Annual Center Activity Report
2006 – 2007

Vigyan Ashram
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www.vigyanashram.com
Progress Highlights:

**Diploma in Basic Rural Technology (DBRT) Course:**
(Supported by ASHA for education – seattle chapter)
DBRT 2004-05 batch of 29 students successfully completed their course on 25th June 05. 25 students got apprenticeship. A new batch of 32 students joined on 1st July 2005. Two students dropped out of the course. Asha for education is funding teacher’s salary and material expenses.
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.
5 students were given a scholarship (sponsorship) from the rolling fund received from Lend-a-hand-india. Mr Dai Meghaji is donating Rs.5000 pm for conducting DBRT activities.
This batch gave community service of Rs.3,01,200/- and made earning of Rs.33550/-. They have done many remarkable projects in one year’s time. Projects include construction of training hall, staff quarter, bakery. Manufacturing of LED lamps and various small electronics projects etc.

**PLAN 100 Program**
In a landmark initiative this year, Lend-a-hand-India, (LAHI)USA and Vigyan Ashram partner together to replicate Introduction to Basic Technology (IBT) program in 100 schools.
LAHI is supporting following projects of Vigyan Ashram
1. PLAN 100 – Replication of IBT program
2. Improving facilities of Ashram
3. Bridge loan scheme for VA alumni.

**Plan 100**
This year 7 schools joined IBT program in Sept 06. Bhivadi and Pachgaon schools are completely funded by LAHI. In the remaining, school contributed for the initial capital expenses in equipment’s. Funding for recurring expenses, training and co-ordinators visit etc is provided by LAHI. VA is responsible for implementation and development of program.
Training program for instructors were conducted on 21st – 26th Aug at pabal. School co-coordinators training program was conducted on 11-13th November in Pune. A headmaster meeting was organized on 18th June 06 at Pabal. Total 14 headmasters participated in the meeting. Another HM meeting was held on 22nd – 23rd April at Khalad (Saswad). Total 23 head master attended the meeting.
Following number of students got benefited from IBT program:
PLAN 100 schools
Pachagaon - 75
Vikramgad - 142
Dhamari -165
Asade - 53
Mod - 122
Bhivadi - 106
Bhabhali - 96
Nhavara - 165
(Self funding) shivkar- 80
Manchi 99
----------------------------------------------
Total - 1103
---------------------------------------------
Old school (No funding)
Madaj 124
chikhalgaon 137
Pabal 200
arvali tak (Fig not avl)
belewadi (fig not avl)
Salumbre (fig not avl)
Mukhai (fig not avl)
-------------------------------------------
Total - 469 + ....

Improving facilities at ashram:
Following work carried out at ashram –
1. Workshop coba
2. New welding machine, drilling machine and other tools
3. Lathe machine
4. Students hostel plaster
5. Electrical panel board  
6. Survey equipment’s  
7. Agriculture tools  
8. Oven, soil testing kits etc for rural lab  
9. Construction of one staff quarter.  
10. Construction of training hall  
The work is carried out from the funds of Rs.2.31lacs received from LAHI and donation of Rs.2 lacs given by Mrs Kalbag(Amma).

**Bridge Loan :**  
During swadheen survey, need of providing financial support for our passed out students was highlighted. Students often find it difficult to access bank loan. This restricts them from starting their own enterprise. LAHI is helping to have a rolling fund from which students from IBT/DBRT program can get bridge loan. VA will provide them support in preparing bank proposal and also mentoring them. It is expected that students will submit proposal to bank and return bridge loan on receiving loan. Bridge loan is offered for maximum period of one year. This year, we supported following students for bridge loan:  
1. Sunder Selurkar : Workshop  
2. Pandharinath Kolhe : Tailoring , lather bag business  
Mr Anil Deshpande donated Rs.50000/- for the bridge loan corpus. All transaction for this project will take place through our old unused account ‘Vigyan ashram – hostels’.

**ASHA co-ordinator**  
Mr Ankush Kale is working as IBT co-ordinator under ASHA project. We tried to expand IBT program under this project. Following are the main achievement:  
1. Support for PLAN100  
3. A books on ‘Jeevanpayogi shiksha’ is published (Price Rs.60/-)  
4. A booklet on ‘Guidelines for starting the IBT program’ in school is published (Price Rs.25/-)  
5. Monthly ‘IBT newsletter’ is circulated to 55 schools under network and 30 individuals.  
6. Ankush attended following conferences and presented IBT program :
i. Buniyadi shiksha : Gandhi Vidyapeeth, Ahmedabad (20-21st Dec 06)
7. Yogesh Kulkarni presented paper on work centered education in ‘Ratan Tata educational colloquium’ in Calcutta in Oct 06.
8. Yogesh visited BITS-pillani on 8th Feb to explore possibility of starting IBT in village Rayala.

INDUS Project and SSA :
Under INDUS project, we implemented ‘Jeevanpayogi program’ in 5 schools of Amaravati District. Under the project activities were conducted one day per week in the school from June 06- April 07. VA designed and implemented the activity in the school.
Under Sarva shiksha Abhiyan, similar program was conducted in five schools each of Pune, Kolhpaur and Sangli district. In these school role of VA was of training of instructor and monitoring of the program. School, Z.P education officer are satisfied with the outcome of the program and we are pursuing them to introduce them in other schools.

Nomadic Education Project & Shiksha Project
Nomadic education project got over in Dec 07 and got extension upto March 07. Yogesh Kulkarni is documenting the finding of the project as part of his PhD thesis.
Under Shiksha multi-depository project eight IBT schools are participating in the project. One computer and inverter was given to each school. They were provided with educational content available in the market. 40 students from each school were given multimedia instruction for 3.5 hrs per week. We are working on developing practical delivery model to use multimedia instruction in the school.

Multimedia CD development
This year we could not complete any new CD. We gave work of Engineering and Electrical CD to Mr Anand Phatak. Engineering CD is in three languages. We found the difficulty in getting translator with technical background; therefore we decided to make Electrical CD in Marathi and English language only.
CD sale this year is Rs85455/- without making any marketing efforts and mainly from the word of mouth publicity.
FAB LAB project:
Yogesh and Parag Mulay attended Fab conference in South Africa from 26th June – 30th June 2006. A blog on fab lab [www.fablabinnova.blogspot.com](http://www.fablabinnova.blogspot.com) is started. Following projects are completed by DBRT students


We got plasma cutter from MIT in the month of May 06. Ms Amy Sunsted visited ashram to install the torch mate. But could not complete it due to technical problems. After getting the necessary spares, we are successful in commissioning the plasma cutter after lots of trial and error with little online support from the Torch mate manufacturing company in USA.

Association of India’s Development (AID) supported the salary of Fab Lab Engineer and recurring expenses for this project. Total funds received from AID are $1500.

DST LED lamp project:
Mr Sunil Bedse joined VA to work on the project. We made 10 different LED circuits and tested it at Pabal. We are in the process of preparing a LED kit so that students can assemble the LED lamp in the schools. Dr Ranga of Thrive is helping us in this project. On their invitation we install LED lams in in Domi village in Melghat for Melghat Mitra.

LSP Project:
LSP project comes to standstill. n-logue has not cleared electricity bill of Rs. 1.2 lacs of Rajgurunagar access center. Therefore MSEB disconnected the electric connection and access center. N-logue also send back their server to chennai for repair.

In Pabal, BSNL lease line charges were not paid for last quarter and it is likely that they will disconnect the connection.

Vigyan ashram repaid back balance advance of Rs.5lacs for the project. With this we cleared Rs.12lacs advance taken from IIE for the project.

We are looking for alternative to LSP project to get connectivity at Pabal.

Documentary on Vigyan Ashram
This is one of the highlight of the year. ‘Avakash Nirmmitee’ led by Mr Sameer Shipurkar made a documentary ‘Vigyan Ashram…Shikshanatun Vikas’ Sameer, Shilpa Ballal and Sangram Gaiwad worked almost for 10 months to complete the film. They raised money through individual
donations. Duration of the film is 1 hrs. Documentary in Marathi was released at the hand on our alumni entrepreneur Mr Dinesh Advilkar at ‘Bhardiya vidya Bhavan’ auditorium on 17th Dec 2006. Another screening for NGO heads, Govt officials was held on 19th Jan. The documentary was shown at various Govt offices, schools etc.

Exhibitions,
1) Third 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) Vigyan Ashram participated in PanIIT conference from 23rd – 25th Dec. A dome was constructed on the site to house our exhibit.

Visitors :
1) Ms Amy sunsted (MIT) visited ashram from 18th May – 16th May to install plasma cutter.
2) Ms Ana Lee (USA) LAHI volunteer visited ashram from 14th – 26th May.
3) Mr Anil Bedge (Director SCERT) and Mr Saygaonkar (Dy Director Vocational ) visited ashram on 15th July 25, 2007
4) Mr Ben Withlock (Student Cambridge) visited ashram from 12th July – 10th Aug. He done project on our alumni.

Training Programs :
Following courses conducted during the year 2005-2006 at Pabal.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Course</th>
<th>Number of Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DBRT</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poultry</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS Office</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS-CIT</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balwadi teacher</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electrical</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fab Lab</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer hardware</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work shop</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL STUDENTS</strong></td>
<td><strong>76</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Facilities and staff at VA is also used for training IBT instructors and also for IBT school visit whenever required. Approx. 100 instructors from 28 schools undergone training at Pabal.

**Donations to Ashram**

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vigyan Ashram corpus Donation:</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Madhukar Kalbag</td>
<td>15000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.S Kalbag</td>
<td>20000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electronics business off sourcing services</td>
<td>25000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandeep Shinde</td>
<td>4000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vidya Kasargod</td>
<td>10000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Makarand Jangam</td>
<td>3000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anil Deshpande</td>
<td>50001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T.S Kalbag</td>
<td>2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K. Shankar and Vina Shankar</td>
<td>20000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Mira Kalbag</td>
<td>200000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Apart from monetary contribution many people donated equipment to Vigyan Ashram in kinds.
Mrs Khare donated furniture to Vigyan ashram.
Mrs Alpana Vijay Kumar gave us charcoal/briquette machine.
M/S DIC India Ltd. donated 2 old PIII computers. M/s Pathak donated petrol engine model.
Dr Vivek Kulkarni donated drilling machine and grinder and other tools.
M/S Aar-Em electronics donated tri-cycle rikshaw.
Projects Completed this year

1. On Going Projects
   - DBRT program (Asha –Seattle)
   - Internet Service through Wireless in Local Loop. (own-IIE)
   - Computer Based Lessons (CD sale)
   - Introduction to Basic Technology (Asha-Seatle,Lend-a-hand-india)
   - Nomadic & Shiksha(IIT – Pawai) (IIT-Media Lab Asia)
   - Swadheen (Lend – a-hand-india)
   - Improving facilities in ashram (Lend-a-hand-india)
   - Fab Lab (AID)
   - Innovative program under SSA INDUS , MPSP
   - LED Project DST (Awaiting Sanction)
   - Promoting rural enterprises World bank
   - Pedal Power Anarde Foundation

Staff Matters
Following staff resigned this year: Gopinath Reddy, Swagat Swahi, Ajit Harpude, Hemant Gawali, Sachin Chavan
Following staff joined ashram this year: Parag Mulay (Msc Electronics), Sunil Bedse (Msc Electronics), Nilesh Gugane (BE Mech), Deepak Adak (Computer), Nachiket Bhalerao (Bsc Agri), Vivek Khojare (Bsc-IBT), Ram Chowghule (Workshop), Bhargav Soneji (Fab lab), Vishal (IBT), Keshav Bodake (Pune office)
Total staff: 24 {DBRT : 7, IBT : 4, Nomadic : 1, Kitchen : 4, computer : 1, Fab lab : 4, LSP : 1, CDs : 1, Director : 1}

Finance:
Provisional Income Expense Summary 2006-2007
** Administrative and communication expenses are yet to be allocated to respective projects. These expenses are done through common IAP account. The figures given are un audited and audit will takes place in due course by IIE accounts. This statement is given to get idea of project s financial projection.
IAP corpus was Rs.5576621/- on 31st March 2005 as per IIE account. Interest earned on the saving are not shown in the account.
Program Advisory Committee:
PAC comprising of Dr. Waghmare, Mr. Ashok Kalbag, Mr. Vijay Kumar, Mr. Sunil Kulkarni, Mr. Anil Bahuman (IIT representative), Mr. Sanjay Shembade, Mrs. Mira Kalbag and Mr. Yogesh Kulkarni held their meetings on 30th July, 1st Oct, 21st Jan and 19th March at Pabal.

There are many friends of Vigyan Ashram who helps us in effective implementation of program. We are thankful to Mr. Sameer Shipurkar, Shilpa Ballal, Mr. Sangram Gaikawad, Mr. Sunil Bhondage, Mrs. Sunanda Mane, Mr. Kanubhai Kamdar, Gauri Karve, Kavita and many others for their support throughout the year.

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