

Punarnirman

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
PROJECT REVITALIZATION

January
2024



It is a perpetual ethical motive to be the editor of the newsletter, and delighted to present the eighth edition of the newsletter entitled "Punarnirman" for the January,2024.

What started as a small initiative to help a few women ragpickers with a capability and alternate employment by the non-profit, has turned into a mammoth success story of waste management which connects over one lakh families in the community, engages with over thousands of children, employs many women and prevents approximately 300 tons of waste from being dumped daily.

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 commendably.

Let this publication serve as a symbol of our promise to a more green creation.

Vaneeta Raney [Phd]

Newsletter Editor

Eighth Edition, January, 2024





Bhagyashree Phansikar
Resident of Mansarovar, Neelkanth Heights Thane



Success story of one contributor

All residents of Mansarovar Cooperative Society, Neelkanth Heights, always help everyone. All festivals are celebrated with great joy and enthusiasm. Every Saturday, many members of the society participate in a 'Roti Seva'. Through this charitable endeavor the residents collect rotis and distribute them among the needy. During Navratri festival some society members invite little girls from the neighborhood slums, attending Zilla Parishad schools, for 'Kanya Pujan'. This is indeed an admirable initiative. Ever since my college days, I used to read about plastic waste and its disposal.

News like plastic waste being eaten by roaming cows made me deeply uneasy. I feel sad to see the plastic thrown out by the roaring sea waves. In 2013, I went on a tour to Kedarnath and Badrinath. The pristine flowing rivers there too were filled with plastic litter. Tourist companies organized activities like 'experience the joy of having lunch amidst the natural environs' to woo the tourists. However, the food was served in plastic plates, and those plates were left in the woods and not collected before leaving the place. This insensitivity towards environment pained me immensely. Therefore, the waste management and recycling project was undertaken.

In 2015, I came to know about 'Urja Foundation' and I started making plastic deposits. Then in 2020, I learnt about Shri. Bhatu Sawantji's concept of recycling plastic. This noteworthy project is jointly run by Samarth Bharat Vyaspeeth and Thane Municipal Corporation. Every week a vehicle comes to the society for Plastic collection, and that is an added advantage.

When I see anyone throwing medicine or chocolate wrappers in the dustbin, I promptly collect the wrappers and bring them home. Along with these, gift wrap cello tape, cheese slice plastic covers are also collected by me, and brought back home. I share with the people information about Shri. Bhatu Sawantji's work and project revitalization.

The house keeping staff of our society has been educated about collecting single layer plastic and selling it at the rate of Rs.2 per kilogram. I introduced the members of our society to the 'Majhi Vasundhara Abhiyaan' initiative run by the Thane Municipal Corporation, and have encouraged them to participate in it. I have also communicated to my house help to cut the plastic of the milk bag in a straight line, and not in a small triangle in the corner. This prevents the small plastic corner being eaten by animals, which causes serious harm to them. My house help also implements the same in her own house.

Nature gives us in abundance. The Earth provides us with food, grains, fruits, flowers and minerals which enrich our lives. Rivers are our main life source. However, we continue to thoughtlessly and selfishly snatch these natural resources from Nature. Clean rivers are mindlessly polluted with plastic waste. Through this initiative I got a golden opportunity of 'giving back to Nature'.

I myself visited Shri. Bhatu Sawantji's plant at Kopri. Their work is absolutely commendable. In this initiative I have contributed my small share by making it a practice to collect plastic separately.

Plastic has now become an integral part of our lives. However, plastic in itself isn't bad. It is our reckless attitude towards plastic which is a matter of grave concern. If we thoughtfully decide to imbibe the habit of recycling plastic, we can definitely pay back our debt to Mother Nature, to some extent. Pledging to carry cloth bags while going to the market, and thereby avoiding the use of plastic bags, can be a small but important step in this direction. If each one of us decides to bring about a change in our own self, there certainly will be a positive change in the society as a whole.



One Good News about Environment

ECO-HAPPY

A team led by **Ar. Jagruti Khabiya Jain** consists of environment enthusiasts who have come together to encourage a sustainable way of living. We keep exploring for eco-friendly alternatives for our everyday products and offer them to our customers.



RE-CONNECTING HUMANS TO NATURE

We at Araatrika, are driven by the mission of creating sustainable and eco-friendly stationery for everyone.

We believe, that if the people are sensitized in simple ways by creating small shifts in their routine, they would be able to lead and create sustainable lifestyles- which is the need of the hour today!

At Araatrika, the popular stationary items such as eco happy plant notebook; eco happy bamboo toothbrush; eco happy seed pencils; eco happy calendar; eco happy travel kit are made suitably.



Safai Doot Story

Mrs. Kamala Sunil Dive aged 30 years was born at Hari Om Nagar to rag picker parents. She is a practising for 7 to 8 years Christian who speaks Marathi with ease. With her three brothers and herself, she is the oldest of four siblings. They used to play a lot, had a lot of sufficiency. Even today, her parents are still devoted to protecting her and her daughter. Two married brothers work as rag collectors. In the tenth grade is the younger sibling. She completed her schooling upto third grade. She fell at school injured her eye and skipped school out of fear.

A distant relative was the subject of an arranged marriage for her in a temple. Husband was from kodus (wada). He used to drive a tractor and was 12th pass. After being married, he was kind. Later got into bad company drank heavily, met another lady, and left her a year after the birth of her daughter. The other woman passed away and he too passed away 2-3 months later.

Her residence is made of bamboo and plastic sheets. It costs her Rs. 500 each month in rent. Her dad continues to live with her and her children. Since her parents argue over her father's drinking, her mother lives with her brother. She has spent the last 8-9 years residing in this rented home. For cooking, she either gathers wood from the workplace herself, or her father does.

She began her current job two months ago mostly for financial reasons. By working at the Mulund dump, she got some experience with this type of job. Now, she works for garbage segregation and makes between 7,000 and 8,000 per month to support her family. When necessary, she borrows from her mother.

Her current job is in the shade and is enjoyable for her. Earlier she would collect trash in all kinds of weather conditions sell it at the end of the day and get some money. Here she sorts the waste in one place and gets a monthly fixed salary. Along with her co-workers, she travels back and forth. She can now send her 7-year-old kid to signal shala thanks to her employment. After five years of marriage, she prayed for a daughter, who was born.

She is currently in good condition, but when she was younger she lived with her mother and suffered from stomach ache that was treated with medication. She confides all of her issues in her mother, as well as occasionally with co-workers.

She believes that residents of high rises are educated and enjoy fulfilling lives. She'll never be able to live their way of life. Her daughter should do well in school and at work, and she would like to have her own home.

She takes great pride in being a woman. A woman is capable of giving birth and working to care for her children, able to handle anything. Mothers never abandon their kids. A man can or might not. She believes that if a man is good, that's OK, and that those who aren't, aren't. A woman can survive even without them, thus there is no need for them.

She celebrates Christmas as a major event with prayers, midnight mass, snacks, and a feast. Pastor cuts the cake. She just gets a cake on her daughter's birthday. She takes pleasure in coming home to her daughter and joking and talking with her co-workers. These are her happy moments. May the laughter keep jingling in her life.



Mrs. Kamla Dive

Picture of the month



Social Welfare Activity description

1st day of Training



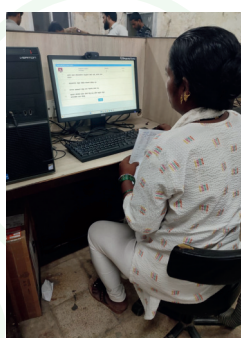
Distribution of grain



Driving Exam



SBV Project Revaitalisation Coordinator Yogita Gaikwad and Our Safai Doot Poonam Goud were felicitated with Navdurga Award given by Tara Maul (1)



Other Activities

**Awareness session done at Land mark markandey mandir.
Glory school, near KGN chauk, Navi basti, bhiwandi**



Aayushman Bharat health account (ABHA) Card distribution*



**Special RRR Collection
(Hiranandani estate)**





JANUARY MONTH DRY WASTE

Collection Report



7094 Kgs Total dry waste



28 Days



535 Society's



January Month Waste collected report



"An effort made for the happiness
of others lifts us above ourselves."