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IN THE LOOP



Vasundhara Newsletter, 10th FEBRUARY

KIIT Square, Plot No. #1731/C, Das Mohapatra Complex, Opposite of Sai Villa PO: KIIT Campus,
Dist.: Patia Station Road, Patia, Bhubaneswar, Odisha 751024



OVERVIEW :

- Vanajata inauguration and opening
- Annual Planning and Prospective Meeting
- Exposure visit by Pastoralists from Gujarat
- Regional BoD meetings
- Monthly Review meetings
- FRA meetings
- CFR claim making process
- CFR process final gramsabha
- CFR-MC formation
- GPS mapping
- Mayurbhanj DLC meeting
- ITDA medicinal plants exposure visit
- Planning meeting with Jungle Manch Mayurbhanj
- Joint Inquiry meeting CR/CFR -
- Training on Salap juice
- FRA training

VANAJATA - A STORE BY TRIBAL COMMUNITIES FOR URBAN POPULATION

Vanajata, a federation of primary Minor Forest Produce (MFP) gatherers, formed by more than one lakh forest dependent women from across the state of Odisha, opened its very first retail outlet in the capital city of Bhubaneswar on January 27, 2023. Located at Omfed square, the outlet will make directly sourced tribal produces (Forest, Horticulture & Agriculture) available to the people of Bhubaneswar at reasonable prices.

This store will initially hold the products like, Tamarind, Honey, Sal / Siali leaf plates and bowls, Mahua, natural oils from Karanja / Neem / Tola / Sal seed, Hill broom, Resin, Dried Mango, Turmeric, Ragi, Green gram, Horse gram, Castor Oil, White /Black Mustard, Black Rice, Red Rice, Dry chilly, Clove, Black Pepper, Cardamom, Dal, Harida, Bahada, Amla etc.

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They will be available in non-sealed close mouth packets. Prices will be very reasonable as there will be hardly any stop over point before the products reach the Vanajata Outlet. Initially, the outlet will support over 80,000 families from nearly 600 producer groups from across the state. Vanajata will become a platform for more forest dependent families and support their livelihoods.

Vanajata is being promoted by Vasundhara and supported by Jan Jeevika.

“Forest is our treasure trove of resources. Not only for day-to-day items but for our livelihood too the forest provides us with everything. We generally sell it to local markets or whenever there are fairs organised in the capital city. But a permanent outlet here in the capital city will help us secure our livelihood better,” said Vice President of Vanajata Federation, Fuljensia Tete, from Kuchinda.

The inauguration and opening were graced

by Smt Sulochana Das, Mayor, Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation, Mr Susant Kumar Rout, MLA, Bhubaneswar North, Smt Itishree Das, Corporator, Ward no 13, BMC, Dr Pradipta Mohanty, MD Surendra Agritech and Chairman Jan Jeevika, Dr AB Ota, Ex Director SCSTRTI, Dr Premanand Panda, Vice President Vasundhara and Mr Y Giri Rao, Executive Director Vasundhara.



Vanajata also displayed its products at the Fashion and Lifestyle Mela organised in Bhubaneswar by the Indian Chamber of Commerce.



Annual Planning and Prospective Meeting

A two days planning and the prospective meeting was held in Konark in the presence of all staff members from Vasundhara.

The meeting was used as a platform to reflect upon the major achievements, challenges and learnings from the past year while laying down the roadmap for the upcoming year.

The two days meeting was attended by Board members - Tushar Dash and Geetanjoy Sahu, who shared their valuable inputs and assisted the team members to concretise their plans for the coming year.



Pastoralists from Gujarat visit Odisha



A 13 membered team from the Pastoralist's community of Gujarat visited Odisha to understand and learn about converting Forest village into Revenue village.

During these 3 days' visit, they attended a day-long discussion with Vasundhara on the entire process and its facilitation. Following this, they visited Dhenkanal district where 12 villages have been converted into revenue villages to understand from the community their struggles in making this a reality.

They also visited Dasmausa to learn about community forest management.



CFR Claim making process :

Kalarabani, Guhaldangri , Sunaposi ,
Jarkanibeda, Kapilkudar village

FRA meetings :

Banki, Kundulia

CFR process final gram sabha completed :

Totanetra village , Suriaguda , Kanapaju

FRA training program : Mayurbhanj

Training and orientations are a key aspects of capacity-building procedures even for those holding key positions of authority.

A two days training program on provisions of the Forest Rights Act and its implementation was organized for district level parishad of the Mayurbhanj Jungle Manch at Fulbadia village of Kaptipada block in Mayurbhanj



Meetings and Trainings

Monthly meetings

1) Review and Planning meeting: Daspalla

A monthly review and planning meeting of the Livelihood team was conducted. Key points of discussion included business planning for siali leaf plate provision to Hyderabad, supply of pressed plates during wedding and picnic season, among others, I

2) BBS staff's review and planning meeting

The BBS staff meeting this month focussed on siali leaf plate business plan, the completion of PG formation, mobile number linkage for PGs registration under MSME, among others.

3) Regional BoD meeting : Piplapadar , Narajipada, Yakima

The key points of discussion here were upcoming business plan for various products like mahua, tamarind, sal seed, mahua seed, etc. Union formation, exposure visit to Kuchinda, among others.

PGs : 6 ; Total participants : 35

CFR-MC formation:

Karadabani village , Tapida village

GPS mapping completed:

Dahupani village , Pahadabhangra village

Banki, Kundulia

:
CFR process joint verification :
Jarkanibeda village

Joint Inquiry Meeting : Nayagarh

Joint verification meetings were undertaken at various villages in our field area of Ranpur in Nayagarh district. The joint verification is attended by sarpanch, village committee members, forester, RI, WEO and FRC leaders.

Patia GP - 10 villages

Kasanda and Surkabadi GP - 5 villages

Gopalpur GP

Damasahi GP - 5 villages



MD Bamboo Mission and Medicine Plant Board member Mr Suvendu Nayak, Manager ITDA Phulbani P Museli, SMARDA Sectraetary Suryakanti Rout and RBI Zonal Manager BD Paikreay visited Nagleju's Sal and Siali enterprise to promote medicinal plant enterprise in all PGs through ITDA.

A training program was organised for salap juice making, supported by ITDA. It was organised by one of our PG groups Maa Kanidei Laghubanajat Sangrhakari mahila goshti of Danju village in Kandhamal district