



VISHWA YUVAK KENDRA

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CENTRE

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Director's Message

The most sought-after event of the year, **Joint Staff Development Programme (JSDP)**, had its share of attention and success at the beginning of October, 2007. **Panchayati Raj and Rural Development: Role of NGOs** was the theme and Queen of the Hills, Darjeeling was the venue. Konrad Adenauer Stiftung and its nine partner organisations participated in JDSP-2007.

Agro-based Entrepreneurship Development Programme continued its march in Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Chattisgarh and Uttar Pradesh during the quarter. Each state had its unique response towards the programme. While starting this programme VYK's objective was to introduce more of Agro-based Entrepreneurship in rural areas, but in reality it was observed even before proceeding for entrepreneurship Indian farmers at many places needed motivation for alternative cultivation and also to adopt new technologies. After six months of its working in the field, the Kendra felt that India has miles to go before achieving Agro-Based Entrepreneurship in its true sense. Hence, the Kendra has geared up its follow up system more effectively.

VYK's Programme Division had an interaction session on December 14, 2007, with a group of 20 Scientists from Krishi Vigyan Kendras of different states and 2 faculty from Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi. The professionals appreciated Kendra's effort in the field of development of Agricultural Entrepreneurship in India and offered their guidance and professional assistance to supplement Kendra's endeavours.

To further strengthen the base of rural development, the Kendra organised training programme for **Panchayat Leaders** in Uttar Pradesh and Orissa during October and November. Vishwa Yuvak Kendra also organised a training programme on **Fund Raising** from 20-28 November, 2007. Eminent resource persons and participants from various states had effective interactive sessions. The **Community Development Programme** also got its share of attention as the project on Income Generating activities took its vibrant shape due to its busy exhibition-cum-sale session.

With an eventful year passing by, it is time to welcome the New Year, which comes with its share of promises and opportunities. While welcoming the New Year 2008, the Vishwa Yuvak Kendra is looking forward for more fruitful days ahead.

Suresh Ambekar

Wish you all a very Happy New Year

JOINT STAFF DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

(4 – 7 October, 2007)

Konrad Adenauer Stiftung e.V. Germany (KAS) organises Joint Staff Development Programme (JSDP) every year for the staff of its partner organisations. JSDP 2007 was coordinated by Kalyan, Purulia, West Bengal, from 4-7 October, 2007. The venue was Fortune Resort Central, Robertson Road, Darjeeling. Mr. Jorg Wolff, Resident Representative, KAS inaugurated the programme.

'Panchayati Raj & Rural Development: Role of NGO's' was the theme for the meet. Main issues of the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI) system, Existing Programmes of the Partner Organisations and Impact of a JDSP-PRI Curriculum were discussed during the sessions.

Mr. Dilip Ghosh, Joint Secretary, Panchayat and Rural Development, Govt. of West Bengal spoke on **Experiences of Running Panchayati Raj System in West Bengal**. Prof. Madhu S. Misra, IIM,



Kolkata spoke on **Role of NGO's in the Effective Functioning of Panchayati Raj and Better Implementation of Rural Development Programme**. Panel discussion session addressed the topic, **Current Ground Situation with Respect to People's Concern in Rural Areas**. Integrated working groups discussed on **Elements of a Joint PRI Curriculum**.

JSDP participants specially thanked Mr. A.K. Pati, President, Kalyan, for his efforts and coordination in making the programme a successful one. Everyone enjoyed the scenic beauty of the Queen Hill, sunrise at Tiger Hill and shining of glitters on Kanchenjunga and cultural evenings with folk dances and music.

On behalf of VYK, Mr. Suresh Ambekar, Director and Mr. Tapan Choudhury, Mr. Ajit Kumar Rai, Mr. Venu Gopal, and Ms. Bani Bora from Programme Division participated actively in JSDP 2007.



British Prime Minister Mr. Gordon Brown and Mrs. Brown, accompanied by the British High Commissioner and other dignitaries visited the Vishwa Yuvak Kendra on 20 January, 2008. He was received by Mr. Suresh Ambekar, Director, Vishwa Yuvak Kendra. The press conference was organised for British & Indian media on VYK lawns. Mr. Brown after the press conference proceeded to the stalls set by the women of Mahila Samakhya in the quadrilateral in the Kendra, opposite the auditorium. Thereafter he visited VYK Library and spent some time. He then proceeded to the auditorium to address the participants.

The Prime Minister and Mrs. Brown evinced keen interest in the activities of the Mahila Samakhya (a social work organisation working for rural women), the programme supported by DFID, UK. The Minister of State for HRD and Secretary, Ministry of HRD were also present on the occasion.

TRAINING PROGRAMME ON PANCHAYATI RAJ

Panchayats have traditionally been the backbone of Indian village governance since the beginning of recorded history. It is the grass-root unit of self-governance and has been proclaimed as the vehicle of socio-economic transformation of rural India. Panchayati Raj Institutions are empowered to prepare plans for economic development, social justice and the empowerment of villages. They constitute the bedrock for the implementation of most of the rural development programmes. However, it has been observed that due to lack of active contribution and participation of the citizens, and due to lack of information regarding duties and rights of its elected members, the development programmes are not being carried out successfully. Vishwa Yuvak Kendra, therefore, felt the need for training of elected members of PRIs and accordingly arranged training programmes at Uttar Pradesh and Orissa. Following topics were discussed during the training :

Panchayati Raj, Concept, its Role and Functions; Panchayati Raj Institutions and Indian Political System; Capacity Building of Gram Sabha for Efficient Local Governance; Community Participation, Panchayati Raj and Integrated Development of Village; Role of Panchayat towards Sustainable Rural Development; Decentralised Approach to Rural Development; E-Panchayat : Role of Empowering PRIs; Central Government Schemes at Local Level; Panchayati Raj and Development; Right to Information; 73rd Amendment Act, 1992; People's Rights and PRI; Expectations from Panchayat.

Uttar Pradesh

30 October - 02 November, 2007

Training programme on Panchayati Raj was organised at Block Training Centre, Auras. Auras is in Unnao district of Uttar Pradesh. The programme was organised in collaboration with Tirupati Mahila Gramodyog Kendra, Rajaji Puram, Lucknow. Mrs. Manju Mishra, President of the organisation coordinated and organised the programme. The programme was held from 30 October to 02 November, 2007. Mr. Vikas Kumar and Mohd. Naved,



Programme Officers of Kendra facilitated the programme. Mr. Saurabh and Mr. Anup from Church Auxiliary for Social Action (CASA) were the resource persons. The programme was not only informative but also an eye opener in many areas.

Orissa

19-22 November, 2007

A four-day training programme was organised in the tribal belt of Kalinga of Kandhamal district, Orissa. The target beneficiaries were the elected Panchayati Raj members of the district. 54 participants attended the programme from 19-22 November, 2007. There were equal number of male and female participants. Resource persons were invited from Block Development Office of Kalinga. Mr. Ajit Kumar Rai and Mr. Vikas Kumar from Kendra faculty conducted the training in collaboration with Indian Institute of Youth Development, Orissa.



AGRO-BASED ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Orissa

13-17 November, 2007

An Agro-based Entrepreneurship Development Programme was organised by Vishwa Yuvak Kendra in collaboration with Indian Institute of Youth Development, Orissa from 13-17 November, 2007 at Kandhamal, Orissa. 28 farmers from different blocks of Kandhamal district participated in the programme. Mr. P.C. Mishra, Director, IYD inaugurated the programme. In the five day programme resource persons from voluntary organisations as well as Government Institutes facilitated the sessions. The new information and techniques related to agriculture



were shared by the resource persons. The information about Government Schemes related to agriculture were also given by the Government Officials. During the programme it was discussed that through the Kandhamal area is known for the turmeric production but the farmers are unable to market it for right price. The idea of marketing other new varieties of agricultural products were also shared with the participants. Certificates of participation were given to the participants by Mr. Ajit Kumar Rai and Mr. Vikas Kumar of the Vishwa Yuvak Kendra.

Madhya Pradesh

26-30 November, 2007



In Madhya Pradesh Vishwa Yuvak Kendra organised the Programme in collaboration with Indian Institute of Social Development (IISD), in the campus of Ranghuvanshi Dharmshala community building, at Shiv Nagar, Indore, from 26 - 30 November 2007.

Total 67 farmers belonging to different villages namely, Goshikeda, Shiv Nagar, Joshi Guradia, Bardiya, Gunjara and Nardari participated in the programme. Participants were selected on the basis of close scrutiny of applications and through assessing the level of interest of the farmers by holding meetings in villages with Panchayat members and farmers.

The programme commenced with lighting of lamp by Mr. Arvind Dixit, Asstt. General Manager, NABARD, Indore, Mr. Tapan Choudhry, Senior Programme Officer, VYK and Mr. Om Prakash Dave, Executive Director, IISD.

To motivate the farmers to change their mindset, apart from classroom lectures various behavioural and motivational exercises were adopted such as role plays, games etc., narration of true stories by successful farmers and by VYK faculty, Mr. Tapan Choudhry, Senior Programme Officer and Mohd Naved, Programme Officer.

Dr.R.N.S. Banafar, Dean, Agriculture College, Indore encouraged the participants to adopt new crops like different varieties of Rajma, Coriander and rainy

season Onion etc. Participants were also ensured of the easy availability of seeds for such new crops.

Participants were also informed about the support available from NABARD, Indore Premier Cooperative Bank and Bank of India.

The programme concluded on November 30 with the valedictory address by Dr. O.P Dave. Certificates were awarded to all the participants.

Chhattisgarh

11-15 December, 2007

An Agro-based Entrepreneurship Development Programme was organised by Vishwa Yuvak Kendra in collaboration with Rachana Chakra Gramin Vikas Sansthan at Raipur, Chhattisgarh from 11 - 15 December, 2007. 38 participants (farmers) from 4 districts of Chhattisgarh attended the programme. Dr. R.B.Senger, Director (Extension Services), Indira Gandhi Agriculture University, Raipur inaugurated the programme. In his inaugural speech he encouraged the participants to adopt scientific method of farming. He stated that though Chhattisgarh is called the bowl of paddy but our farmers in some areas are using the traditional methods which give low production. He suggested the farmers to use hybrid seeds and new methods of cultivation.

Mr. Ajit Kumar Rai, Programme Officer, VYK facilitated the programme through ice-breaking session and personal experience sharing of different States. Dr. S.M. Kumar, retired professor from Raipur Agriculture University took session on Advanced Vegetable Production and Plant Protection. Mr. Suresh Chaurasia discussed about the latest and improved methodologies in the field of horticulture. Mr. Suresh Thakur discussed about the various Chhattisgarh



Govt. Schemes for farmers. Lastly, Mr. Vimal Chawla shared his practical field experiences and Mr. Jasbir Singh took long session on bio-fertiliser.

An evaluation session was organised at the end of the programme. Certificates of participation were given to the farmers during the valedictory session.

Uttar Pradesh

17-21 December, 2007

The next Agro-based Entrepreneurship Development Programme was conducted by Vishwa Yuvak Kendra at Narkhi block of Ferozpur district in Uttar Pradesh from 17-21 December, 2007 in collaboration with CREATE, a leading NGO based in Lucknow.

67 farmers from 17 villages took active part in the programme. Officers from Agriculture Department, Government of Uttar Pradesh, Lead Bank, Agriculture University, Kanpur, and some Progressive Farmers took sessions on relevant topics.

Besides class room lectures, the farmers were also taken to a Model Farm to show them various crops, vegetables, fruits, grown there on scientific method. The visit encouraged and motivated the farmers to grow some fruits such as papaya alongside the boundary of their land. This would give them an additional income and would not disturb the other crops also. They also experienced how mixed crops could be grown.

However, after five days of the programme, the farmers decided the following course of action:

- Formed a Kisan Sangathan (Farmers' Group named 'Jagruk Kisan Sangathan') with at least one representative each from 17 villages.
- Each representative would form another sub-group with at least 10 farmers in his own village and will share with them his learnings and experiences in the training programme.
- All the members of the Kisan Sangathan would meet once in a month and the meeting would be facilitated by agriculture experts and officers from CREATE. (the collaborative organisation).
- The Kisan Sangathan would construct at least one vermi compost pit each in 17 villages with

the help of concerned government department for demonstration to other farmers which would motivate them to adopt organic farming.

- The representatives of the Sangathan would visit Agriculture Fair/ Exhibition arranged by

Government or various Agriculture Universities to update their knowledge on various aspects of agriculture and its allied areas such as horticulture, animal husbandry, floriculture, pisciculture, etc.

SHARING IDEAS

On 14 December, 2007, Vishwa Yuvak Kendra, organised an Information Sharing Session on its recent initiative “Agro-based Entrepreneurship Development Programme” with 20 scientists from Krishi Vigyan Kendras of different states and 2 faculty from Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) New Delhi. The set theme of the session was “**Empowerment of Rural Youth through participatory Extension Methodology**”.

Keeping in view the theme the programme commenced with the address by Mr. Suresh Ambekar, Director Vishwa Yuvak Kendra. Mr. Ambekar during his address firstly briefed up about the Kendra and its activities and then he focused on initiative taken by Kendra for the empowerment of young farmers from most backward regions across the country, through “Agro-based Entrepreneurship Development Programme”. Mr. Ambekar shared the reasons to initiate this programme and its core objectives. He also requested for valuable inputs from the participants for enriching the programme.

After the end of Director's session Mr. Tapan Choudhary, Senior Programme Officer, firstly shared the broad objectives and the process involved in conducting the “Agro-based Entrepreneurship Development Programme” in detail. Then on the basis of his personal experiences at Village Pulia, Bihar he shared the initiatives taken up by villagers as an impact of training programme, like formation of Kisans’ Club, an Agriculture Information Centre, process of preparation of compost and other types of manure for organic farming.

Then Mr. Vikas Kumar, Programme Officer, shared his personal experiences of Maharashtra and Orissa. While sharing the experiences of Maharashtra, he discussed the villagers' changing focus after attending training programme, on organic farming, floriculture, vegetable cultivation and better linkages with resource persons for further advice and suggestions. Regarding Orissa, Mr. Kumar discussed the increasing emphasis of farmers on cash crops, like groundnuts and turmeric, process of water conservation and construction of check dams, use of fertiliser, insecticide, weedicide and liquid pesticides.

Lastly Mohd. Naved, Programme Officer, shared his experiences of Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh. He informed the participants about Co-operative Farming being used by farmers specially for potato cultivation. They seek advice and suggestions from progressive farmers and resource persons for new method and approaches in agriculture like use of drip irrigation method, organic farming and the cultivation of vegetables and fruits. Mohd. Naved informed that in Madhya Pradesh farmers have shown interest in adopting crop rotation & relay cropping method, cultivation of crops like Coriander, Rajma etc. suggested by experts during the training programme. He also informed about the keen interest shown by the farmers in initiating motivational programme for identified unemployed youth to opt entrepreneurial career other than agriculture and development of linkages with experts from Indore Agriculture College and personnel from Indian Institute of Social Development.

With the thanking note by Mr. Tapan Choudhury the programme came to an end.

TRAINING PROGRAMME ON FUND RAISING

(20-28 November, 2007)

The sustainable development of any voluntary organisation depends on its resources. The fund is one of the most important resources in any organisation because every organisation needs money to survive, to meet project costs and develop programmes for the future, to pay the wages and salaries of its staff and to meet all the office and organisational overheads that are needed by an organisation. Raising fund is not so easy. It requires some techniques, skills and formalities. Therefore, in order to enhance the skills of the young workers of the NGOs regarding fund raising, Vishwa Yuvak Kendra organised a Training Programme on Fund Raising from 20 - 28 November, 2007. The programme was inaugurated by Mr. Suresh Ambekar, Director-VYK. During the training, topics like : Fund Raising: Concept, Principles, and Basic Requirements, Steps and techniques of Fund Raising, Sources and Methods of Fund Raising, Need assessment and Situation Analysis of Fund Raising, Preparing Budget, Writing Effective Project Proposal were discussed. There was also Demo Classes on approaching to a donor/ sponsor for fund raising.

Our resource persons were: Major General Surat Sandhu, Mr. Baldev Gulati, Mr. Darshan Mehra, Mr. Anil Barnwal and Mr. J.P Malik from various leading



NGOs based in Delhi. Kendra faculty, Mr. Suresh Ambekar - Director, Mr. Tapan Choudhury - Senior Programme Officer, Ms. Bani Bora, Programme Officer and Mr. Amarnath - Librarian, took relevant sessions during the training. A participatory session on group interaction and experience sharing was mediated by Mr. Prem Bahukhandi. There were thirteen participants from Agra, Ahmedabad, Baghpath, Damoh, Delhi, Ghaziabad, Kanyakumari, Lucknow and Patna. The programme ended successfully and certificates of participation were distributed to all the participants during the valedictory session.

IN THE FIELD

The girls of Netaji Nagar Community Development Centre of Vishwa Yuvak Kendra participated actively in **Inter-Agency Meet** organised by Department of Social Work, Delhi University on **1 November, 2007**. The exhibition-cum-sale facilities were arranged for the products prepared by the group. The stall was set up at the premises of Delhi University. It was a centre of attraction for the visitors. Many products were purchased by the visitors.

A **Yuva Utsav & NGO Mela** was organised by Young Men Christian Association (YMCA) on **29 - 30 November, 2007**. The main objective of the programme was to find out the talent of less privileged children and to encourage them for their better performance and to build network among voluntary organisations for social development. The children of Netaji Nagar Community Development Centre of



Vishwa Yuvak Kendra participated in some activities in pot painting, solo dance, group dance, rangoli, mehendi etc. A VYK stall of jute products was also installed at YMCA premises. The products made by the children of Netaji Nagar were appreciated by many. Certificates of participation were also given to the participants.

VYK FAMILY DAY

(22 December, 2007)



Family provides the greatest support in one's life. It contributes to one's happiness and success in life. A happy family always carries with it the vibes of positive energy. It is also the responsibility of each individual to provide all the possible joy and comfort to the family.

To carry the family love, care and feeling of togetherness along with, VYK organised a day long programme for the families of VYK staff on Saturday, the 22 December, 2007. The programme started with breakfast. Mr. Suresh Ambekar, Director, Vishwa Yuvak Kendra welcomed all the staff and their families and wished them a very enjoyable day. New staff members were also introduced. After a warm welcoming interaction everybody proceeded to the nearby ground for sports activities.

The day was sunny and open air activities gave opportunities to all to enjoy winter sun. After a sumptuous lunch there was musical chair competition for ladies. It was a great gala day for little ones as they got *jhula* to play, racing competitions to participate and stage to hold the mike to share their jokes, poems and songs. The last phase of the day long programme was prize distribution to the winners and vote of thanks.

Mr. Suresh Ambekar, Director, Vishwa Yuvak Kendra appreciated the winners for their best efforts and conveyed better luck next time to other participants. Mr. Ambekar specially thanked all the staff and family members making it convenient to be at Vishwa Yuvak Kendra on this special occasion. He expressed his happiness over the successful arrangement of the programme and thanked the organising committee.

STUDENTS VISIT

A group 19 MSW final year students from Mizoram University visited VYK on October 16, as a part of its educational visit to Delhi. There were 16 girls and 3 boys in the group. Two teachers incharge accompanied the group. The purpose of their visit was to have an exposure of Vishwa Yuvak Kendra set up and its functioning.

Ms. Kalpana N. Desai, Reader and Head, Dept. of Social Work introduced the group to Kendra faculty. Mr. Suresh Ambekar gave the welcome address and briefed them about VYK's vision, objectives and activities. Mr. Tapan Choudhury, Senior Programme Officer explained how Programme Dept. carries out its varied activities including Community Service and Field Work. Ms. Bani Bora & Mohd. Naved, Programme Officers conducted interaction session with the students and teachers.