



## **NISARG VIDNYAN MANDAL**

### **ANNUAL REPORT FOR APRIL, 2022 TO MARCH, 2023**

Nisarg Vidnyan Mandal (NiViM) is believing on self strength to acts in community. So, number of projects organized and run by NiViM are voluntary. Voluntary work and participation of members also strengthen the capacity of voluntary workers with support of local donations and CSR funds. Trainings and brain storming meetings at villages by participation of tribal community, forest dwellers and poor marginal farmers organised by NiViM at NETRAVAN. NiViM conducted overall developmental programs for the tribal belt of forest prone villages located on the fringe of Muniya Conservation Reserve (MCR) to avoid Man-Animal conflict and also followed the process of Forest Right Act-2006 (FRA-2006) to claim for the community forest right management (CFRM) from Sep-2021 to form a Community Forest Right Management Committees (CFRMC) through Gramsabha at pada/tanda/tola/villages to implementation of a sustainable agro-forestry practices for conservation of indigenous species of agriculture and forest plants .

#### **Capacity building trainings of Community members & village level staff of line department :-**

CSR fund received from LASNER INDIA(p)Ltd utilised as partial support to strengthen capacity of tribals, forest dwellers in the villages located on the fringe of MCR by filing an application to allot the land under Forest Right Act-2006 and rules -2008 through proper channel and sanction by district collector as a president of District level Committee under FRA. Land is allotted to community (Gramsabha) under rule -2008 and revised rule -2012 section (4) (1) (D) in Umrer taluka of :Nagpur .district. NiViM selected 45 Gramsabha villages from 15 Grampanchyat to form Community Forest Right Management Committees{CFRMC}. Thrust areas of overall development are Forest protection, Water shed management ,wildlife conservation, natural /organic farming for sustainable livelihood of marginal poor stakeholders of rural area. Social awareness and action programs and trainings of CFRMC executive members and staff of line departments are planed at NETRAVAN

Training's on implementation of FRA-2006 to form Community Forest Right Management Committees(CFRMC) and execute it to conservation of forest with security of livelihood of tribal and forest dwellers organized for executive members , Talathi, Forest guard and Gramsewak at NETRAVAN in two batch. Tenure of First batch on 3rd & 4<sup>th</sup> January 2023 and second batch on 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023. Mr.Chandrabhan Khandait, Sub Divisional Officer (SDO) Umred—Kuhi , Mr.Sandip Pundekar, Tahsildar, Umred were a chief guest.Mr.Dilip Gode, Executive Director,Vidarbh Nisarg Sanrakshan Sanstha and Forest Right expert, Mr.Wasudeo Kulmethe, Rtd.DFO and Technical Officer, Tendu Sankalan process, Mr,Amit Kalaskar, Rtd.CCF were a subject expert for both scheduled trainings .Dr Vijay Ghugey President Nisarg Vidnyan coordinated the training's.

Total 9885 Hac land allotted to the Gramsabha of 45 villages in Umred taluk of Nagpur district.



(Training of CFRMC members, Talathi, Forest guard and Gramsewak on FRA-2006 at NETRAVAN)



Impact of activities organized under partial support of CSR from esteemed business house and administrative support from district level officers of line department as given below in nut cell

| Objective                                                                             | Activities                                                                                                                          | No. of activities                                                                                    | No. of participants                                                   | Outcomes                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Forest Conservation for livelihood security                                           | Green leafs tendu collection                                                                                                        | Every alternate day two meetings with CFRMC Gramsabha                                                | 900 plus                                                              | Team leaders selected from each village to accept responsibility of CFRMC as a President, Secretary, Treasurer & members                                                                                |
| Trainings to understand GR of Forest protection and Natural resource management (NRM) | 1) informal training for cluster of villages include in respective Grampanchayat<br>2) Field Visit to identify the land allotted to | Monthly meetings with villagers and local staff of line department<br>2) Frequent visits to land for | Around 10 to 15 members from each village<br>3 to 5 executive members | Community leaders of one village Jambhlapani decided to do manual labor ( <i>Shramdan</i> ) for work of water conservation and plantation .<br>A team of active members from youths and women formed in |

|                                                                                   |                                            |                                         |                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                   | CFRMC Gramsabha,                           | demarcation.                            | followed the instructions of expert to start the work. | village to discuss social problems and trying to find their solutions by support of experts available in NiViM network and Govt.. offices also.                                                                                                                   |
| Introduction of Forest Right Act - 2006 (FRA-2006), its rights and responsibility | Conduction of Gramsabha at Pada/Tamda/Tola | Minimum three meetings in 36 villages . | 1200 plus                                              | Tribal, Forest dwellers and other stake holders were aware to understand the provision of Forest Right Act-2006 .This knowledge and its use for management of Natural resources enhanced their responsibilities during formation of es (CFRMC) in these villages, |

### Water Conservation (Chala Januya Nadila and Nadi Sanvad Yatra) :-

NiViM also promoted water shed management activities and s promoted a river AAM for the programme of Sanskrutik Mantralaya of Govt. Of Maharashtra under a campaign named as “ Chala Nadila Januya” .Survey of 15 villages located on the bank of AAM river carried out in association of revenue department. Under the chairmanship of District collector Nagpur. Nadi sanwad Yatra to understand the present condition of river ,encroachment on the bank of river. Also rally of students and villagers organised at Makardhokada, Sindivihiri, Jamgad, Khairee,,Amgaon villages of Umred taluk. Jal Kalash pujan organied at Sindivihiri on the bank of AAM river.



( Jal Kalash Puja and rally of students, villagers for “ Nadi Sanvad Yatra” under the campaign of “ Chala Janu Ya Nadila” at Makardhokada )



Rallies of school children, women members of SHG and villagers organized on the bank of village river AAM to understand the problems of water and resolve its by satisfactory solution.

**Community Forest Right Management Committees Formation in Gramsabha under FRA-2006** : NiViM supported to allot a land to 87 villages in Umred taluk. Out of that CFRMC formed in 45 villages to work on conservation of water, soil, land and wildlife by participation of local community. To secure livelihood of local community a programme like collection of green leaves of Tendu implemented for tendu collection season 2023.

NiViM expert team visited in every village and organised a brain storming meeting cum Gramsabha in the morning and evening time as per convenience of villagers work situation. Most of the meetings organised in late night also. Out of 45 CFRMC formed in Gramsabhas of pada/tanda/Tola 40 CFRMC are active 21 CFRMC execute a business of green tendu leaves collection separately under guidance of NiViM. In FY 2022-23, these Gramsabhas generated income of Rs.5236890.00 only. This activity is not only generate income but also enhanced capacity of community business development and sense of belongingness of natural resources. Out total income 80% of the income after distribution of labour payment to families working for collection of green leaves. Remaining 10 amount credited to the account of CFRMC and Taluka Gramsabha Mahasangh (TGM) for expenditure of office berares TA, meetings and social work decided by committee members unanimously.



CFRMC formation meetings organised at Sindi Vihiri and Deoli(Amgaon) in the evening .Dr.Vijay Ghugey,Mr.Dipak Shahu, Eng, Bhagwandas Rathi with Gramsewak and local staff of forest dept. guide a villagers to form CFRM as per Govt,resolution dated 24<sup>th</sup> June 2015.



Day time meeting for FRMC Gramsabha formation at Tikhadi in Parsodi Grampanchayat .Mrs.Khode,Gramsewak,Dr.Vijay Ghugey and Mr.Munnaji Mahajan guide the members .It is totally woman oriented CFRMC amongst forty villages .

दि 04/03/23 ला एकवीस गावांच्या ग्रामसभा प्रतिनिधिची तालुका ग्रामसभा महासंघ सहविचार सभा नेत्रवन मध्ये संपन्न झाली. इतिहासात ह्यावर्षीचा तेंडू पत्ता संकलन हंगाम सामूहिक वन हक्क प्राप्त ग्रामसभा निसर्ग विज्ञान संस्थेच्या मार्गदर्शनात राबविणार असून त्यांना मिळणाऱ्या उत्पन्नाचा 25% वाटा ग्रामसभा aaaccount च्या शासस्वत ग्राम विकास निधी खत्यात जमा करून त्यातून गावाला आवश्यक सामूहिक तसेच फारच आवश्यक आरोग्य, शिक्षण सारख्या वैयक्तिक समस्या सोडविण्यासाठी वापरण्याचे सर्वानुमते ठरले. विशेष म्हणजे तेंडू पत्ता संकलन पूर्व झाडांची कटाई आणि जंगल ला आग लावायची नाही. हा निर्णय हा प्रस्तावच तालुका ग्रामसभा महासंघ बैठकीत घेण्यात आला.21 गावांचे एकूण 54 **CFRMC** प्रतिनिधी सहभागी झाले होते

Residential training for members of CFRMC Gramsabha, Forest guard, Patwari and Gramsewak were organised on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at NETRAVAN . First batch of 62 participant from 18 villages and respective staff of line department participated in training .Mr.Chandrabhan Khamdait ,SDO Umred inaugurated the training .Mr.Sandip Pundekar, Tahsildar ,Umred,

Total process from tender to collection and provosion of Transport Pass (TP) of goods collected in villages to godown of contrctor carried out by Umred Taluka Gramsabha

Mahasangh (UTGM) representatives . Otherwise in practice its responsibility of Forest department for villages does not alloted land under FRA to Gramsabha.



Second batch of training organised on 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at NETRAVAN. 54 participants from 20 CFRMC Gramsabha and local staff of line department participated in the training. Mr Dilip Gode ,Rxecutive Director,VNCS, Dr,Vijay Ghugey ,Founder Nisarg Vidnyan, Mr.Wasudeo Kulmethe, Rtd, DFO and Advisor ,Tendu Tendering Samiti Vidarbha Livelihood Forum. Central office of Umred Taluka Group of Gramsabha also to inaugurated

Expert team of NiViM regularly visiting to all villages to understand the process adoption by community members. All documents including daily diary,job cards and pass book for each tendu collection team member.Brain storming meetings at remaining villages Amgaon, Tambekhani ,Jambhlapni,Murzadi organized by NiViM to interact and inculcate the concept of wildlife conservation, Forest protection, need of natural farming. Dr.Vijay Ghugey,Mr. Wasudeo Mohadikar, Mr.Dipak Shahu (Social activist) were participated and share their views for management of natural resources by participation of community.

**Man –Animal conflict solution by action of forest conservation :**

After declaration of MCR to minimize or avoid Man-Animal conflict, NiViM decided to organized a Gramsabha in the villages to form a Community Forest Right Management committees (CFRMC) through Gramsewak for concern village/pada/tanda/tola of their Grampanchyat vicinity. As per Forest Right Act-2006 and rules -2008 and revised rule -2012 section (4) (1) (D). CFRMC formed during Sept -2021 to February-2022 by Nisarg Vidnyan Mandal(NiViM).

Positive impact of NiViM action and interaction with villagers as a member of CFRMC created positive approach towards wild life conservation. Result is a population of tiger and flagship species of biodiversity enhanced in MCR>

**Wiped out from Muniya, tigers reclaim their land**

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Nagpur: Sighting of a tigress with two cubs in Muniya Conservation Reserve (MCR) has brightened its chances to be upgraded as a wildlife sanctuary. A committee has already been set upon the matter.

On Saturday evening, one of the cubs was sighted by Kartik Madavi on the farm of two brothers, Avinash and Anil Sonawane, near Bendoli on the fringes of MCR.

"The presence of tigers underlines the importance of Muniya and calls for better protection and conservation works. Once a shooting block, the revival of tigers here is a positive sign," said Sonawane.

**STRIPED SURPRISE**

The 96sqkm Muniya was among 11 conservation reserves (CRs) announced on December 4, 2020, by the state wildlife board (SWBL).

The conservation reserve has been carved out from Butibori and North Umred forest ranges under Nagpur division. Of the 96sqkm area, 60.82sqkm is a reserve forest and 35.18sqkm is protected forest.

Though a final notification was issued on May 17, 2021, considering its strategic location and scientific importance, an SWBL sub-committee of experts has been set up to see whether Muniya can be declared a wildlife sanctuary.

Bharat Singh Hada, deputy conservator of forests (DyCF), said, "We will push for Muniya to be declared a sanctuary. The tigress with cubs has been sighted by passers-by, local farmers and shepherds for the past 15-20 days."

"Muniya will be a stepping stone for tigers in the future for its connectivity to Umred-Karhandla-Paoni Wildlife Sanctuary and Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve (TATR) and Bor," said Vijay Ghuge of Nisarga Vidnyan Mandal, who first initiated a proposal to declare the area a conservation reserve.

ACF Narendra Chanderwar confirmed that the tigress with two cubs was recorded in camera traps preying on cattle on March 2.

Progressive farmer Sonawane says, "Muniya being a shooting block, tigers have been wiped out from the area before the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 came into force. The tigers staging a comeback is a good sign."

On Saturday evening, one of the cubs was sighted on a farm near Bendoli on the fringes of Muniya Conservation Reserve



Due to efforts of conservation at community level and its follow up with line department officers at district band division level Muniya Reserve Forest (MRF) presently notified as

Muniya Conservation Reserve (MCR)s level of protection is enhanced . Hence wild life migrated from MCR turned again in their ideal habitat and corridor for transist from one PA to other like BTR, PTR, TATR and UPKWL.

## Networking with GO and NGO partners :

NiViM is believing on dictum “Thinking together is well beginning, Coming together is progress, Working together is success” on common agenda and princoiples . Gramayan Pratishthan, Lok Dnyanpith (LD),Vidarbh Livelihood Forum(VLF), Agriculture Department, Tribal dept, forest dept,Science & Art colleges, Schools ,etc

NiViM also working in association with state level networks include Action For Agriculture Renewal in Maharshttra (AFARM), Maharashtra Voluntary Action Network(MAHAVAN), Chala Januya Nadila (CJN), Shiksha Sanskruti Utthhan Nyas (SSUN), New Delhi,



Gramayan Pratishthan is always supporting us to inspire for community work. Under strong guidance of Shri Aniljee Sambre, Shri Sanjayjee Saraf and team Gramyan, NiViM organized a training camps for preparation of Gomay products by use of Gomay {cow ding) .Gomutra (Cow urine) .Trappings for urban cow lovers and rural tribal women organized at NETRAVAN.

Lok Dnyanpith (LD) is a national level open forum of super intellectual personalities including Dr.Anamik Shaha, Renowed scientist and Ex.VC,Gujrath Vidhyapith, Ahmadebad,Mr.Chittranjan Sarangi, Founder,Tapobhumi and Ex.Director,Technical Education, Govt.of Odisha,Bubanshanewar, Mr.Vivak Wagh,Professor of Mathematics and Science motivator,Founder,Centre for Scienfic Learning (CSL) ,Dr,Satish Gogulwar, Founder ,AAA NGO and welknown social activist, Gadchiroli, Dr.Badgujar,Ex.HoD, Social Science Dept, North Maharashtra Vidhyapith and their team organized a network meeting in associationism with NiViM at NETRAVAN ,

Lok Dnyanpith is an open university for mass education without class room. It will be start and work for transformation of modern technology for sustainable development of rural youths with its ancient culture .NiViM is one of the knowledge partner in this network. NiViM is willing to start a Centre for Vidarbha region will be at NETRAVAN



Dr. Anamik Shaha, Dr. Badgujar, Dr. Vijay Ghugey, Dr. Satish Gogulwar and Prof. Vovek Wagh participated in discussion with esteemed veteran of India.

NiViM is partner of open forum of NGO, Vidarbha Livelihood Forum (VLF). Under this network, we are working for Forest Right Act (FRA-2006) in 45 villages of Umred taluka particularly of Nagpur district. Meetings of Taluka Gramsabha Mahasangh (TGM), District Gramsabha Mahasangh (DGM) and Vidarbha Gramsabha Mahasangh (VGM) also organized at NETRAVAN for discussion of policy, strategy and networking to implementation of FRA-2006 effectively. Four meetings of TGM, 02 meetings of DGM and 01 meeting VGM held at NETRAVAN during FY-2022-2023.