

PUNARNIRMAN

Nature's
Safety



Our
Duty

March 2025

Editor's message

Dear Readers,

It is a perpetual ethical motive to be the editor of the newsletter, and delighted to present the twentieth edition of the newsletter entitled "Punarnirman" for the March, 2025.

By Reconditioning, you can change the unpleasant upcoming! This is what we are learning from the ragpicker women of Thane district in Maharashtra, who have been involved in an make-believe initiative by the non-profit Samarth Bharat Vyaspeeth (SBV), which has touched many lives and changed the view about the waste.

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.

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

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.

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 symbol of our promise to a more green creation.

Safeguard wealth or waste, it's your choice!

Success story of one contributor

Ghantali Co-operative Society known as “Ghantali Sahaniwas” is a 50 year old, one of the oldest co-operative societies, near Ghantali Devi Mandir.

I am a resident of this society from last 25 years after my marriage and we are proud that we are regular contributors to Dry Waste Management “Project Revitalisation” initiated by Bhatu Sir in association with TMC as a part of “Plastic Mukh Naupada Abhiyan”

As we all know, since childhood plastic is very dangerous and non-biodegradable, we should minimise the use of plastic. Upto certain level we do follow that. But its unavoidable and non-convenient for obvious reasons, we have to use plastic coated material for packing, carrying things etc. I was always in search of some convenient and safest way of recycle / reuse of Plastic and any such way to avoid plastic going to dumping ground.

Thanks to the social media messages received about this Waste management and “Plastic Mukh Naupada Abhiyan” by Bhatu Sir, I immediately got connected with the project. Project Revitalisation people collect the plastic & dry waste from your doorstep bi-weekly. We only have to collect and gather all the dry waste at a single place on designated collection day. I think, this was the best and easiest way for “Busy ” people like us, just one step of keeping aside plastic waste from our side and other things will be taken care of by the Project people appropriately.

I circulated this idea in my Society group and some “like minded” friends and people supported me. For the last 8 years, our society has been a regular contributor to Plastic /Dry Waste Management “Project Revitalisation” proudly.

An image of clear and green earth and pure environment for our future generation was a strong motivation for me. I spread and expressed my same feelings and concern with other members of society. I give Regular updates of Collection dates of plastic / dry waste, updates of E-Waste / Thermocol collection drive to society members.

For spreading awareness of segregating plastic, plastic coated things, and awareness about what all can be given as dry waste especially in the younger generation. In the beginning of 2025, January, I organised a small talk of Bhatu Sir in our Annual function at our society where he explained in detail the project and created mindfulness upon the same.

It is the moral obligation of humans to ensure the survival and sustainability of the planet. To ensure clean air and the green environment for future generations, we must encourage and imbibe the habit of 3Rs i.e. Reduce, ReUse and ReCycle.



Smt. Renuka Gogate, Resident
Ghantali Co-operative Housing Society,
Naupada, Thane West.

Graph of the month



Mrs Surekha pradeep kundiya aged 30yrs is fluent in Marathi. As far as she can remember, she grew up in the Mulund dumping ground. She was born Hindu but since last 11 yrs. follows Christianity. Her husband belongs to the Hindu Valmiki community. His native place is Delhi

Her parents worked at the Mulund dumping ground. They were five siblings. They were two daughters from her father. The remaining siblings are from her mother's remarriage. In all they are 4 daughters and a son. The son is physically challenged from birth. Her father developed leprosy. Mother left him. Father loved us and wanted us to stay with him. She and her sister started doing the same job as the parents. Her mother remarried and had the other sister and brother. She is uneducated.

She has a big family of herself, her children 4 daughters and 2 sons. After

her third daughter was born wanted to get operated but she had jaundice so doctor said can't operate.



Safai Doot Story

Safai Doot Story

After that she had a son. After that doctors said can't operate. Tried family planning practices but were not following it regularly.

During her childhood her elder sister would handle all household, take care of her brother. She was immediately after her. Her mother neglected them. She would go away for a month or two. The siblings would eat from the dump fruits or food thrown by hotels. Then they started staying with their father who stayed nearby. He took good care of them. Father used to cook and feed them.



The children held a very important place in his heart. One monsoon the house got flooded and water filled all vessels. There was a snake in one vessel. He went in the night to search for something and got bitten. He passed away. She loved her father immensely and still feels his loss. She then started staying with her bua (paternal aunt). Her elder sister went to stay with Kaka (paternal uncle). She grew up up with her bua who also arranged her wedding. Her husband is nice, caring, and responsible. There's was also a love marriage with just exchange of garlands, (sakhar puda).

Her life has seen her suffering from ailments like Jaundice. She uses feet implants after a major accident. A boulder fell on her at the Mulund dumping ground around 12 yrs back. It hit her waist down She fell unconscious. Due to sprinkling of Jesus holy water she was revived, she was shifted to Gavand pada Mulund hospital. It took her around a year to recover She has rods implanted in her knee and feet. She was at Sion hospital for four months. If they could not pay the bills then the hospital authorities would shift them from the bed to the floor. Her husband was constantly by her bedside and never left her alone. He would do the dressing of the wounds.

After the Mulund dumping ground tragedy and closure she started working again after losing her first child her daughter after 2 month to get over her loss and be with people. The birth of her daughter after her first loss bought lots of happiness, peace. She was her Laxmi. She has been 13 months into the present job. Both she and her husband together earn around 15000/month. She deposits her salary in her eldest daughters name in a bank. She wants to have a good house for children. She has seen some property in Kalyan. She wants her children to study and be on their feet. 2 daughters one in 8th other in 2nd go to Nakhwa School. One son goes to signal Shala (1st std). 3 young ones stay at home.

Her present house is of tin sheet, the floors are concretized. She has fridge, electricity. She cooks on Chula.

She celebrates Christmas in a big way with new Clothes, feast midnight mass. On children birthday gets Cake, new clothes, biryani, calls all relatives children around for her eldest daughter (her laxmi). For other's the celebration is not so grand. She longs to go back to her children after work to see their sweet smiling face and their love, care and concern (Mummy have this water, you must be tired).

May her cup be filled with good health, prosperity in her life. Her hopes, aspirations for her children are her driving force in life.

Social welfare

Medical health check up and Memography



Lions Club donated saress



Social welfare



WOMAN'S DAY CELEBRATION AT KOPARI PLANT

Woman's day special IMC
program at Worli .



Swachh Bharat Abhiyan officers visited Kopri Site



COLOR FULL HOLI





The event "Shramikanchya Kalancha Mahotsav 2025" was organized on 16th and 17th March 2025 through the Samarth Bharat Vyaspeeth at the Balasaheb Thackeray Kala Sabhagruh in Thane. This event is a celebration of honoring the hard-working hands, recognizing the achievements of artists, and showcasing culture. Various art forms such as Dindi, folk music, folk dance, Warli art, and many more were presented during this ceremony.



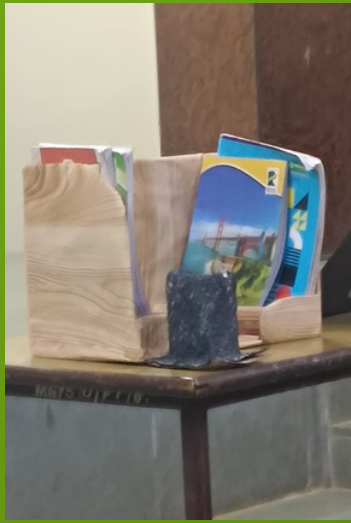


THE ORGANIZATION PROVIDED FINANCIAL HELP FOR THE WEDDING OF RAG PICKER MANGAL MISAL'S DAUGHTER



United Way Mumbai and Samarth Bharat Vyaspeeth are working together on the project Clean Shores Mumbai. United way Mumbai organizes awareness sessions and some competitions in many schools and colleges. An Art Competition was organized on March 1, 2025, at Maharashtra Nature Park sion. Mitali Karandikar, coordinator of Samarth Bharat Vyaspeeth, was invited as a judge for that art competition.





A local solution to protect against the scorching sun – Innovative use of treated water from sewage treatment plants –
Samarth Bharat Vyaspeeth Project Revitalisation

