

# Annual Report

2022-2023

Shashwat Trust, Manchar

Tal. Ambegoan, Dist. Pune

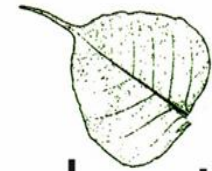
Forestation



Village Development



Water Management



# Shashwat

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Community Conserved Forest (Sacred Groves)



Health Initiatives

Drawdown Cultivation



Kindergarten



Tuition Classes



Kitchen Garden

Scholarships



UNDP  
Equator Prize 2012



Adult Literacy Class

Plantation



*Few Future Plans & Activities*

- Medicinal Plants Nursery
- Vocational Courses (Nursing, Tailoring etc.)
- Skill Development (Don Bosco)
- Clean Village
- Seed Balls
- Making of local food products by women
- Mango Plants Nursery
- Eco-Tourism

# Our Activity



## 1. Adult Literacy Program: Empowering Women Through Education

The organization has implemented a structured adult literacy initiative aimed at empowering women in the rural communities of Hurasale, Javalves, and Varache Bhomale. This program currently engages 35 women in daily literacy sessions, each conducted for two hours. These sessions are held within the local community spaces, making them easily accessible to participants.

A trained local female instructor facilitates the sessions, focusing on foundational literacy skills. The curriculum includes alphabet recognition, writing practice, recitation of numerical tables from 1 to 100, and the ability to write their own names confidently. Learning materials such as slates and pencils are provided to each participant to support hands-on learning.

The impact of the program has been significant. Participants have demonstrated noticeable improvement in their communication abilities, self-confidence, and overall awareness. These positive changes are reflected in their speech, interpersonal interactions, and practical decision-making in daily life. The initiative not only promotes literacy but also fosters a sense of independence and empowerment among women, contributing to the social and educational upliftment of the entire community.



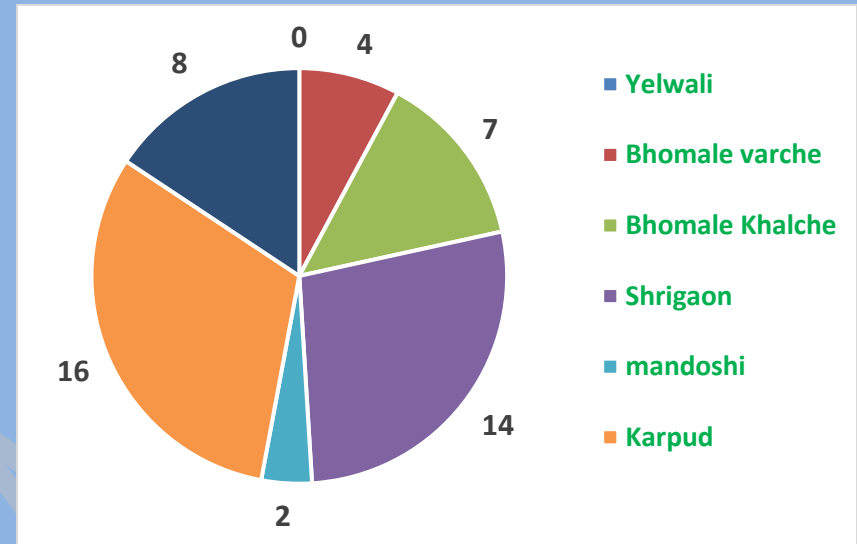
## 2. Bicycle Distribution Program: Enhancing Educational Access for Rural Students

As part of its commitment to promoting inclusive education and reducing barriers to learning, the organization successfully implemented a Bicycle Distribution Program across several remote villages in Khed Taluka—namely Yelwali, Bhomale, Tokawade, Shirgaon, Mandoshi, and Karpud. A total of 51 bicycles were distributed to economically disadvantaged and academically motivated students, many of whom belong to tribal communities residing in geographically isolated and forested regions.

Prior to this intervention, students faced considerable difficulties commuting to school, often having to walk long distances through challenging terrain. This not only impacted their punctuality and safety but also led to physical exhaustion, leaving limited time and energy for academic activities.

The distribution of bicycles has brought about a transformative change in the lives of these students. With improved mobility, they are now able to attend school regularly and on time, leading to enhanced participation and academic performance. Moreover, the reduction in travel time has enabled students to focus more on their studies and extracurricular development.

The positive impact of the program is evident in the heartfelt responses from the beneficiaries. Students such as Ms. Priyanka Rokade and Mr. Swapnil Titkare expressed deep gratitude towards the organization, acknowledging how this support has made a meaningful difference in their educational journey. The initiative not only fosters educational equity but also instills a sense of motivation and empowerment among rural youth.



### 3. Poultry Farming Project: Advancing Nutrition, Livelihoods, and Women's Empowerment in Tribal Communities

In alignment with its mission to foster sustainable livelihoods and promote inclusive development, the organization launched a comprehensive Poultry Farming Project in the tribal regions of Khed Taluka. This initiative was designed to address critical challenges related to nutrition, income generation, and gender empowerment in some of the most underserved communities.

Under the project, 124 beneficiaries from various tribal villages were selected based on socio-economic criteria. A total of 1,404 poultry birds were distributed, accompanied by 50 kilograms of poultry feed per household—sufficient to support the birds' nutritional needs for an entire month. The distribution was carried out with a focus on accessibility, feasibility, and long-term impact.

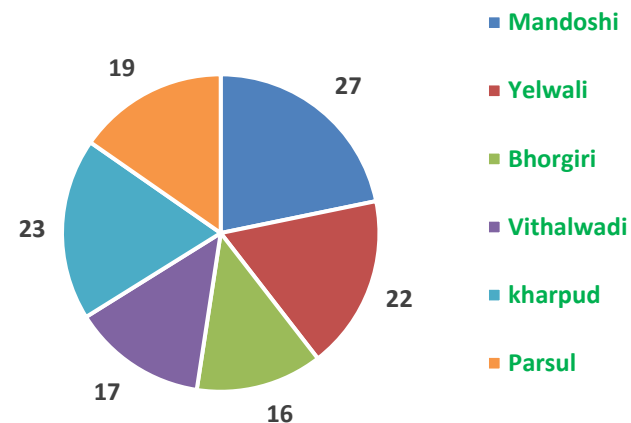
Central to the project's design was the empowerment of women, recognizing their pivotal role in the well-being and development of their families. By directly involving women as primary recipients and caretakers of the poultry, the initiative sought to promote financial independence, skill development, and self-confidence. The integration of eggs into daily household meals is expected to significantly improve protein intake, thus addressing nutritional deficiencies, especially among children and women.

Beyond meeting immediate dietary needs, the project also lays the foundation for economic sustainability. Women are encouraged to sell surplus eggs in local markets, providing them with a steady stream of income. This not only enhances household financial stability but also contributes to the broader objective of poverty alleviation in the region.

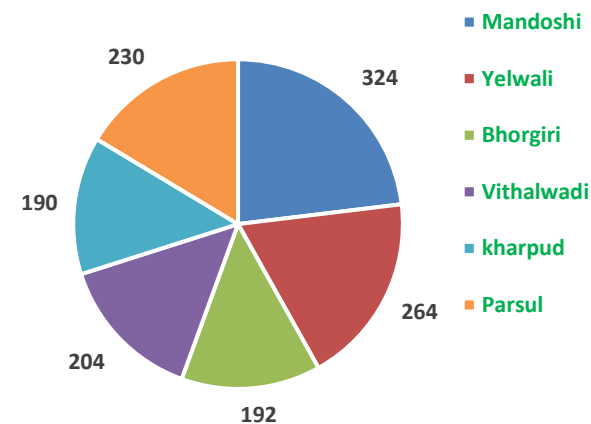
Moreover, the project instills a spirit of entrepreneurship among rural women, equipping them with the practical knowledge and confidence to manage small-scale livestock ventures. Over time, the initiative aims to evolve into a model of sustainable micro-enterprise, with the potential for replication in other communities.

Ultimately, this intervention reaffirms a powerful development principle: when a woman is empowered, the entire family—and by extension, the community—moves toward greater resilience, prosperity, and well-being.

#### Poultry Farming Beneficiary



#### Birds Distribution



#### 4. Sewing Machine Training Program: Skill Development and Livelihood Creation for Tribal Women

The organization successfully conducted a three-month sewing machine training program for women from tribal regions. During the course, participants were trained in stitching a variety of garments and items including simple and designer blouses, decorative necklines and sleeves, petticoats, and basic dresses. The women gained proficiency in tailoring skills and demonstrated a strong grasp of sewing techniques.

In addition to clothing, the training also covered the creation of various fabric-based products such as fabric bags, mobile pouches, banana leaf-inspired items, one-sided bags, "Khan" (traditional Maharashtrian fabric) clutches, file folders, Ganpati mats, jewelry pouches, and purses. The program not only introduced the participants to diverse forms of design and craftsmanship but also sparked creativity and interest in learning new techniques.

The training was well-received, with participants expressing great enthusiasm and satisfaction. As a result, many women have now begun to access local employment opportunities and generate income through their newly acquired skills. Upon successful completion of the training, the organization distributed sewing machines and certificates to all participants, supporting their journey toward financial independence and self-employment.

#### Sewing Machine Distribution

Sr. No	Village name	No of Women's	No of Machine
1	Bhorgiri	2	22
2	Mandoshi	3	23
3	Pabe	3	23
4	Shrigaon	3	23
5	Moroshi	1	11
6	Tokavade	1	11
7	Ambegoan	4	14
	<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>117</b>



## 5. Integrated Healthcare Initiative: Enhancing Medical Access in Tribal Regions of Khed Taluka

In its continued effort to improve public health outcomes in marginalized and remote areas, the organization launched an Integrated Healthcare Initiative in the tribal belt of Khed Taluka. The program was strategically implemented across nine underserved villages—7 villages with the goal of delivering essential healthcare services to communities with limited or no access to medical facilities.

This multi-faceted initiative encompassed a range of targeted interventions designed to address both preventive and curative healthcare needs. Key activities included the organization of on-site health camps that offered comprehensive medical checkups, diagnosis, and treatment services. Patients requiring further medical intervention were referred for free surgical procedures in collaboration with healthcare partners, ensuring continuity of care for even the most complex cases.

In addition to clinical services, the program emphasized community wellness and nutrition through the distribution of seeds for kitchen gardens, encouraging households to grow their own vegetables and herbs. This component aimed to improve dietary diversity and address micronutrient deficiencies at the household level. Furthermore, Women's Health Day programs were conducted to raise awareness about reproductive health, hygiene, maternal care, and early disease detection, with a strong focus on empowering women to take charge of their health.

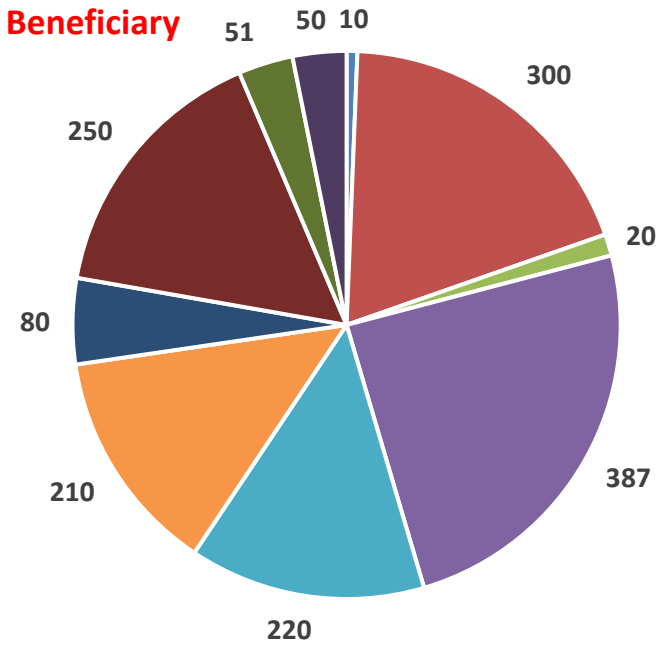
The initiative was specifically designed to serve economically disadvantaged and vulnerable individuals, prioritizing those who often fall outside the formal healthcare safety net. By bringing critical services directly to the community, the program reduced geographic and financial barriers to care.

The response from the community was overwhelmingly positive. Beneficiaries expressed deep appreciation for the timely and compassionate care they received. Many shared that the program not only improved their immediate health conditions but also instilled a renewed sense of hope and dignity. For several patients, life-changing treatments were made possible—restoring their ability to live healthier, more productive lives.

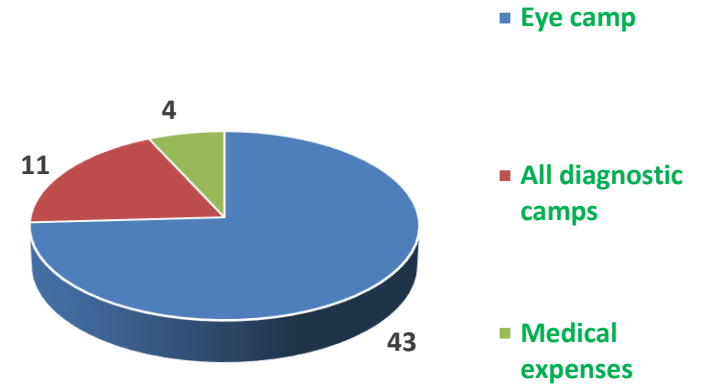
This healthcare intervention stands as a testament to the impact of community-centric health models in bridging the gap between rural populations and essential health services, while also fostering long-term well-being and resilience.

- Communication skills training
- Allotment of Medic lore
- Capacity building training
- Kitchen garden seed distribution
- Adolescent girls training
- Eye camp
- All diagnostic camps
- Woman's day
- Gender Training
- Organic Farming Training

**Beneficiary**



**Operation patient**



## 6. Balwadi (Early Childhood Education Centers)

A total of 14 *Balwadis* (early childhood education centers) have been established in tribal hamlets across Ambegaon and Khed Talukas. These centers serve 202 children throughout the year, providing them with nutritious meals including eggs, dates, *rajgira* (amaranth) chikki, and biscuits as part of a balanced diet.

Children from marginalized tribal communities such as Katkari, Thakur, Neo-Buddhist, and Koli Mahadev have benefited from the program. Additionally, the initiative has created local employment opportunities within these communities.

Throughout the year, various engaging and developmental activities were organized for the children, including child fairs, excursions, and forest picnics. Teachers also received professional training, and educational field visits were arranged to enhance their teaching capabilities.

Children were provided with a range of educational resources such as learning toys and educational bags, supporting their cognitive and emotional development in a nurturing learning environment.

Sr. No	Balwadi Name	Participate Students
1	Madhali Vadi Ahupe	13
2	Vandrwadi ADivare	14
3	ChinchewadiMaline	12
4	Ambegoan Katkari Vasti	26
5	Gadekar Thakarwadi	13
6	Malwadi Taleghar	15
7	Yelwali	10
8	Dipngarar	14
9	Bhisewadi Tokavde	13
10	Murevasti tokavde	09
11	Katkari vasti Vithalwadi	21
12	Kudachi wadi	16
13	Navhachi wadi	10
14	Katkari vasti vada	16
	<b>Total</b>	<b>202</b>



## 7. Study Class Program

During the academic year 2022–23, a total of 374 students from 25 tribal hamlets in Ambegaon and Khed Talukas benefited from the Study Class Project. The initiative was supported by a dedicated team comprising 26 volunteers, 2 supervisors, and a project coordinator. In addition to improving educational outcomes, the program also generated employment opportunities for local residents.

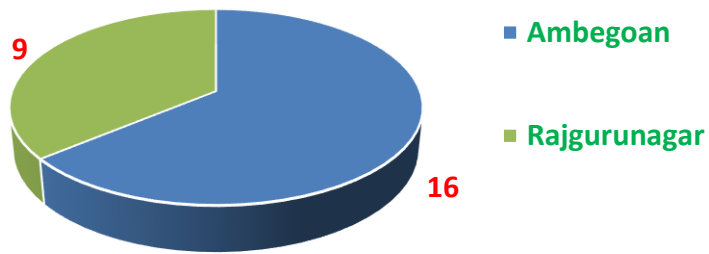
As part of the project, study class teachers received professional training through *Door Step School*, Pune, which significantly contributed to enhancing the capabilities of both educators and students. A variety of engaging activities were organized throughout the year to promote holistic development.

Cultural and national events such as Ganesh Festival, Children’s Day, Girl Child Day, and national holidays were celebrated with enthusiasm. In addition, various competitions were held for both teachers and students. Prizes were awarded to outstanding students, and appreciation certificates were distributed to teachers in recognition of their contributions.

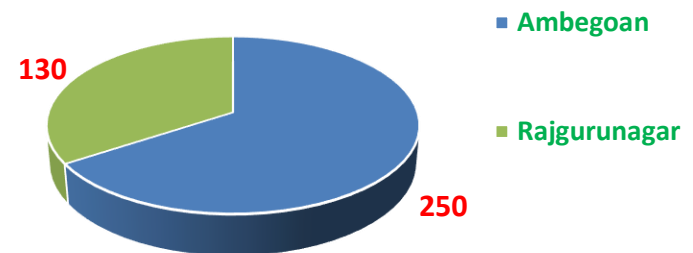
This initiative not only strengthened foundational learning for tribal children but also fostered community involvement and teacher empowerment.



**Participate Villages Ambegaon & Khed Tahshil**



**Participate Students**



## 8. Nursery Project: Promoting Women's Empowerment and Self-Employment

Through the establishment of self-help groups (SHGs), the organization is actively promoting women's empowerment and encouraging them to engage in self-employment opportunities. As part of this initiative, the organization has launched a Nursery Project in the villages of Chikhali, Mhatarbachhi Wadi, and Terungan.

The women involved in the project predominantly come from tribal communities, and the nursery initiative is designed to provide them with meaningful livelihoods while fostering sustainable environmental practices. Each self-help group (SHG) consists of 15 members who work together towards the shared goal of establishing a thriving nursery business.

The nursery is currently working towards the goal of producing 2 lakh plants, which include a wide range of fruit-bearing trees, ornamental plants, and indigenous flora. Some of the key plants being cultivated include Hirda, Mango, Cashew, Amla, Lemon, Bamboo, Jackfruit, Guava, Mango, Jamun, Beheda, Karanja, and Hibiscus. These plants are not only valuable for their ecological benefits but also offer significant potential for local markets.

Through the nursery, local women have collectively earned an income of ₹2,35,000, which has provided them with a steady and sustainable source of livelihood. Moreover, as the nursery continues to grow, the sale of plants is expected to create ongoing employment opportunities, ensuring long-term economic stability for the women involved.

This project has not only contributed to women's financial independence but has also empowered them by providing essential business skills, thus fostering a sense of self-reliance and community solidarity. The Nursery Project is a vital step towards ecological sustainability and economic growth, benefitting both the local population and the environment.





## 9. Solar Pump Initiative: Sustainable Watering System for Plant Growth

As part of the Tree Plantation Project, the organization has implemented solar-powered pumps to provide water to the saplings. To enhance the growth of the plants, the organization installed 5 solar pumps through funding, ensuring that the saplings receive the necessary water for healthy development.

The solar pumps are an eco-friendly solution to water the plants efficiently. Water is provided to the saplings once every three days, ensuring that the plants receive consistent hydration. This initiative has significantly improved the growth of the plants, with a noticeable increase in their vitality and robustness.

One of the key advantages of using solar pumps is their sustainability. With solar energy as the primary source, the need for electricity is eliminated, resulting in significant energy savings. Furthermore, this method ensures a permanent and reliable water supply for the plants, as solar energy is both renewable and free.

By using solar pumps, the project not only supports environmental sustainability but also reduces the dependency on conventional power sources, contributing to long-term energy conservation and cost efficiency.

## 10. Tree Plantation Project: Promoting Sustainable Agriculture and Environmental Conservation

As part of the Tree Plantation Project in 2022, the organization carried out large-scale planting activities at Phalode and Mhatarbachi Wadi. A total of 6,050 saplings were planted, including a variety of fruit-bearing trees such as Mango, Cashew, Jackfruit, Amla, Jamun, Guava, Hirda, Tamhan, and Bhiksha.

To ensure the long-term success of this project, a comprehensive irrigation system has been established using drip irrigation, which provides efficient water management to the plants, ensuring that each sapling receives adequate hydration. This system helps optimize water usage and ensures the health of the plants, especially in areas with limited water resources.

Additionally, to protect the saplings from animals and ensure their proper growth, the organization has installed thorny wire fences around the plantation areas. This will prevent livestock and wild animals from damaging the plants, allowing for better care and protection of the saplings.

At present, the care and nurturing of the plants are ongoing. The project team is focused on maintaining the plantation, ensuring that the saplings are properly irrigated, protected, and monitored for growth. With consistent efforts, this tree plantation initiative aims to contribute to environmental sustainability, improve local biodiversity, and promote agroforestry as a long-term source of income for the local communities.



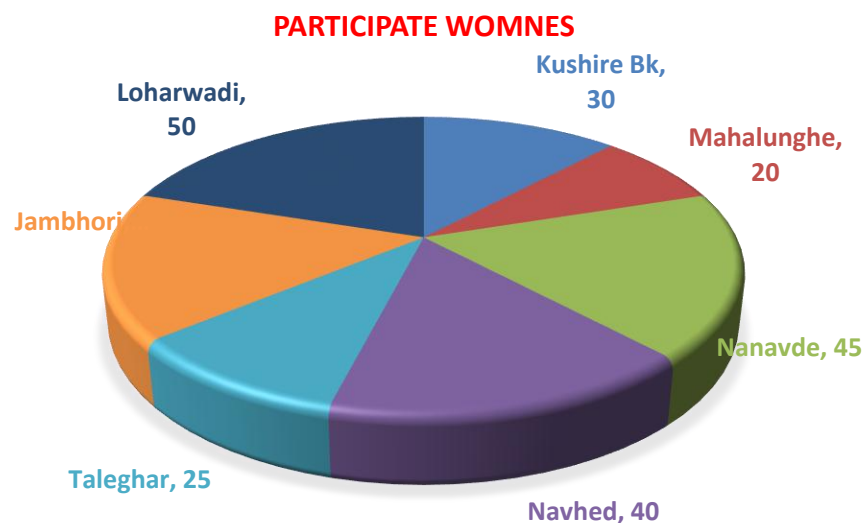
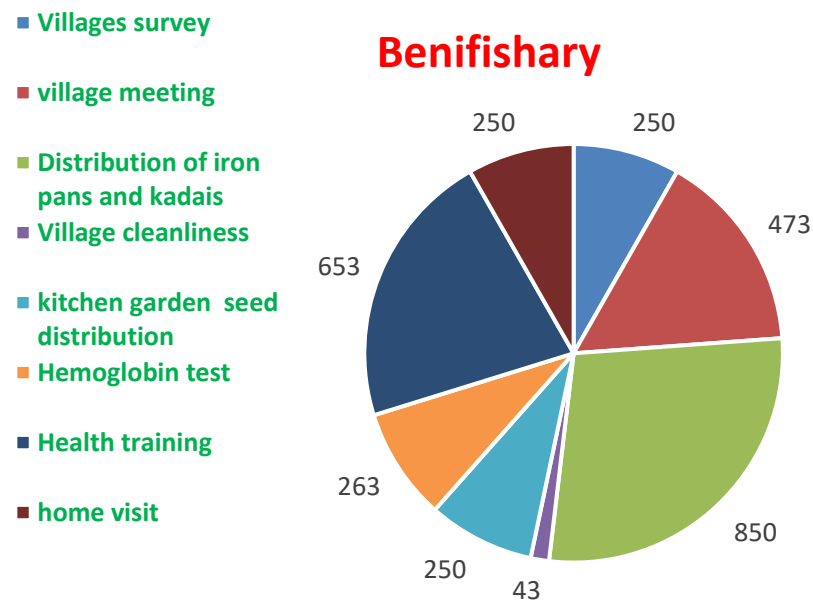
## 11. Preventive Health Program – Ambegaon

In the tribal areas of Ambegaon Taluka, where primary healthcare centers are far from the villages, the organization has implemented a comprehensive **preventive health program** across seven villages, benefiting **250 women**. The program includes various training sessions, baseline surveys, and awareness campaigns to improve health outcomes.

Key aspects of the initiative include:

- Training women on the use of **iron tawa (skillet)** and **kadhai (cooking pans)** for preparing nutritious meals.
- Encouraging the creation of **kitchen gardens** at home, where women grow **green leafy vegetables**, to improve their family's nutritional intake.
- Promoting **local home remedies** and educating families about dietary changes for improved health.
- The ultimate goal of the program is to work towards a **malnutrition-free village**, focusing on reducing malnutrition among the local population.

Additionally, the program has a specific focus on **reducing anemia** among women, with targeted efforts to improve hemoglobin levels and overall health. These health interventions aim to bring lasting change by addressing both nutritional and lifestyle factors that contribute to women's health in the tribal region.





## 12. Health Program – Ambegaon Taluka

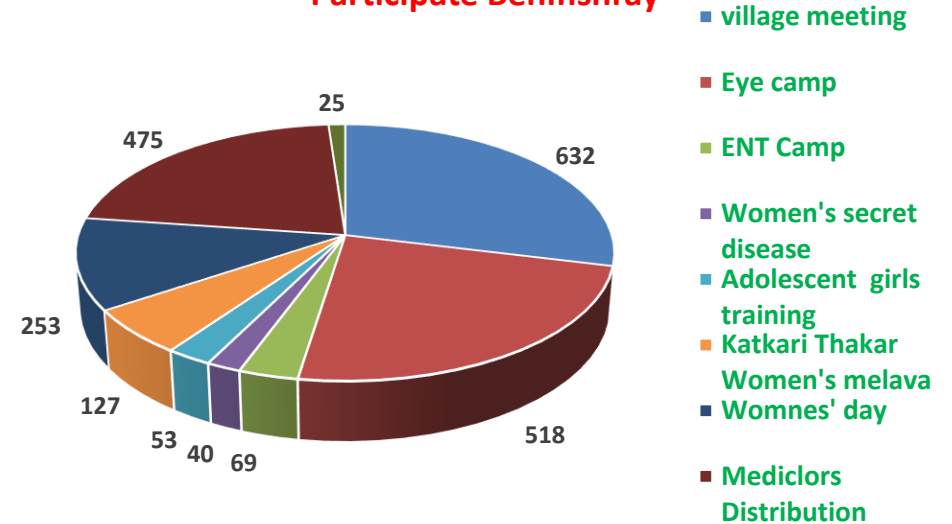
A range of **health camps** are organized across various villages in Ambegaon Taluka, focusing on diverse healthcare needs. These camps are conducted under the guidance of **specialist doctors** and offer free treatment and health guidance.

The key components of the health program include:

- **Village sanitation drives** to improve hygiene and reduce health risks.
- **Adolescent girls' health guidance**, covering menstrual health and general well-being.
- **Sexual abuse awareness and counseling sessions.**
- Health camps specializing in **ENT (Ear, Nose, Throat) issues, Ayurvedic treatments, and infertility support.**
- Special **health camps for women and men** focusing on **gender equality and family planning.**

In total, the program witnessed **2,217 attendees**, with **118 surgeries** conducted for patients in need. The program not only provides immediate medical care but also educates and empowers the community to take better care of their health.

### Participate Benifishray



### 13. Cancer Awareness Camp

In collaboration with **Dinananth Mangeshkar Hospital**, a **cancer awareness camp** was organized. This camp focused on educating **40 women and men** about cancer, particularly **cervical cancer** in women. The doctors explained the causes, symptoms, and preventive measures associated with cervical cancer, emphasizing early detection.

During the camp:

- **28 women** received initial health screenings.
- **16 women** were sent for **detailed testing** at **Dinananth Mangeshkar Hospital, Pune**.
- **5 patients** received further examinations and treatments at the hospital.
- In partnership with medical professionals, **3 women underwent free surgeries**.

This initiative helped raise awareness about cancer, encouraging women to seek medical advice sooner, thereby reducing the stigma and delay in seeking treatment. The camp not only saved lives but also instilled hope and empowerment among the community.



## 14. Rolling Drums for Water Collection

In the remote tribal and hilly areas of Ambegaon and Khed Talukas, families often have to travel 2 to 3 kilometers to collect drinking water, which takes a significant amount of time and effort. This traditional task especially impacts women, who are left with little time for other activities.

To alleviate this burden, the organization has distributed 45-liter rolling drums to the women. These drums are designed to be pulled on the ground, reducing the strain of carrying heavy containers on the head. This simple innovation is improving women's health by saving them from back pain and reducing physical exhaustion.

In total, 300 rolling drums have been distributed across Khed and Ambegaon, improving the quality of life for local families by making water collection easier and less time-consuming.

Sr. No	Village Name	Beneficiary
1	Jalkwadi Ugalwadi	15
2	Ubhwadi Gohe	20
3	Bhagitwadi, Bhagatwadi, Burdewadi Ahavt	32
4	Dhagadwadi	32
5	Supewadi Talepathar	27
6	Navalevasti Ambeogan	11
7	Khedepathar	32
8	Padarwadi	11
9	Falode	17
10	Navhed	06
11	Yelwadi	22
12	kharpud	42
13	Varche Bhomale	23
14	Amegoan	10
	<b>Total</b>	<b>300</b>





## 15. Eco-tourism development

Eco-tourism activity we are implementing at two villages Mhatarbachiwadi and Ahupe, sites are developing with the forming of two SHGs consisting of 15 families in each group. All selected sites for eco-tourism have been implemented on private land. Primary site development is completed, and weed removal and making the platforms around trees are also done by SHG members at both sites. Tourism facilities (campsites) were established at both sites with the capacity of 50 persons each at a time. Now both sites are fully activated for accommodate tourists.

## 16. NTFP based processing units

Local tribal community have been collecting many forest produces like honey and medicinal use full plants and herbs, in all the collection of Hirda fruits is the main NTFP. Hirda tree density is very good in Malki and forest areas. Every year during the summer season, all locals engaged in this activity. Hirad fruits have good market value due to their medicinal properties and it has long been considered a prime remedy for many diseases.

Considering the economic value of the hirda fruits we have developed a business mechanism to strengthen the livelihood and income source for the local community through the formation of Farmer's producer company and SHGs at village level. We have formed the total 7 SHGs in 7 villages and 2 processing units under the KUSUMANAND FARMERS PRODUCER COMPANY LTD. We Established central NTFP processing unit at Ambegoan hall and Taleghar. Primary infrastructure is completed like electric connection, installation of the solar system, and solar dryers. We also purchased 2 decorticator machines for hirda de-husking and one pulverizer for making



## 17. Water Management Project

In the tribal areas of Khed Taluka, the organization has undertaken the excavation and construction of ponds in the villages of Phanaswadi and Eklahare. The construction of these ponds has helped alleviate the problem of water scarcity in these areas.

With the completion of this work, the water supply has been secured, and women no longer need to spend long hours searching for water. This has reduced the time and labor spent on water collection, providing them more opportunities for other activities. Furthermore, the availability of water will improve health outcomes by ensuring access to clean water for the community.

These initiatives reflect a strong commitment to improving the health, well-being, and economic stability of the local population, particularly women in the tribal regions. The organization's efforts address both immediate needs and long-term goals of sustainable development, empowerment, and community health.



## Our Funders and Supporters



Barnas Veenar

Ram Padma Ghodebole Pratisthan

## Our Bord Member

Sr. No	Name	Designation
1	Mr. Dilip Dixit	President
2	Mr. Suresh Rajwade	Vice President & Managing Trustee
3	Mr. Ashok Adhav	Treasurer
4	Miss. Pratibha Tambe	Trustee
5	Miss. Sulochana Gawari	Trustee
6	Dr. Aparna Watve,	Trustee

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FCRA - [083930397](https://www.ay.gov.in/) From AY 2022-2026

12 A- [AADTS8205NE20206](https://www.ay.gov.in/) From AY 2021-22 to AY 2026-27

80 G - [AADTS8205NF2021501](https://www.ay.gov.in/) From AY 2022-23 to AY 2026-27