rural Technology (DBRT) Course

(Supported by ASHA for education – seattle chapter)

1) DBRT 2006-07 Batch completed their training on 25th June. They have done many remarkable projects in one year's time. Projects include construction of twin dome and bakery. Manufacturing of LED lamps and various small electronics projects etc. ASHA for education provided support for teacher's salary and utility expenses.

Out of 36 students, 25 got placement. 9 Students joined IBT schools as instructors.

2) Forty students were admitted for DBRT batch 2007-08. There are 2 students from Nagaland, 1 from Orissa, 1 from Gujarath. Students came from different geographical regions viz. Melghat : 3, Jawhar : 2, Osmanabad: 3, Ratnagiri : 3, Nasik : 2, Kolhapur : 1, Delhi : 1, M.P : 1, Gujarath : 1.

3) Mr Diamond Meghaji, Sadabhavana foundation sponsored students for the course.

Total 7 students got loan scholarship through revolving fund set up by Lend-a-hand-India, for those students, who cannot pay fees upfront.

4) This year NIOS approved DBRT center for Chikhalgaon school (Dist Ratnagiri). Vigyan Ashram is supporting the school by way of staff training and monthly visits.

'Symantak' in Dhamapur (dist Sindhudurg) started DBRT center from this year. We are supporting them in every possible way.

5) We are finding DBRT students becoming good instructors for IBT program. With increasing IBT schools, need for DBRT graduate is increasing.

6) NIOS appointed an expert committee to write DBRT books in English. The work is in progress.

B) PLAN 100 Program

Plan 100 is a joint project of Vigyan ashram and Lend-a-hand-India to take IBT to 100 schools. We are working closely with Lend-a-hand-India team to accomplish this mission.

In the year 2007-08 , 13 new schools joined IBT program. Out of which 10 schools received full financial support from LAHI and received monitoring, training support from LAHI.

1) Training program for instructors & School co-coordinators were conducted at pabal, Pune. Training program Scheduled was as follows:

Month	Date	Period
May 2007	21 st to 26 th May 07 of 43 instructors from 15 schools attended Training program 28 th to 2 nd June 07 35 instructors from 12 schools attended Training program	6 days
June 2007	24 th to 28 th June 07, 4 school Instructors attended Training Program	5 days
November 2007	15 th - 20 th Nov. Total 73 Instructors from 23 schools participated in the program.	6 days

2) IBT School information portal www.techshala.com Launched on 30th July 2007.

3) More than 2000 students benefited by IBT program this year. Details as follows :

PLAN 100 schools

Pachagaon - 84	Vikramgad - 210	Dhamari -192
Asade - 54	Mod - 172	Bhivadi - 132
Bhabhali - 96	Nhavara - 125	
Shivkar- 80	Manchi - 134	

Total - 1279

Old school

Madaj - 212	chikhalgaon - 137	Pabal - 170
Arvali tak - 110	Belewadi Kalamma - 124	
Salumbre - 148	Mukhai - 110	

Total - 1011

4) IBT school principals meeting

Total 22 school principals of IBT schools attended the meeting on 22nd and 23rd April at 'Pani Panchayat, Khalad' near saswad. The Meeting was about to discuss on various difficulties in implementing IBT program.

It was resolved that school will stick to non-negotiable principles of IBT which are 'Learning while doing', 'community service', '10 hrs. per week practical'. etc.

5) Sakaal - LAHI Partnership

An agreement was signed between Lend-a-hand-India and Sakal Social Foundation to promote PLAN100. It is agreed that Sakaal social foundation will support Plan100 in following ways:

1. Publishing an activities of IBT program in through News Paper "Sakal"
2. Their local reporters will be the part of IBT Committee.

6) Along with Yuva foundation, IBT program is launched in Domavenhalli School in Karnataka. AID is supporting the project.

7) We took lots of efforts with Directorate of Vocational Dept to get permission to new IBT schools. Govt gave in principle approval to implement Plan100 program. Directorate of vocational Education also gave advertisement in newspaper inviting application from schools interested in starting pre-vocational program. This is first such notice in last 10 years and one of the major success of our efforts since last year.

8) A online monitoring system is being developed with the support of LAHI. This will help to tract the IBT programs progress in school. We expect system to go live from next academic year.

9) Suzlon foundation agreed to support IBT in 25 schools in their project area. We surveyed schools in Dhule and Nandurbar district. A orientation meeting of all interested school was held. We are in the process of starting IBT program in 7 schools in Nandurbar district from next academic year.

10) SSC board published teacher's handbook for IX th and X std.

C) Improving facilities at ashram

With the financial support of Lend-a-hand-India, we carried out following work at ashram –

1. Bending machine – Machine is purchased. Now we can make all kind of cupboards, racks, sheet metal work in ashram. We made one cupboard.
2. Six cots for DBRT hostel.
3. Books are purchased for Vigyan ashram library with the financial support from Mr Kishan Bhatia (INDUSA fund). The books are formally given to library on 30th July.
4. With increase in student's strength, we have purchased bigger size utensil and stove for Kitchen.
5. Gotha compound shed – A new shed for Gotha compound was made as part of DBRT project. A shed is constructed for storing fodder and to keep calf separately.
6. Kitchen extension – A small room is constructed near kitchen. It will be mainly used to store kerosene, groceries and other stocks. This will create more space in kitchen.
7. Cupboard for (INDUSA) library and IBT section was made in the workshop using newly purchased bending machine.

D) Bridge Loan

We gave bridge loan to following students to start their enterprises.

Sr.	Name of the Borrower	Bridge Loan	Type Of Business
1	Dinesh Shid	34685.5	Workshop
2	Raghappa Chaugule	42491	Workshop
3	Suresh Jadhav	25000	Construction
4	Suneeta Jadhav	15000	Tailoring, lather bag business
5	Shashikala Jadhav	10000	Tailoring , lather bag business
6	Somnath Pawar	39532	Workshop

Lend-a-hand-India supported the project.

Mrs. Rekha Lele donated Rs. 30000/- and Mrs Kalbag (amma) donated Rs 40000/- to bridge loan corpus.

E) World bank supported - Alumni training program:

Last year, we won 'Youth to Youth Innovation Award' of World bank to establish 'Rural entrepreneurs Network'.

Achievement motivation Training was organized for our alumni. Following programs were held :

1. 7th -8th Apr 14 Alumni
2. 7th - 9th June - 36 Alumni
3. 16th Sept - 36 Alumni
4. 31st Oct - 1st Nov - 23 Alumni

Mr Kiran Inamdar conducted the session for our alumni.

A website of VA alumni www.renindia.in is made. It compiles database of its students. The website was launched on 30th July.

F) Mathematics teachers workshop

Mathematics teacher's workshop was organized on 18th -23rd June. The program was supported by Lend-a-hand-India.

Total 19 teachers from IBT schools participated in it. The program was dedicated in the memory of Dr. J.P. Naik on the occasion of his birth centenary celebration. Bhaskaracharya Pratishtan conducted the training.

G) Nomadic Education Project & Shiksha Project

These are joint project with Development Informatic Lab (DIL) of IIT, Pawai with financial support of Media Lab Asia.

Nomadic education project got over in March 08 report & documentation were submitted to media Lab Asia. A CD 'MEEIT' { Marshalling Education through Environment using I.T} was released at the hand of Dr Goswami (M.D of Media Lab Asia) on 30th July.

A project to develop multi-repository got over. A training of school teachers were held in respective schools.

H) FAB LAB project

Yogesh Kulkarni and Parag Mulay attended 4th Fab Lab Conference held at Chicago , USA from 20th – 25th Aug. We presented projects carried out in the lab.

Parag also attended fab lab workshop in Boston fab lab for 15 days.

Detailed reports of projects in fab lab is available on the blog :

www.fablabinnova.blogspot.com,

<http://fabinnova.india.googlepages.com/>

Association of India's Development (AID) supported the salary of Fab Lab Engineer . Total funds received from AID are \$ 1500.

I) DST LED lamp project:

The project supported by Dept of Science and Technology got completed in Oct 07.

More than 10 different LED circuits were made and tested at Pabal. A training of manufacturing Led light was given to IBT instructors. We imported LEDs from supplier in Hongkong and supplied LED kits to school to assemble and sale.

A LED manual in Marathi and Hindi is published. It is available for download in report section on our website www.vigyanashram.com.

There are many schools and individuals who started making their own LED units using our circuits.

We are getting support from Thrive, Hyderabad and Dr Dhananjay Gadre in developing these solutions. We send our Engineer Mr Sunil Bedase to NSIT-Delhi for 10days training in micro-controllers.

J) LSP Project:

LSP project is completely closed. N-logue close down their operations. In Pabal, BSNL lease line charges are paid quarterly by Vigyan Ashram

which is not affordable to us. We are looking for alternative to LSP project to get connectivity at Pabal.

K) Pedal Power:

Vigyan Ashram with Save Bombay Committee won the Development Market place Award by World bank. We standardized cycle designs and also tested different generators. Five cycles were supplied for testing to various organizations. We also conducted training program for IBT instructors in manufacturing these bicycles. Tens schools manufactured their own cycles. Different application like pump, fodder cutting machine and mobile charger unit was also developed.

There are certain technical issues surfaced during initial trials, VA is discussing with experts to overcome the problems.

L) Documentary on Vigyan Ashram

Last year, 'Avakash Nirmitee' led by Mr Sameer Shipurkar made a documentary 'Vigyan Ashram...Shikshanatun Vikas' in Marathi. Various shows of documentary were organized by Vigyan Ashram & Avakash Nirmitee. They also completed English Version of this documentary.

M) Exhibitions,:

1. Fourth anniversary of late Dr.Kalbag was observed as "Sankalp Day" on 30th July. We organized an exhibition of work done during last year on 30th July.
2. "Shikshan ..Navya Disha" { Education. new Directions } was organized by Gram Mangal at Ganesh Kala Krida Manch from 28th Feb – 2nd March. We displayed exhibits on our philosophy of 'Work Centric Education'.
3. GMRT- Khodad : A science exhibition was organized at Khodad by GMRT on occasion of science day on 28th and 29th Feb.

N) Visitors:

1. Mr Daneil from Gautemala (Mexico) visited ashram on 10th October.
2. Ms. Rajani Rao & Ellen Kim (USA) visited Ashram to Study the bridge loan cases.
3. Hon. Minister for Energy and Technical Education, Maharashtra State, Mr Dilip Walse Patil and Dy Speaker of Vidhan Parishad Mr Vasant Dawakhare visited Vigyan Ashram on 19th April.

4. Michelle and Scott from engineer's without borders to work on the project of data logger for weather information
5. Mr. & Mrs. Prashant Aiyangar (Son of Dr B K S Aiyangar) visited ashram
6. Mr Vinay Pawar of IIM-Indore visited ashram from 3rd Jan- 9th Jan, to study VA programs.
7. DST appointed evaluation team visited ashram on 10th and 11th March to evaluate core support proposal submitted by us. Team of Dr Goyal (Director, DST), Dr Saha (Professor IIT-Delhi), Dr Munish Thakur (XLRI-Jamshedpur)

O) Training Programs :

Following courses conducted during the year 2007-2008 at Pabal.

Name of Course	Number of Students
DBRT	36
Poultry	2
Tally	6
MS Office	32
Internet	2
Electrical	2
Computer hardware	2
Work shop	7
TOTAL STUDENTS	89

P) Donations to Ashram

Vigyan Ashram is thankful to donors and well wishers. Their contribution helped us to fulfill many necessities at ashram.

Sr.	Name	Donation
1	Mr. Mohan Kulkarni (Pune)	10000
2	Rotary Club of Bombay Queen City	100000
3	M.S.Kalbag	20000
4	Electronics Business off Sourcing Services	60000
5	Ramkrishna Kelkar	10000
6	Mr.T.S.Kalbag	10000
7	Sandeep Shinde	4000
	Total	204000

Apart from monetary contribution many people donated equipment to Vigyan Ashram in kinds.

Mr Arjun Wadekar donated his old workshop machinery to ashram. It includes coil winding machines, tools, grinder etc.

Q) Projects Completed this year

Nomadic & Shiksha(IIT – Pawai)	(IIT-Media Lab Asia)
LED Project	DST
Pedal Power	Anarde Foundation
LSP Project	Own fund
Fab Lab	AID

R) On going Projects:

DBRT program	Asha –Seattle
Computer Based Lessons	CD sale
Plan100	Lend-a-hand-India
IBT	Asha-Seattle, Suzlon
Improving facilities in ashram	Lend-a-hand-india
Bridge Loan	Lend-a-hand-india
Pedal Power with SBC	World Bank

S) Staff Matters

Following staff resigned this year: Mr Nachiket Bhalerao, Mr. Ram Chowghule, Mr Bhargav Soneji, Nilesh Gugane, Tatyasaheb Ghanwat

Following staff Joined this Year: Mr Tatyasheb Ghanwat – IBT ,Mr Pingale (Diploma in Agriculture), Mr Hiren Panchal (DBRT) - Fab Lab Dept, Ramakant Padwal (MSW) IBT, Narayan Bagwale - IBT, Madan Narwade - IBT

Total staff : 22 {DBRT : 6, IBT : 7 , Kitchen : 4, computer : 1, Fab lab : 1, LSP : 1, CDs : 1, Director :1 }

Finance:
Income Expense Summary 2007-2008

Sr.No	Name of Project	Opening Balance	Receipt	Expenses	Closing Balance
1	LSP Project	784,517.90		784,517.90	
2	Fab Lab	74,845.17	3,338	57,873.50	20,309.67
3	CAPART EVALUTION	-7,445.00			-7,445.00
4	Asha Project (Pabal)	28,200.04	486,870.00	348,796.50	166,273.50
5	NE Project	-27,175.65	47,267.65	20,092.00	
6	ADRA	83,629.00	40,000.00	123,629.66	
7	AID Project	938.84	18,690	19,628.84	
8	IBT Asha	34,901.16	121,980.00	128,585.00	28,296.16
9	Lend-A-Hand India	-3,375	13,754	10,379.00	
10	Shiksha Project	24,819.40	170,880	195,699.40	
11	Swadheen	26,941.37		26,941.37	
12	Indus Project	-78,453.50	278,301	199,847.50	
13	LED Project	90,239.50	105,373.50	207,916.50	12,303.50
14	Pedal Power	25,000.00	185,209.00	216,988	6,779.00
15	SSA Project	-861	14,137.00	17,906.00	4,630.00
16	Bridge Loan	60,786.00	84,300.00	103,265.50	41,820.50
17	World Bank	-163,673.50	405,000.00	241,326.00	
18	Improving Facilities	2,309.50	201,649.00	110,465.00	93,493.50
19	PLAN 100	-875.8	1,879,426.37	1,683,075.50	195,475.07
20	Core Grant		113,000.00	30,882.00	82,118.00
21	SUZLON		120,000	36,620.00	83,380.00
22	YUVA		280,810.00	1,689.00	279,121.00
	Total	955,268.43	4,569,985.52	4,566,124.17	1,006,554.90
23	IAP	-301,786.82	3,047,967.89	2,006,875.71	739,305.36
24	CTP	-1,356,541.96	1,366,333.96	9,792.00	

- 1) IAP and CTP entries also includes transfer of funds from IIE to VA and interdepartmental transfers.
- 2) IAP corpus was Rs. 63,28,867.57/- on 31st March 2008.

Volunteers :

Vigyan Ashram appreciate efforts taken by following volunteers in promoting VA program. They are always available on call for all kind of support VA needs from time to time.

Mr Sameer Shipurkar, Ms Shilpa Ballal, Mr Sunil Bhondage, Mr Kiran Inamdar, Mrs. Sunanda Mane, Mr Abhay Patil, Mrs Alpana vijaykumar.

Vigyan Ashram also acknowledge support of villagers in Pabal especially Padmamani Jain Mahavidyalaya, Pabal Gram Panchayat, Mr Rajendra Agarkar, Mr Gaware, Bharat Pachange, Mr Bacchu Patil, Mr Parmeshwar chowdhary , Mr Sachin Chowdhary etc for their continuous support

Program Advisory Committee :

PAC comprising of Dr.Waghmare, Dr Gowarikar, Mr.Ashok Kalbag, Mr.Vijay Kumar, Mr.Sunil Kulkarni, Mr.Anil Bahuman, Mr.Sanjay Shembade, Mrs Mira Kalbag and Mr.Yogesh Kulkarni held their meetings on 30th July, 30th Sept, and 17th Jan at Pabal.

Vigyan Ashram is thankful to PAC member and Board of trustees of Indian Institute Of Education for their support and guidance.
