

PUNARNIRMAN



MONTLY NEWSLETTER OF
PROJECT REVITALIZATION

November
2023



Editor's Message

Dear Readers,

It is a boundless honor to be the editor of the newsletter, and delighted to present the seventh edition of the newsletter entitled "Punarnirman" for December 2023.

By Recycling, you can change Tomorrow, Today! This is what we are learning from the ragpicker women of Thane district in Maharashtra, who have been involved in an imaginary initiative by the non-profit Samarth Bharat Vyaspeeth (SBV), which has touched many breathes and changed the way people look at waste.

What started as a small initiative to help a few women ragpickers with a skillfulness and alternate employment by the non-profit, has turned into a huge success story of waste management which connects over one lakh households in the community, engages with over thousands of children, employs many women and prevents approximately 20 tons of waste from being dumped daily.

With the TMC support, SBV managed to procure waste from the corporation and employed the ragpicker women for its segregation at a waste management plant deployed at Kopri, Thane east.

The initiative has been possible with the help of the Recycled Earth App, which was created in collaboration with SBV's partner, Barking Deer Entertainment. This allowed the team at SBV to schedule pickup of dry waste from different locations and in turn the Centre was able to expand its services, and currently manages several types of waste segregation and recycling admirably.

In this issue, we will report several projects and events in which SBV members were keenly involved. I would like to acknowledge Sri Bhatu Sawant, and the members of the SBV project team for their constant support throughout the creation of this edition.

Let this publication serve as a representation of our possibilities for creating a more ecological environment.

Waste is not created until we waste.

Vaneeta Raney [Phd]
Newsletter Editor
Seventh Edition, December, 2023



Success story of one contributor



Vasant Vihar Row Houses in Vasant Vihar, Thane West is a society of 38 bungalows. All the residents here are well educated, respectable, responsible citizens of Thane. We have doctors, industrialists, government officials, entrepreneurs, professors, philanthropists etc.

Each one is trying to be a responsible citizen, do their bit for the city, nation and Mother Earth.

1) Why is this initiative of waste management and recycling undertaken by you?

I am Nilima Mohite a Sustainable Living Practitioner. I have consciously started to live sustainably since 2019. I am also a mother of two kids. The impact of climate change happening around us, made me anxious. I wanted to do something at least in my house and for my kids. Each day we were throwing mixed waste out of our houses. First few steps I undertook was segregate my house waste, compost my wet waste, use menstrual cup, use cloth diapers, stop using wet wipes, carry own bags bottle dabbas. Dry waste I didn't know could be recycled or of any organisations that would accept them for recycling. After witnessing how my wet waste was getting converting into nutritious manure and helping my plants, I wanted to stop generating any waste or dispose it off responsibly. I am an Instagram influencer too. I was following and making friends with many Eco Warriors who were going Zero waste in their houses and creating awareness too. I took inspiration from them to make it a daily habit and also talk about it with family, friends, and my society members and on social media.

2) When and how did you start working on the project revitalization?

I connected with Samarth Bharath Vyaspeeth founder Mr. Bhatu Sawant in July 2022. He informed me about the waste management plant they run and how it is helping many families. After this, I enrolled myself in their WhatsApp group and started sending my clean Dry Waste every Saturday for Recycling to SBV. Earlier, I used to collect one month of Dry Waste and drop it at a society in Vartak Nagar for an organisation called 5Recycle which operates all over Mumbai.

3) How did you motivate others to join hands in this initiative?

In July 2022 SBV started coming to my society every Saturday to collect Dry Waste. First, it was just for me and my house. A few ladies in my society I spoke to like the idea and started sending their Dry Waste too. During a Composting workshop I conducted in my society, I explained to all the ladies about Waste Segregation, how our Dry Waste can help and can be recycled. Then we saw an increase in the houses participating in sending Dry Waste each Saturday. Now most houses collect and send their clean Dry Waste every Saturday for Project Revitalisation.

I keep sending videos, photos, examples of how to clean the Dry Waste, why is it necessary and simple ways to make it easier. I love to spread awareness and talk about Project Revitalisation to as many people I meet in Thane. This way I have connected many new members and societies to SBV. I have started my own venture to provide Sustainable Solutions. I teach, educate, endorse concepts of Composting, Bio enzyme and The Barta Bank. My society encourages me whole heartedly and allows me to take charge of certain aspects of Waste disposal like coordinating each Saturday's Dry waste collection for Project Revitalisation with their Thermo coal or RRR collections. I coordinate for collection of Dry leaves, seeds, saplings for an organisation called Hirva Swapna which works on tree plantation. I am also a Mumbai partner for a Bangalore based company called Daily Dump which provides Composting solutions and accessories.

4) What encourages you to continue on this project till date ?

The Motivating factor for me to continue is the assurance that the Dry Waste my house generates is going for correct disposal and recycling. Also the collection is happening from my own society that too every week. It is a very favourable solution to a big problem. Collecting, sorting and sending Clean Dry Waste for recycling can't be easier than this.

5) What is your message for society and community at large?

Waste can be a resource too. Don't Let Your Waste Go To Waste. Compost Your Wet Waste. Reduce your Dry Waste generation. Send your Dry waste for recycling or correct disposal. All this is easy. Each one of us can make a huge difference. It can't happen overnight. One Step at a Time, One Day at a Time.

One Good News about ENVIRONMENT



Photo Courtesy Of The Diller Teen Tikkun Olam Awards

The next generation of eco-warriors is leading in making an impact. Steven Hoffen is no exception.

The nonprofit organization Sindyanna of Galilee, which brings together Jewish and Arab women to create hydroponic gardens, sparked Hoffen's interest at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

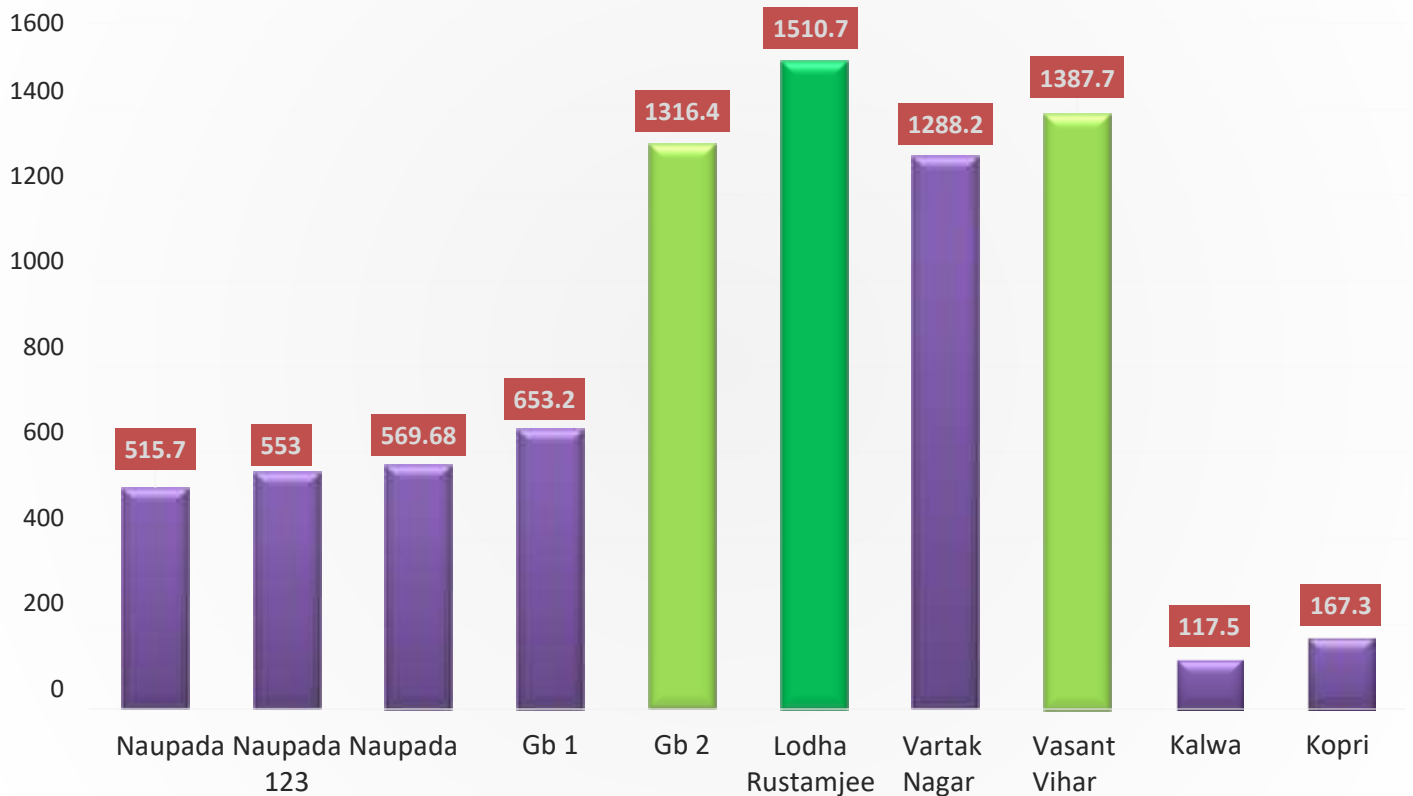
At the age of 13, Hoffen launched a nonprofit called Growing Peace. Four hydroponic gardens stretching from New York to Tel Aviv have been created by Growing Peace since its launch.

Over 2,100 servings of food are provided twice monthly by Growing Peace in Tel Aviv to 600 families of asylum seekers.

Steven Hoffen has been able to inspire generations of people through his ability to bring people together through food and nature as a teenager.

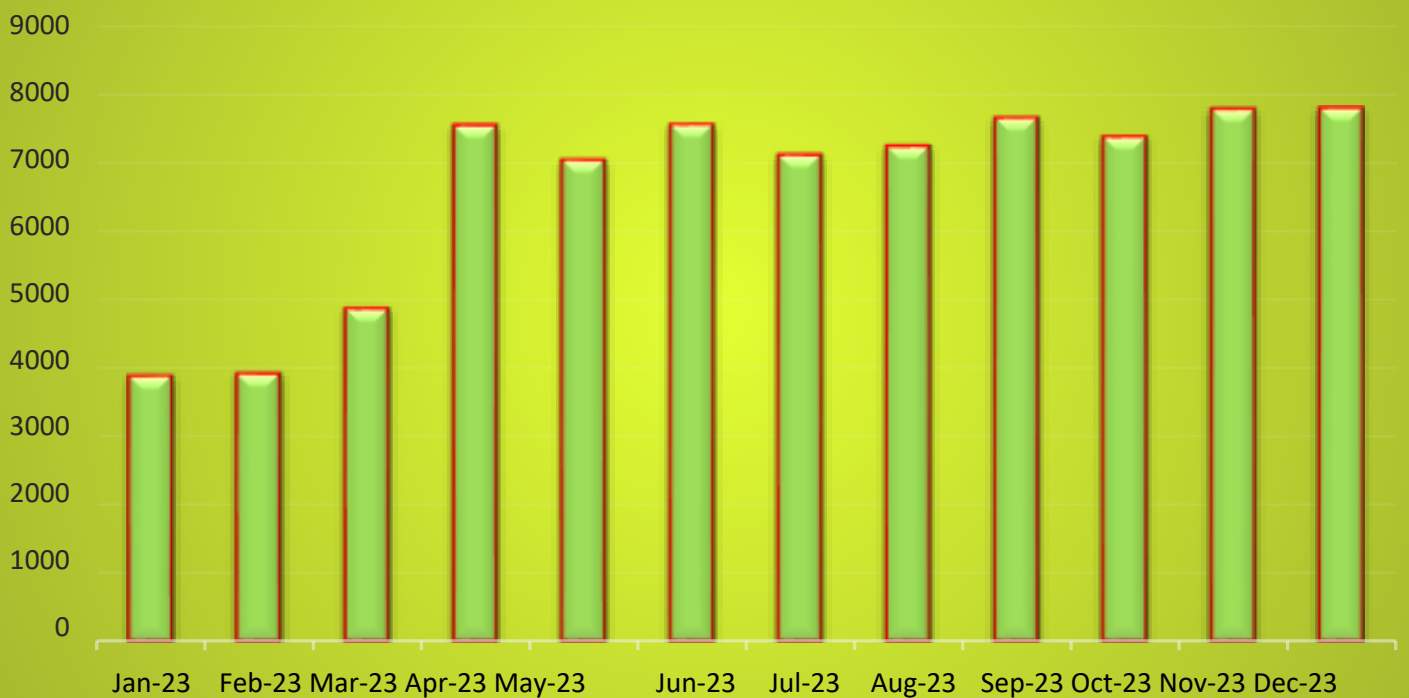
Area wise waste collection summary – December 2023

Monthly Weights



Yearly Dry Waste collection summary – January to December 2023

Total





Safai doot story

Aged 35 years was born in Bihar. Her husband is an Odia native. She was born a Hindu. Her early years were spent in abject poverty. Her mother was a stay-at-home mom, while her father sold fish. She is sorry that she was unable to attend school as her parents couldn't afford it. If she had been educated, she believes her life would have been different. Her five siblings—four sisters and one brother—were there to play with her during her formative years. Good meals were hard to come by. They subsisted on rice starch (Kanji), and sabji if there was any money.

When she was around ten years old, she fondly recalls working in a factory that produced jeans. After three months of employment, her brother asked her to leave the company. In a temple, she was married off in an arranged union. Her husband had previously worked in a hotel. On the day she was wed, she was content. She had high aspirations, but she was disappointed. He began to use alcohol. He abuses her now because he drinks so much. The boy and girl who are her offspring are afraid of their violent father. He barely makes a dent in the family's bills. Whatever money he gets from the odd jobs he blows away on drinking hardly giving 50-100 Rs/Day for family expenses.

She started working to run the household and take care of the kids because she didn't like to shirk responsibility. Signal Shala was where her kids used to attend. Prior to project revival, she worked during lockdown at the diva dumping ground, but it closed down. For the past five years or so, she has been here. Her father, makes between 300 to 500 per day selling fish. She earns between 7,000 and 8,000 per month here crafting wooden blocks (briquet). Together they run the household. It's a pleasant and convenient work for her right now. When she is at work and when she is travelling home, she likes the companionship of her colleagues.

She takes satisfaction in being a woman who takes care of the household, the children's education, and all of their needs which the father is unable to. She takes the kids on excursions and fairs. She doesn't think she needs a man in her life. She believes that being in an abusive marriage is worse than not having a husband. Without a husband, she thinks she can manage everything.

At Hari Om Nagar, she resides with her parents, brother, and kids. Their village is home to two sisters. An enclosure made of bamboo and plastic serves as her home in Hari Om Nagar. By way of Samarth Bharat Vyaspeeth, she has gas, a fan, and lights installed in her home. Toilet is an open defecation, bathroom is a bamboo enclosure. No one arrives to ask about their issues. During campaign season, certain misleading promises are made. She has the same dream as many of her co-workers of owning a home someday. She hopes for the education and well-being of her children.

Towards fulfilling her dreams she saves 1000/- Rs with madam at the work place in B.C. towards fulfilling her aspirations because she would be unable to do so on her own. The donation she receives from people is useful in enabling her to make some savings. Being the responsible daughter that she is, despite her difficult financial condition, she took care of her mother, who was admitted to the J.J. hospital a year ago owing to high diabetes. She didn't have any savings to cover the 3,000 to 5,000 cost of her treatment. She sought assistance from social workers.

She has good health and has had herself sterilised, which is fortunate. She buys new clothes for kids, makes them eatables for celebrations like Diwali and Holi, and celebrates with fireworks. She can afford chicken on certain 3–4 days and regularly eat rice, dal, and sabji.

When she is not working, she enjoys watching the sunset and the changing skyline while listening to music on her phone. As she cannot recall the day, there is no celebration for the birthday of the children. She wants to save, but she cannot get a loan to fund her future aspirations. Her driving force is her dreams.





Picture of the Month



Other Activity



plastic collection letter handover to society manager



During the thane visit of National Commission for Women Chairperson Smt. Rekha Sharma , Project Head of Project Revitalization Mrs. Kranti Sawant presented a statemen

Social Welfare Activity description



World Tourism Day
25th January

