Women Action for Organic Farming and Rural Livelihoods in Faridkot and Barnala Districts of Punjab

Quarterly Activity Report
June, July and August 2020

Kheti Virasat Mission

An Initiative of:

Supported by:

Association for India’s Development
Introduction-

Last 4-5 months have been difficult for the entire world due to the epidemic of COVID 19 virus. We also could not do much work in the field as it was complete lockdown for about 2 months. Gradually, it opened and we could start small meetings and workshops again. Most of the work is done online through zoom meetings these days. Below are the details of last 3 months activities:

1. Model Organic Farm, Chaina and Desi Seed Conservation-

   In 3 acre organic farm in Chaina, vegetable seeds have been prepared. Winter seeds are harvested and cleaned. Planning of vegetable seeds for summer season is done and seeds are getting prepared. These all are desi seeds that are prepared organically. Such seeds have higher nutritional value and more suitable to the local conditions. Desi seeds are in high demand and many farmers are also contacted for preparing different seasonal vegetable seeds.

   *Weeding in vegetable*
Cleaning of Spinach seeds

Taking out the Okra Seeds
Taking out the Pumpkin Seeds
Bottlegourd Seeds

Cucumber Seeds
Organic Farming and Millets-

Kheti Virasat Mission has been taking a strong campaign for the production and consumption of millets as millets are highly nutritious and eco-friendly. This year hundreds of farmers have grown millets in Punjab and the neighboring states. Farmers are motivated, provided seeds and given proper training for the cultivation of millets. Along with this KVM is playing a crucial role in developing model organic farms at different locations.
PGS Certification -

KVM is a Regional Council for the Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) for Punjab, Haryana and Chandigarh by the Government of India. Farmers PGS groups have been made and certificates are distributed among them.
**Desi Cotton Cultivation**

Farmers had been growing desi organic cotton since last 15 years but there was no market for it. Since 2017, KVM has been procuring the desi cotton and getting it processed by rural women artisans. Desi improved cotton seeds are provided by KVM and this year around 20 acres of desi cotton is cultivated by the farmers.
Online Zoom Meetings with the Farmers and other People-

Since physical meetings and field visits are difficult in this time, KVM has been organizing the online zoom meetings on different themes of organic farming and related activities. So far, a virtual walk was conducted at Sh. Sarvadaman Patel's farm, cotton cultivation meeting with Chetna Organics Hyderabad, millet consumptions and its health benefits was taken by Dr. Khadar Wali. Similarly, meetings on Sugar cane, Potato, Paddy Straw Management etc. have been organized time to time. Apart from this a couple of National and State level webinars are also conducted on Pesticide Ban and prevention of GM crops. KVM also keeps conducting smaller meetings with the farmers' groups and other stakeholders.
On-line Organic Cotton Workshop

Program
Friday, 3rd July at 11 AM
Organised by
Kheti Virasat Mission

In association with
Chetna Organics, Hyderabad

Live on youtube channel of https://www.youtube.com/user/khetivirasatmission
Organic Cotton Experts and Scientists will conduct this workshop.
All are cordially invited.
For details you may please contact Sourabh Saini 9050349003
An initiative of TRINJAN

Cotton Cultivation Meeting with Chetna Organics Hyderabad

KHETI VIRASAT MISSION
Cordially invites you to join Live Seminar on
Millet for Healthy Life

Speaker
Dr. Khadar Wali
Mysore
Dr. Amar Singh Azad
Patna

On Facebook page of https://www.facebook.com/khetivirasatmissionjaitu/
and youtube channel of https://www.youtube.com/user/khetivirasatmission

Program
Date: 19, 20 June 2020
Day: Friday & Saturday
Time: 6:30 PM
Note: Please register yourself to attend this seminar
Contact: 99151-95062, 98765-24292, 99152-52143

Millet Consumption and its Health Benefits with Dr. Khadar Wali and Dr. Amar Singh Azad
Dr. Khadar Wali on Millet Consumption

Sh. Suresh Desai on Sugarcane Cultivation

Meeting on Paddy Straw Management
Painting Opportunity for the kids to express their creativity for Art and Nature
Kitchen Garden Meetings and Home Visits-
Although it’s getting difficult to gather women and conduct meetings due to a lot of restrictions and Covid 19 risk still our staff is trying to coordinate over phone and visit the kitchen garden wherever possible. Several staff meetings are conducted on the strategy and approach to be taken for the field work. Now winter vegetable sowing is going on and CRPs are helping the women to design and plan their kitchen gardens.
Okra Vegetable  Showing his organic pumpkin

Meeting in village Bishnandi
Meeting in village Dhiwan

Barnala Staff Meeting
RV Shanti Nagar Kitchen Garden Workshop-
A Kitchen Garden workshop was organized in RV Shanti Nagar Colony where KVM has its office. Around 50 people participated enthusiastically and showed interest in having their own kitchen gardens. This was a basic interactive workshop, we are yet to conduct deeper trainings on the kitchen gardens.

While telling the use of cow dung cake
TRINJAN: Rural Livelihood through Traditional Skills Revival

TRINJAN is an initiative of Kheti Virasat Mission and extension of Kitchen Garden activities that is taking into consideration Punjab's Ecology, Culture, Society, Value System, Wisdom, Art and Craft. Women artisans are getting dignified work in their homes. Though we are not able to market the TRINJAN creations in the contemporary times but artisans keep on producing as it’s the only source for them to earn livelihood. Textile and handicrafts work is being happening. As the conditions allow and permit, we are trying to gather different artisans from different parts so that the knowledge can be exchanged among themselves.
Raveena Begum from Mour Barnala

Wool and Grass Baskets

Manjeet Kaur from village Deliyanwali
Women artisans from village Mour

Harjinder Kaur from village Kotli Muktsar_Darri Weaver
Manjeet Kaur from village Mour

TRINJAN logo on Darri
Saphia from village Mour Weaver on wooden frame loom

Hand Spinning on Desi Charkha
Murti Rani from village Chaina Faridkot
**Charkha and Children**

Charkha awareness and learning have been happening through different mediums. Regular activities are conducted with kids in Hunar Kendra Chaina and RV Shanti Nagar Park.

*Winter vegetable seed distribution in Hunar Kendra Chaina*

*Charkha Spinning in RV Shanti Nagar*