

DISHANTAR ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020



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TOWARDS ENHANCED WELL BEING...

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FOREWORD:

Looking back is really a pleasant experience. The reason being the critical situation of pandemic entire planet is going through. And positive memory is really needed at this point to look forward.

The two words that we are hearing repeatedly across the world in relation to the COVID-19 crisis, are 'unprecedented' and 'uncertainty'.

"There are absolutely lessons to be learnt that socially we can change and we can change quite quickly and it can have great benefits". The real longer-term crisis was climate change itself. "And ironically our response to a different crisis - the corona virus pandemic - indicates that it is possible for us to change our ways.

Although 2019-2020 was not a year of big achievement in terms of finances or projects but yes there were some significant achievements at field level that will have an impact well into the future. We are proud to share these achievements through this report.

We would like to thank all of our supporters, donors, partners, staff, volunteers and target groups for their contributions. In particular we thank CSR partners. With their support we have been able to work more vigorously

and credibly than ever before on critical livelihood issues. And by anchoring our work in the principles of sustainable development we are helping to enhance well-being of target groups for the years ahead.

In the context of the future plan, we look forward to serving as a change agent for natural resource based livelihood drive and adding value as a steward of the plan and ensuring recognition for the work of Dishantar.

None of this would have been possible without an active and supportive board, generous efforts of our volunteers, who made all this possible.

We are satisfied with the continuing growth of our organization and are looking forward enthusiastically to the year ahead.

Seema Yadav
Secretary
Dishantar

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Sashakt Balak, Samruddha Bharat:



Today malnutrition is one of the biggest challenges plaguing our society which makes our next generation weak and fragile. India can only progress when it empowers its next generation. To fight with malnutrition in the region Dishantar has partnered Y4D foundation's malnutrition combat program 'Sashakt Balak, Samruddha Bharat'. We have initiated a step

towards combating malnutrition through awareness drives, balanced food and food fortification by use of Micro Nutrient Powder.

Protein powder of Rs. 19 Lakhs has been distributed to 1275 school children from 11 day care centers, 50 schools and 7 tribal community hamlets.



Dnyanyadnya Scholarship:

This was the 6th year of Dnyanyadnya Scholarship. Till now, 2 students have completed their graduation, 2 have completed their diplomas and at present 26 students have been provided with Dnyanyadnya Scholarship. Total scholarships provided till 2019-2020 is Rs. 14,12,733/-

For the year 2019-2020, Tata Trusts had shortlisted our Institution for financial assistance program. Through this programme 23 students (under-graduating and graduating) were privileged with scholarship of Rs. 264000/-



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School Kit Drive:

School Kit Drive - An initiative to ensure that every child attends school with dignity. The objective is to encourage every child to take the first step towards school by providing them with basic necessities like school bag, stationery, tiffin, water bottle, writing pad, drawing kit, geometry kit, etc.

40% of India's population is below 18 years (children), Less than half of the children go to school. And only 1/3 reach to Grade 8, Children dropping out of schools are a common sight. Children drop out of schools owing to limited financial means, lack of access to school materials & parents' indifference towards education

In an attempt to combat this challenge, we have initiated the School Kit Sponsorship, a program

designed to ensure that basic school supplies reach even the students from remotest parts of Chiplun block. With contributions from donors, we enable children to attend school.

This year 70 students from Mandavkhari, Vehele, Terav, Kalkavne, Nandivase and Nirbade were given school kits.



Shree Siddhivinayak Course Books Bank:

Shree Siddhivinayak Course books bank activity has been initiated 7 years back in partnership with Shree Siddhivinayak Ganapati Mandir Trust – Prabhadevi, Mumbai. Till now, this activity has benefitted 24090 students from 31 junior colleges from rural Ratnagiri. Course book bank has relieved underprivileged students from unavailability of course books. No fee is charged either to student or to colleges for these books.

This was a crucial year as the syllabus of std. eleven had revised and neither books nor notes were available to junior colleges from rural Ratnagiri.

Dishantar has made available 2794 course books worth Rs. 277504/- to 800 students from 12 junior colleges from rural Ratnagiri.



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Annapurna Project (In Partnership with Dominion Diamond (I) Pvt. Ltd.):

Annapurna project was initiated in 2016-17 on pilot basis with 2 women SHGs in Vehele Rajvirwadi in Chiplun block of Ratnagiri district. Now after completing 4 years of intervention, cadre of 222 women farmers are actively engaged in agriculture entrepreneurial activity in 3 villages of Chiplun block.

Highlighted project activities:

- Production of bio-manure and bio-pesticides for self-sustainability
- Workshops on improved package of agriculture practices
- Workshops on agriculture production, harvesting, storage and marketing
- Eye opener Exposures

Activities in all 3 villages are at different stages but the core of the activities are natural farming, group farming, cooperative farming, women led farming and direct sale (middle agents free).



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Highlighted project outcome:

- Women farmers are organized in Agriculture Farming groups at hamlet level.
- Enhanced deliberated actions for natural farming.
- Development of entrepreneurial approach amongst women farmers.
- Annapurna farms are getting recognition as exposure hubs at district level.
- Recognition by block, district and state authorities for initiating good farming practices (organized, eco-friendly and cost effective).
- This year plantation scaled up to 98 acres with total production of 765 tonnes



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Annapurna Project (in partnership with Kansai Nerolac Paints Ltd.):

This was the second project of Dishantar in partnership with Kansai Nerolac Paints Ltd.. Dishantar had successfully implemented Adishakti (Capacity Building of Adolescent Girls) project in 2014 in partnership with Goodlass Nerolac Charitable Trust.

Dishantar's experience in Annapurna theme of women empowerment was a proven model of entrepreneurship that has been replicated in Mandavkhari village from Chiplun block this year under this project. The project organized women as Farmers' group under ATMA (Agriculture Technology & Management Agency). 17 women farmers are members of Shree Kaalkidevi Mahila Shetkari Samuha. These 17 members are the direct target group of the project.

Workshops on natural farming, land preparation, integrated nutrient management, waste management, financial and group administration, exposure to best practices were key activities conducted for Annapurna Members. Kitchen Garden activity was the pilot demonstration activity for this group. This activity turned out to be a real booster dose for the members.



Availability of funds for better farm management, procurement of power tiller for mechanized farming, co-operative model of demonstration were the unique characteristics of the project.

Highlights of the project:

- Enhanced awareness amongst women farmers about the scientific and sustainable agro practices.
- Land under cultivation has increased by 10.94 acre and agriculture production has increased by 12.15 tons.
- Transformation from chemical farming to organic farming and individual farming to group farming is taking place.
- Kitchen Garden activity is proving very crucial and beneficial during lockdown period.



Turmeric, lima-beans, cowpea, green-grams, horse-grams, groundnut, chilly, brinjal, lady's finger, cucumber, radish and amarnath leaves were the crops taken during Rabbi Season.

Kitchen Garden (Pilot Replicable Demo):

To promote supplemental food production among the underprivileged and resource-scarce people in the rural areas, we are promoting the small kitchen garden models with an aim to improve nutrition security and supplement household income. The primary rationale behind this model is to help improve the nutrition status of small and marginal farmers and their families, providing them with an assorted mix of vegetables for a considerable stretch of the year.

Kitchen gardens are cost-effective, practical and easily meet the balanced dietary requirements of rural households as well as add substantially to the family income. Crops are selected considering the prevailing food habits and climatic conditions of the implementation areas, and with the larger goal of

ensuring availability of wholesome and nutritious food. 20 families have taken up this pilot demonstration.

Suvarna Gorivale, Annapurna Member from Mandavkhari said, "Kitchen Gardens have helped us to sustain supply of vegetables in our food basket in the situation of lockdown due to pandemic. We assure you to maintain this activity for years to come and will also promote this activity with our friends and relatives, benefits of this activity."

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By initiating Kitchen Garden activity, we have encouraged women to be actively involved in kitchen gardening for ensuring food and nutritional securities of their families. As a result, the contribution of women in household food production has increased manifold, at times even making them the sole care takers of these gardens. It is seen that with time, kitchen gardening activities commensurate with their daily domestic chores, subsequently generating hopes for their socio-economic enhancement.



Kitchen Garden Basket include:

Guava, Garcinia Indica (Kokum), Black pepper, Sour sop (Ramfal), Papaya, Lemon, Sapota (Chikoo), Gooseberry (Amla), Banana, Drumstick, Basil, Marigold, Taro, Leafy vegetables and vines (cucumber, gourds), lady's finger, tomato, chilly, brinjal, curry leaves, basil, etc.

Exposure Visit to good farm practices at Koyna, Patan, Satara and Agriculture Exhibition at Baramati:

Objective of the exposure was to make women aware about the good farm practices and also to instill a feeling of solidarity amongst group members. We visited ABP Exotica farms at Koyna and Patan demonstrating watermelon and strawberry crop. Director of ABP Exotica - Mr. Baliram Pawar gave detailed information about the crop e.g. sowing pattern, period of crop, environmental challenges and measures to deal with same.

In Satara, we visited Satvik foods in Malgaon where Mr. Bhaiya Kadam has established farmer producer company doing organic farming. He gave information about cropping, harvesting, packaging, branding, barcode, etc. of their products. He also explained process of selling products to malls, challenges and opportunities involved in this process.

Exposure to KRUSHIK Mela - 2019 - A Live Demonstration and Agricultural Expo at Baramati had demonstration plots of vegetables, cereal crops,

pulses, fruits crop, apiculture unit, fishery unit, center of excellence for vegetable, dairy unit, poultry unit, silage unit and animal exhibition. It also depicted various live demonstrations of all the agricultural and allied enterprises technologies at KVK instructional farm. Exposure to this expo was a great learning experience for all the participants. They really enjoyed the exposure. It also raised their willingness to be agriculture entrepreneur.



UDAAN PROJECT (Drive for Economic Development):

Udaan project was initiated in 2018 and we received good response from women groups. Project had created a strong base for 3 women groups for initiating income generation activities. In 2019 our focus was on continuing our intervention with 3 groups from last years' intervention.

Key activities conducted during the year included activity based training, soft skills' workshops, workshops on digital literacy, marketing and govt. schemes for entrepreneurial support. Marketing support was one of the key activities.



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Participation in Mahalaxmi Saras Exhibition:

Mahalaxmi Saras Exhibition is an initiative of the Government of Maharashtra to provide a marketing platform to rural entrepreneurs and artisans; It is an annual exhibition-cum-sale of handicrafts, handlooms and food products held at state and district level.

Vaghjai and Aradhana SHGs have participated in this exhibition-cum-sale event. Aradhana SHG had a handloom and handicraft stall whereas Vaghjai SHG had food stall.

- *Aradhana SHG has made net profit of Rs. 17,450/-*
 - *Vaghjai SHG has made net profit of Rs. 26,125/-*
-

Key outcomes:

- 35 women from 3 Self Help Groups are actively engaged in income generation activity.
- Enhanced management skill has given confidence to women.
- Aradhana SHG has completed order of 5000 cotton bags.
- In Covid-19 pandemic situation, Aradhana SHG has completed the order of 1500 masks by government department at block level .
- Vaghjai SHG member, Mrs. Archana Salvi participated in the nutrient fast food cooking competition and she bagged first prize in the competition by preparing millet cutlet.

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Awards and recognitions:



A feather in a cap:

Our President received Maharashtra Government's State level Balshastrri Jambhekar Award for development reporting for 2016. Award comprises

RS 51000 cash, citation and memento. He was honored with prestigious award on 27th July 2019 by then Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis at Yashwantrao Chavan Auditorium, Mumbai.

He was also honored with Darpan award instituted by Maharashtra Patrakar Kalyan Nidhi Sanstha from Pombhurle, Sindhudurg in the memory of Balshastrri Jambhekar - Father of Marathi Journalism.

Every year 3 SHGs from each block are felicitated with Rajmata Jijau Swawlamban Prize in Mahalaxmi Saras Exhibition. This year these 3 SHGs from Chiplun block were those having Dominion Diamond (I) Pvt. Ltd. and Dishantar's project intervened SHGs. First prize was won by Bhagyashri SHG - Vehele (Annapurna Project), second prize was won by Pragati SHG - Vehele (Annapurna Project) and third prize was won by Vaghjai SHG - Kolkewadi (Udaan project). The prize included memento, certificate and prize money Rs. 5000/-, Rs. 3000/- and Rs. 1000/- respectively.



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Partners:

Funding Partners:

- Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited
- Dominion Diamond (India) Pvt. Ltd.
- Kansai Nerolac Paints Ltd.
- The Vidya Bhagwan Kotak Foundation
- Chiplun Municipal Council
- Sadhana Builders Pvt. Ltd.

Programme Support Partners:

- Shree Siddhivinayak Ganapati Mandir Trust, Prabhadevi, Mumbai.
- Y4D Foundation, Pune
- Block Offices - Chiplun
- ATMA (Agriculture Technology & Mgmt. Agency), Chiplun
- Bank of Maharashtra Chiplun Branch

Institutional Partners in Activity Implementation:

- 12 Junior Colleges from Rural Ratnagiri
- 22 women SHGs with 360 members
- 7 farmers groups with 166 members
- 4 Youth groups with 60 members

Our Bankers:

Bankers	Savings Bank A/c
Bank of India, Chiplun Branch	141110110011839
Ratnagiri District Central Cooperative Bank	140111001100007

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Treasurer's Report

We indicate below the important details of the Audited Accounts of Dishantar for the financial year 2019-20:

(In Rs.)			
Income	Year ended 31.03.2020	Expenditure	Year ended 31.03.2020
		Audit Fees	9440
		Miscellaneous Expenses	2050
Grant Received	1517850	Programme Expenses	1559465
Donation	826509	Programme Support Expenses	385020
Bank Interest	40602	Administration Expenses	51785
Annual Fees	400	Surplus	377601
Total	2385361	Total	2385361

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Treasurer, Dishantar

Financial Summary, 2019-20

(In Rs.)

BALANCE SHEET

As on
March, 31, 2020

Funds & Liabilities

Life Membership Fee 3500

TDS Liability -1692

Surplus 773383

Total 775191

Properties & Assets

Dead stock 150

Computer 10818

Fixed Deposit 150000

Cash & Bank Balance 614223

Total 775191

Note:

Extracted from Audited Statement of Accounts 2019-20

Statutory Auditors:

M/s. Limaye Kale & Co.

Chartered Accountant (FRN with ICAI – 127119W)

Registration Details:

Registration Act	Registration Date	Registration No.
Society Act, 1860	14.03.2013	MH- 4982
Trust Act, 1950	06.05.2013	F- 4964
Income Tax Act, 1961 Section 80G(5)(vi)	30.09.2015	PN/CIT (Exemp.)/Tech/80G /197/2015- 16/5716

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Maharashtra, Pin 415605.

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Email: dishantar2012@gmail.com

Website: www.dishantar.org

Other Accreditations:

- Organization Id as per Planning Commission's
NGO Partnership System: MH/2013/0058861
- Guide Star Number (GSN): 6320

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