



**Sahyadri Nisarga Mitra,  
Chiplun**

# **SAHYADRI NISARGA MITRA**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**2022-23**

# Below are the details of our activities in the Year 2022 - 23

## Plastic and Solid Waste Management in Chiplun and Khed.

Since 2019, Sahyadri Nisarga Mitra (SNM) has been working on 'Plastic and Solid Waste Management' with active support of Dow Chemical International Pvt. Ltd. This unique project was designed to educate people and sensitize them to the necessity of plastic and kitchen waste management. We covered the area of Chiplun, Khed & covered Guhagar too.

This year, we successfully gathered a total of 44,000 kg. Plastic waste from 10 villages.

- Distributed 239 New Compost Units to household.
- To cope with increasing activities, we have increased our manpower as well as logistics.

### Awareness building:

- We created leaflets to make the public aware of the need for responsible disposal of plastic and solid waste. These were distributed around all collection spots in Chiplun, Khed & Guhagar.
- Google Forms and WhatsApp groups served as tools for engaging with stakeholders.
- SNM arranged community meetings, Haldikunku programs, radio lectures, meetings with Gram Panchayat, Nagar Panchayat & Nagar Palika to create awareness about the plastic waste problem.

### Milk bag collection:

We collect empty milk bags from 47 vendors every day adding up to 4,510 kg plastic waste through this year.

### Home collection and plastic Bhishi:

It was a unique concept specially designed to motivate household participation in plastic collection.

- In addition to getting Rs.5 per kg for the plastic, a Bhishi (Lucky draw) was held online
- Lucky winners got gifts such as paithani sari, pen drive, and power bank. These gifts were good motivators initially.
- Later, stakeholders became sufficiently aware, so we decided to stop the Bhishi.

### Market:

Our plastic waste collection vehicle visits the Chiplun and Kherdi markets every day, Khed twice a week, and the remaining eight villages once a week.



## Bottle collection cages:

We have so far installed 17 cages. We monitor the bottle collection cages regularly. We had to shift some cages around when people used them as garbage bins and throw litter in them.

## Segregation:

After collection, all the plastic waste is stored at Kherdi, segregated into seven different types of plastic waste, and six types of plastic waste are sent for recycling.

## Upcycling:

- **Purses and pouches:**



The combined plastics such as multilayered plastic wrappers (MLP) cannot be recycled hence, we up-cycle such plastic waste to make bags, pouches and purses.

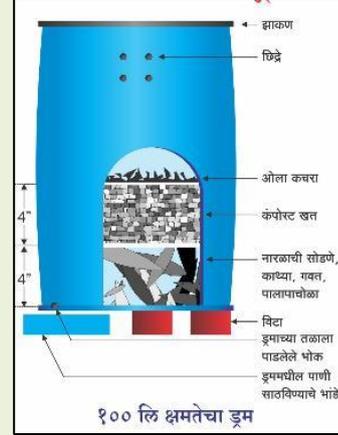
- We cut the plastic waste into strips, make fabric on handloom and then our artisans create the articles.
- Our upcycled products are available for sale on our own website as well as on Amazon.
- We displayed these items in Van Mahotsav 2023 organized by Mira-Bhayandar Municipal Corporation and Mandeshi Mahotsav 2022-23 organized by Mandeshi Foundation with support of Dow India.

- **Plastic Composite Fly Ash Bricks:**

Plastic composite bricks are great as a lock-in option for MLP. SNM experimented on various compositions & developed a formula for good brick strength. We tested them in NABL certified lab & our bricks are equivalent to traditional bricks in strength.



- **Home composting:**



SNM started home composting to protect the environment from dumping grounds harm and ease the load on the municipal waste system. In and around Chiplun, SNM provides home composting units at a very nominal charge and the guidance is given free of cost.

- Householders deposit kitchen waste in the bin, which transforms into fertilizer for their home plants within weeks.
- We offer doorstep delivery of composting units with a ready-made base and conduct regular progress checks through visits.
- SNM has distributed 238 composting units this year in households in and around Chiplun making it total 622 home composting units in the past three years.

- **Society Composting:**

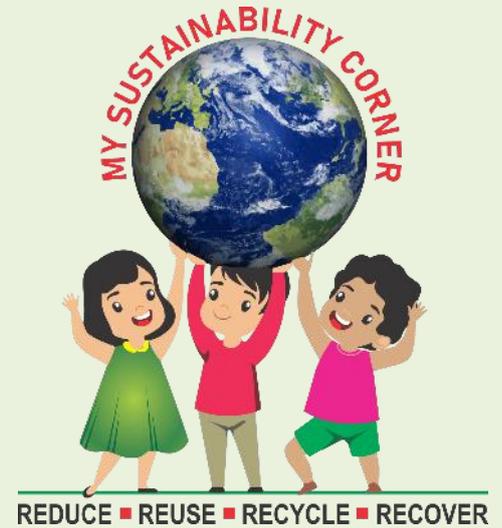


- Added a society composting unit at Dhaval Nagari with 90 flats this year.
- Constructed eight tanks to facilitate composting activities.
- Now we have three societies making approx. 700 households who practice society compost.

# My Sustainability Corner

SNM realized the need of educating young minds about plastic waste and started a program called 'My sustainability corner', specifically for students. It is aimed at teaching the right set of beliefs and behavior with respect to plastic waste among school children.

- 25 schools in Chiplun and Khed taluka, covering over 3207 school students educated and sensitized about plastic waste and its management through presentation and lectures.
- We collected 2,586 kg plastic from these 25 schools this year.
- Distributed nature-related books to participant schools, developed an informative Marathi booklet on plastic waste, and created a documentary for awareness campaigns.
- In December, we held drawing and essay competitions on relevant topics to encourage thinking around plastic and the environment, rewarding the winners with cash prizes and providing certificates to all participants.
- We conducted 20 conventions in Khed & Chiplun. Gram Panchayat officials, parents, and other villagers attended these programs. Clean-up drives were also conducted during village awareness programs.
- Two workshops were organized for students to learn plastic waste management techniques & various processes like upcycling, pyrolysis etc.



My Sustainability corner is an ongoing, long-term activity specially designed to create a learning environment for students about sustainability and its various aspects.

# Infrastructure Development

Education is a vital element in the development of a society, a system and a country. In the rural area, students lack access to basic infrastructure. Chiplun & Khed Talukas are surrounded by small villages- villages that lack rudimentary infrastructure necessary for schooling.

Even the basic facilities of toilets, proper roofing, and outdoor activities are missing in some of them. We at SNM are committed to supporting such schools. In collaboration with Dow Chemical International Pvt. Ltd., during Year 2022-23, we undertook the following activities:

- Constructed a washroom facility with dimension of 14 x 8 feet with 4 urinals, 1 toilet, 1000 ltr. Capacity water tank and a septic tank and a hand washing station at 4 Jilha Parishad School.
- Renovated the school building of 2 Jilha Parishad School.
- Constructed roofs for Centre school Morvande-Jambhurde.
- Installed new playground equipment and renovated amphitheater for Centre school Morvande-Jambhurde.
- Constructed and renovated infrastructure of Bhartiya Samaj Seva Kendra.
- Installed a water cooler with UV filter in Vishwanath Vidyalaya, Lavel, Khed.
- Donated lab equipments to P.K. Sawant Highschool, Adare.
- Renovated the washroom of Kavita Highschool, Lote.
- Constructed hand washing station at Shri. Sadguru Kadhsidheshwar Vidyalaya, Gunade.
- Renovated School Building of RZP School, Ghanekhunt No. 2.



**Before**



**After**

Construction of Toilet at RZP School Mani,  
Morewadi



**Before**



**After**

Construction of Toilet at RZP Primary  
School, Bahiravali



**Before**



**After**

Renovated Staircase of Bhartiya  
Samaj Seva Kendra



Installed a Water Cooler with UV Filter  
in Vishwanath Vidyalaya, Lavel, Khed

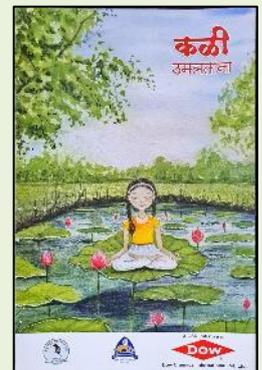
# Facilitate Ultrasonography Machine in M.E.S.A.M Parshuram Hospital and Research Centre

- MES Parshuram Hospital is a charitable hospital serving 15-20 villages in the periphery, with 1.5 lakh population. The hospital serves some patients who need ultrasonography investigation, but the closest radiological investigation facility available is in Chiplun or Khed.
- After receiving the ultrasonography machine donation request from PHRC, Dow & SNM worked together & donated an ultrasonography machine.
- We procured quotations from ultrasonography machine manufacturers & finalized Wipro GE's "LOGIQ P9 XD CLEAR WITH 5 PROBES".
- Installation of the machine was completed on 27/12/2022 & inauguration ceremony was held on 10-01-2023 in presence of Dow India team.
- From then till March end, 142 patients used it.



# Adolescent Healthcare & Awareness Program in Chiplun & Khed

- We are 1.4 billion Indians with a median age of 31. About 10% of us are adolescents between the age of 10 to 19 years, that is a whopping 140 million. However, unfortunately, adolescent health care is the most neglected healthcare topic in India. Children, especially girls, go through many physical and emotional changes during adolescence when they need help and guidance.
- Many girls face anemia due to poor diet and excessive blood loss during menstruation, which affects their overall health. Sahyadri Nisarga Mitra took the initiative to carry out health check-ups, awareness camps, and counseling programs among adolescent girls.
- We partnered with Parshuram Hospital and Research Centre (PHRC) to provide young girls with a platform to ask questions, resolve issues, and tackle any health problems.
- Female Medical staff from PHRC guided the girls about overall health and hygiene through PPT presentations and conducted open talk sessions to resolve the questions of the girls. These sessions were mainly about the importance of healthy eating habits and exercise, personal hygiene and health issues like anemia, period problems etc.
- We executed 44 such health check-up camps, workshops and awareness training in Chiplun and Khed through the ladies' staff of PHRC.
- Total 6033 participants underwent health check-up. Among these, 279 girls needed clinical tests- which were done.
- We created a booklet “Kali Umalatana” (कळी उमलताना) which will guide the girls & help them face health issues through puberty. Medical professionals from MESAM designed the content and we printed 10,000 copies of the booklet & distributed it to each participant in the program. We are also distributing these booklets to girls in other schools of Khed & Chiplun.
- Nutritional supplements were provided along with necessary medicines and sanitary pads were distributed to every participant.



# Distribution of Educational Kit among 600 Students

The lack of basic educational resources in rural areas is a significant challenge that hinders the growth and development of students. Dow Chemical's International Pvt Ltd and SNM together aimed to address this issue by providing basic educational resources to school children in Lote Parshuram, Khed area.

- Students who lacked basic educational resources were identified from schools near Lote Parshuram.
- A list of 600 beneficiary students was created.
- Educational material, including school bags, pencils, compass boxes, and crayons, was purchased.
- The purchased materials were assembled to create two separate educational kits:
  - For secondary students: Big school bags, geometry box, 2 pencils.
  - For primary students: Small school bags, a set of crayons, 2 pencils.
- These educational kits were distributed among 597 students from total 23 schools.
- Dow Chemical's International Pvt Ltd efforts to improve education in rural areas are commendable, and we look forward to more such initiatives in the future.



# Beach Clean-up and Tree Plantation in Anjarle

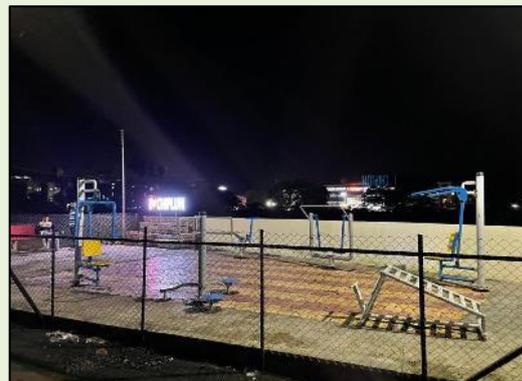
- SNM in collaboration with DMCC Specialty Chemicals (DMCC) is undertaking various initiatives to promote eco-tourism in Anjarle village and for preserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the region.
- This time our focus was tree plantation and beach clean-up.
- The beach clean-up activity is gaining momentum, with SNM and DMCC teaming up to remove trash and debris from the shoreline.
- Three beach clean-up drives were conducted at Anjarle beach with community participation in collaboration with Kasav Mitra Mandal, Anjarle & Gram Panchayat Anjarle.
- Volunteers of DMCC and SNM participated in the first drive. Total 1598 kg debris was retrieved during these clean-up drives.
- We appointed 2 people for weekly beach clean-up throughout the year. Those people collected 460 kg plastic waste throughout the year.
- All waste was later transported to Chiplun & stored in our waste processing center for further processing.
- We clean and dry the plastic garbage gathered in Anjarle before processing it with other plastic debris collected through our other initiatives.
- We planted 250 native tree saplings along the shoreline & in the village. We are taking appropriate care of the plants.
- We would like to state that the overall implementation of the project went smoothly & we are thankful to DMCC team for their wonderful cooperation.



# Construction of Open Gym at Radhakrushna Nagar, Chiplun.

The residents of Radhakrushna Nagar, Chiplun had requested Nandadeep Chemicals for an open gym. Radhakrushna Nagar is a rapidly growing part of Chiplun and an open gym is essential public infrastructure to ensure the health of the residents. SNM & Nandadeep worked together & developed the open gym on the land given by Chiplun Municipal Corporation.

- Civil work- Excavation, soling & concreting work done at the site.
- Paver block tiles were fitted & a small entrance platform was constructed near the gate.
- SNM purchased suitable open gym equipment as per community requirement & installed at the site.
- Chain-link fencing was installed along with a rotating gate.
- Wall painting work was done and signage installed.
- The open gym was inaugurated on 31 July 2022 and handed over to the CMC. The facility is actively in use now.



## Our Slogan

*Nature conservation through field protection, awareness, education and scientific based action.*

## Our Mission

‘ठेवू दूर दृष्टी, रक्षु निसर्ग सृष्टी’

(For a better future, we shall protect the nature)

## Brief History:

Three decades ago, a few nature lovers came together. At first, they moped about the abuse of nature in human hands but soon decided to do something positive about it. In Feb 1992, the NGO Sahyadri Nisarga Mitra (SNM) was born to befriend nature and enroll others to do the same.

First two decades, our focus was mainly on saving wild species such as Olive ridley sea turtle, White bellied sea eagle, Vultures, Indian Pangolin and many more. SNM successfully completed various conservation projects and secured the survival of some important species.

Every project of SNM was successful only because of the support from our well-wishers and the backing of the local community. We strongly believe that conservation efforts can succeed only when the local community participates actively.

In the last few years, we focused on plastic and kitchen waste management and developing infrastructure in the schools.

## Donation appeal

Our projects are running smoothly only because of keen supporters and donors. We are doing our best with our limited resources and manpower. We need your support to extend our work.

### Our Bank Details are as follows:

**Name of account:** Sahyadri Nisarga Mitra

**Name of Bank:** Bank of India,

**Branch:** Chiplun

**Account Type:** Saving Account

**Account Number:** 141110110000077

**IFSC:** BKID0001411