

PUNARNIRMAN

January 2025



Editor's Message

Dear Readers,

Being the newsletter editor and being enthralled with presenting the eighteenth edition, "Punarnirman," for January 2025 is a perpetual righteousness.

You can alter the bad future by reconditioning! The women who pick rags in Thane district, Maharashtra, are teaching us this. They are a part of an idealistic project run by the nonprofit Samarth Bharat Vyaspeeth (SBV), which has transformed perceptions about waste and impacted many lives.

What began as a small effort by the non-profit to assist a few women who were ragpickers and provide them with alternative employment has grown into a massive waste management success story that links over one lakh families in the community, interacts with thousands of children, employs numerous women, and stops about 300 tons of waste from being dumped every day.

With the assistance of the TMC, SBV was able to acquire waste from the company and hired ragpicker women to properly segregate it at a waste management facility located in Kopri, Thane East.

The Recycled Earth App, which was developed in conjunction with Barking Deer Entertainment, a partner of SBV, has made the program possible. This made it possible for the SBV team to plan the pickup of dry waste from various sites. As a result, the Center was able to grow and now offers a commendable range of services for managing various waste types and recycling.

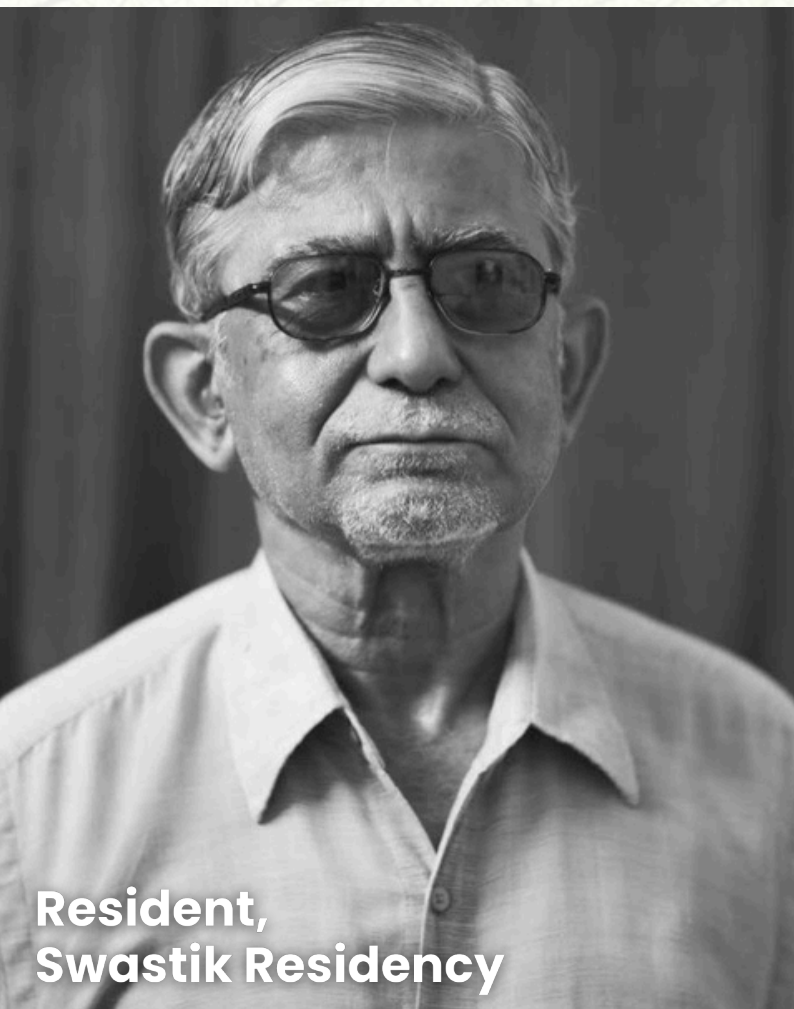
We will discuss a number of initiatives and activities that SBV members were actively involved in in this issue. I express my gratitude to Mr. Bhatu Sawant and the SBV project team for their unwavering support during the development of this edition.

*Let this publication
be an emblem of
our commitment to
a greener future.*

*You have the right
to protect your
belongings or
dispose of trash!*

Success story of one contributor

Swastik Residency is a big old housing complex (consisting of two Societies Phase 1 and Phase 2) having many buildings, situated at Anand Nagar, Kavesar, G.B.Road, Opp.TMC Ground, near Saraswati Vidyalaya



**Resident,
Swastik Residency**

One

I know that Plastic which is going to the dumping ground is hazardous in many ways. Besides it doesn't decompose for decades.

Two

Infact, I was unwilling to give dry waste plastic to TMC and hence was looking for the opportunity to give it for recycling/revitalization. One of our family friends gave SBVP PR contact. The collection is going on regularly and smoothly.

Three

More and more people, essentially the families and Cooperative Housing Societies should join this good initiative and prevent plastic going to the dumping grounds.

Four

It will be better, if as a unit (member), segregation and collection is done at Societal level and collected by TMC in its regular garbage collection and handed it for revitalization.

Five

Our entire green, wet or bio degradable waste is composted by us in our home itself. Other dry waste-excluding plastic waste- is given to our Society's waste collection. There it is sorted and some goes to Bhangarwala and rest to TMC garbage collection. I am of the firm opinion that plastic should not go to dumping ground along with other garbage.

Earlier we were staying at Kopri, Thane East. There I use to give my plastic waste for recycling to another group, who use to collect it once every month, as I was not aware of this group. After we shifted to Anand Nagar, Kavesar, G.B.Road, I came to know our group. Since then (now about a year) I have been regularly giving my house dry waste plastic to our group. Every week on Thursday morning, I am putting information of our weekly collection on our Society's Whatsapp group as well. Some members have started giving their dry waste plastic in our collection drive along with me. Yet, a lot remains to be done in this arena.

GRAPH OF THE MONTH



MRS. NAZRA SHEIKH GULAB

Nazra, aged 30 years was born in Ambadi near Jalna. She follows Islam and has faith in Allah.

She speaks fluent Hindi and understands Marathi. Her father used to drink a lot did brickwork work. He would hit her mother and would feed the children doing household work in parallel. She would accompany her mother and help her in her work. Father would hardly contribute to the house expenses and spent the entire amount on his drinking.



They were two siblings she and her sister, fed up of her father's hitting she (mother) left with Nazra for her mother's native place (that is Nani's house). Sister stayed with Dadi (paternal grandmother). In childhood she played with cousin's games like gilli danda, barafpaani. She went to school but did not like it but, she loved to play. She wished that if her circumstances were different life would have been different

She left her husband and came to stay with her sister at Kalwa due to his suspicious nature. She stayed with her for 2 yrs. sent the children to stay and study at the Madrassa. She has three children, elder son - 13 years, younger son - 10 years, daughter - 10 years. Daughter and younger son are in a Madrassas at Mahabaleshwar. Elder son is in a Madrasa in Chandvan near Mahad. Husband tried to get in touch with her but she was fed up of his suspicious nature and the nomadic life, he wanted to keep shifting to feed his suspicion. He has sold all household utensils to fund for his drinking, left the rented house stays at masjid. 'How can he take any responsibility is her concern always'.

Her marriage was arranged by her Mama (maternal uncle). Her husband was already married then. His first wife left him due to his suspicious nature. They got divorced. She is his second wife.

This 25thAug 2022 she started staying separately from her sister to lessen her burden. Her present home is of tin with shared water connections, although separate light connection, gas connections were provided by Samarth Bharat Vyaspeeth. Toilet is open defecation. She presently stays with her old landlady since she is alone. When children comes home in Vacation will stay with them in her home.



She's been at the present job for around 2 years. Before lockdown she worked at her native place segregating different coloured bottles and their metallic rings. Fought with her husband came to Kalwa, Shanti nagar and started working to take care of the kids. She draws a monthly salary of around 7000-8000/ with which she takes care of the household expenses, all bills, travelling expenses to go and fetch the children and their clothes. However, Madrassa takes care of all remaining expenses.

She has a B.C with Ma'am at the work place for 1000/month some savings, nobody comes and enquires about her well-being in their area. During Covid times in lockdown people would come and distribute dal, rice, khichdi. Presently nobody visits, she is careful about not wasting food.

She plans to work more, earn and along with some savings and loan she wishes to make a home for herself and her children. She is a strong, single, proud woman handling the responsibility of her children. Wishes her husband would have been different.

She feels not all males are bad there are "good" ones too in spite of her experience, nevertheless not needed to complete a woman. She took care of her mother who suffered from T.B. She passed away four years back. She has presently had an eye surgery from which she is recovering.

Her journey to this strong woman has been from grazing the goats, to working in cotton field's separating the cotton, to segregating the coloured bottles to project revitalization. Her never say die attitude will take her places, she celebrates Ramzan and Bakri- Id and rejoices greatly.



Lion club of Thane distributed grocery on the occasion of Haldi Kumkum

IMC TEAM VISITED KOPRI SITE AND INAUGURATED SKILL DEVELOPMENT CENTER FOR WOMEN





Samarth Bharat Vyaspeeth Project Revitalisation Campaign, attractive bins for dry waste collection are being provided free of charge to participating societies.

PHOTO OF MONTH



On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Savitribai Phule, the first female teacher in India, headmistress, pioneer of women's education, mother of knowledge, and the one who showed