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**ABHIVYAKTI**

**हलचल**



**JULY- TO -SEPT  
2021**





## हलचल Means Activity

The process in this period was hectic and complex as well. While the urgency to catch up with our 'targets' as soon as possible was weighing heavily on our minds, the threat of Corona was still present. The quarter was intense, the demands for our services was on the rise and due to the readiness of the team to get going we were able to fulfil most of the set goals. We have utilised our limited resources well and have also put together another edition of 'Hulchal' for you to read and enjoy. Do connect with us to inform what you think.



## Celebrating the International Youth Day



Abhivyakti team members of Shodhini project participated in an online meeting organised by ASPBAE to celebrate the International Youth Day on 12th August. Abhivyakti had earlier convened a meeting with the youth to know their views on the future of education. The views were compiled and shared with UNESCO who had taken the initiative to publish a report. On this important day the Indian country report on the Future of Education was released. Several partners of ASPBAE who had participated in the meeting shared the voices of youth from the margins.



## Continuing our work with Shodhini



We had planned for two workshops on research and leadership which we were able to complete on time. The two workshops were held at end of July and August. The young girls of villages Sapgoan, Waghera, Shirasgoan, Ghumodi and Ambai attended. The aim of the workshop was to develop knowledge and skills on research concepts so that the girls are able to conduct the research in their villages. The workshop also gave inputs on leadership qualities, gender issues and sexuality. The girls were able to navigate the rather difficult concepts of research and were able to put their heads together to design a questionnaire on the research theme.



A four-day workshop on understanding gender was organised for the young boys of six villages where Shodhini are working. Twenty-two young boys participated in the workshop organised in the last week of August at Leslie Sawhny Centre, Deolali. The Shodhini facilitators were helped by Sunil Gangawane from Mumbai. The workshop dealt with the concepts of power, patriarchy and gender roles and relationships which enabled the youth to connect with the concept with their own stories and experiences. The workshop was powerful and enabled the rural youth to open about their own struggles and pressures of being men.

## Workshop on Gender





# Workshops



## Workshop on Photography and Case Study

Yuva Rural Association requested Abhivyakti to facilitate a three-day workshop for their field-level functionaries on photography and case study. It was felt that learning these skills would enable the field workers to document and understand their work better. The three-day workshop enabled the participants to learn the skills and use it to see how much they have learnt. The need for capacitating the NGO team members with such skills and perspective is indeed the need of the present reality!







## Workshop on Creative Communication

Abhivyakti team went to Amravati in August to train the community members of a few villages in puppetry, creative communication and other group media skills. The ten-day workshop was organised by 'Water for People India Trust' who work on the issue of water and who have been using our training services to enhance the media capacity of their community members so that awareness about water usage and conservation is escalated in villages leading to sustainable development.





## Strengthening Local Economies

Abhivyakti has been working in the ten villages of Trimbakeshwar taluka to start local small-scale business enterprises to strengthen the economies of these villages.



**- Installed a seed grader cum cleaner machine in Ganeshgaon village.**

A two-day training was organized on 30th and 31st July 2021 for tribal women to develop the skills of handling the seed machine. Gopal Chauhan from Haryana was present for this training. He trained 20 women and demonstrated how to prepare the seeds.





- On 10th August women from Hatlondhi and Boripada were trained on how to handle a surface cleaner machine after the machine was installed. Abhivyakti team members, Swaroop and Bhila demonstrated how to make a surface cleaner. The women learnt the technique and made 100 liters of surface cleaner which they also manage to sell about 10 liters. The confidence of the women grew due to this experience.





- Nagli Processing Unit was inaugurated on 20th August 2021 at Berwal. Archana Deshmukh, expert from Krishi Vigyan Kendra was present on the occasion. She gave confidence to the women about doing business by sharing information on how to make Nagli Sattva.

- The milk collection center was formally inaugurated on 16th September 2021 at Kharwal. Local farmers were present on the occasion. These farmers are trying their best to run the dairy properly, but they still have doubts of sustainable income.





## Production news

- A video film 'Veshivarchya Pori' (The Girls on the Margins) was completed by the production team. The film captures the struggles of young rural girls as they go about living their life full of strife and 'muted' existence and how the setting up of a library for girls in the village creates hope and space for dialogue and learning.



# वेशीवरच्या पोरी

The Girls on the Margins







- A Community Video Manual based on the experiences of organising a workshop for community members to learn video skills was published. The workshop was facilitated by Abhivyakti for 'Water for People Trust'. The manual captures the key moments of the workshop and how the skills of learning video and using it was facilitated by the Abhivyakti team to enable the readers to get valuable information and practical tips to organise community video workshop in their own regions.



## Happenings

a. Kajal Boraste who was leading the Shodhini initiative has decided to leave the organisation from October onwards. Kajal worked for five years and was responsible for empowering the young girls from the rural areas. She will be missed.

b. The students of the local College of Social Work visited 'Boripada' village and interacted with women who have started a local business of making surface cleaner.

c. The young members of our Shodhini team attended an online workshop on mental health organised jointly by ASPBAE and Mariwala Health Initiative to explore possibilities of initiating mental health work in the rural communities. The workshop was meaningful and lively.

d. We facilitated a two-day online orientation workshop for the first-year students of design of the MET college of Architecture and Design, Nashik. The workshop enabled the students to understand themselves and interact with their peers.

e. Another online session was on understanding mental health for the students of Psychology of a local college of Arts, Nashik.





In this new feature in which we will bring to you a brief introduction of Abhivyakti team members who are involved in our various activities.

We start with Bhikan Dandgavhale, who perhaps is one of the longest serving members of Abhivyakti team. One of his core strengths has been to keep the learning process alive which has been one of the key reasons for his growth in Abhivyakti. He joined the accounts team as a trainee, twenty two years ago and by sheer determination, hard work and right attitude learnt not only accounting skills and perspective but legal know-how of managing NGO affairs. Today, he is a respected name in the grassroots circle and is sought after by many who are keen to improve their accounts system and its various compliances. Bhikan has a pleasant disposition, is a willing team player and ever ready to put Abhivyakti's interest over any other. His many qualities and people skills were recognised by the Board members when they were searching for new leaders within Abhivyakti. Bhikan along with Ranjeet form the new leadership team to helm the next phase of organisational direction and growth.



**Hulchal Face**





Remembering our friend  
**Sadanand Pendse**  
(1963 - 2021)

Sadanand Pendse's entry as a Board member in 2005 was eventful. The torrential downpour in Mumbai that July day had brought the city to a standstill but Nandu as Sadanand was lovingly called managed to wade through the gushing waters to reach the venue and attend the Board meeting. It was this spirit that we learnt to appreciate. Soon he was an integral member of the Board team, contributing his immense organisational experience from the Corporate world to strengthen our governance process. His knowledge of financial management, keen observation of social reality, and understanding of political dynamics helped us in our strategic formulation. He was an expert in designing human compensation structures for organisations and that knowledge helped us to frame our new pay scale with a sharp eye on details to minimise organisational liabilities. Unfortunately for us, the second wave consumed his precious life. It is a mammoth loss which we are still unable to come to terms. Sadanand was a rare visionary, a kindred soul whose untimely death has snatched away a true friend, well-wisher and an authentic human being, who had still quite a lot to offer. You will be missed, dear Nandu. Farewell!

The impact of such tragic events due to Covid 19 has been immense. Perhaps, we will never be able to gauge its serious implications. What do you think? Pl write to - [admin@abhivyakti.org.in](mailto:admin@abhivyakti.org.in) or visit our website [www.abhivyakti.org.in](http://www.abhivyakti.org.in)