

16th November- 27th November, 2024

Introduction

As our world rapidly evolves, the increasing demand for infrastructural development is having a significant impact on the natural resources that tribal and farming communities have diligently protected for centuries. This unchecked exploitation is not only harming the environment but is also hindering the social, economic, and political progress of these communities. Amid global efforts to address resource and energy demands, it is crucial to revive the circular lifestyles that have long been practiced in resource-rich tribal areas—areas abundant with water, vegetation, seeds, minerals, and mountains—so that the aspirations of these communities can be met in a sustainable way.

In response to this need for ecological preservation and empowerment, 27 Krishi Evam Aadivasi Swaraj Sangathan alongside with VAAGDHARA, carried out the Swaraj Sandesh Samwad Padyatra-2024, which took place from November 16 to 20, 2024. This year, the Padyatra held in a decentralized format across four regions at the tri-junction of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Gujarat. The decentralized approach aimed to strengthen community participation, expand the reach of the Swaraj movement, and enhance the leadership role of indigenous communities in shaping their own futures.

The primary focus of this year's Padyatra was to foster dialogue on the significance of traditional agricultural, nutritional, and energy conservation practices within the framework of Swaraj (self-rule). By bringing together community members through group exercises, focus group discussions, and other activities, the Padyatra raised awareness about the value of a circular lifestyle, one that is grounded in ecological sustainability and energy sovereignty. These discussions also delved into how traditional knowledge can be combined with modern technologies to address the pressing challenges of climate change and agro-ecological concerns.



Throughout the Yatra, community members actively engaged in identifying local solutions to agroecological and climate-related challenges. By sharing insights, experiences, and ideas, participants strengthened their connection to these traditional practices and deepened their understanding of how to navigate modern-day challenges while remaining rooted in their heritage. The Padyatra also served as a platform for fostering valuable exchanges between community leaders, local stakeholders, and policy makers, creating opportunities for collaboration and action toward sustainable development.

This report captures the key moments, discussions, and outcomes of the Swaraj Sandesh Samwad Padyatra-2024, reflecting the powerful role that community-driven action and dialogue play in shaping sustainable solutions for the future.

Specific Objectives of the Padyatra

The Swaraj Sandesh Samvad Padyatra-2024 was organized with a clear set of objectives aimed at reinforcing the core principles of Swaraj and empowering tribal and farming communities to build sustainable futures. The specific objectives of the Padyatra were:

- 1. Promote Swaraj as a fundamental aspect of sustainable development in the context of climate change, particularly focusing on the self-rule and self-sufficiency of tribal and farming communities.
- 2.Establish the significance of the circular lifestyle of tribal and farming communities, highlighting the factors that have disrupted this traditional way of living. The Padyatra aimed to explore ways in which these communities can re-adopt circular practices to restore ecological balance and promote sustainability.
- 3. Build understanding of energy sources at the village and household levels, with a focus on their relationship to climate change. Discussions centered around energy sovereignty, energy efficiency, and the potential benefits of solar energy and biogas as sustainable alternatives.
- 4.Explore sustainable agro-ecological approaches and discuss local solutions that can mitigate the effects of climate change, while promoting the circular lifestyle model to create long-term ecological resilience.
- 5. Discuss the concept of energy efficiency at the local level, including the current energy situation in rural areas and steps to improve awareness and practices related to energy conservation.

Yatra Overview

Kms Covered	435
Padyatris Walked	1043
Villages Covered	200
Community Members Reached	4753
Discussion Held	230



Community Discussions During Yatra



During the Swaraj Sandesh Samwad Padyatra-2024, community members actively participated in two key exercises that focused on Energy Sovereignty and the Circular Lifestyle. These exercises were designed to deepen understanding, stimulate dialogue, and develop actionable insights that could help communities address the challenges of climate change, resource depletion, and energy dependence. The outcomes of these exercises revealed critical learnings and offered a roadmap for community-led solutions.

Major highlights



URJA SWARAJ (Energy Sovereignty): While communities still rely on non-renewable energy sources, there is growing awareness of the potential of green energy solutions like solar power and biogas, with a clear understanding of their role in combating climate change and promoting Energy effectiveness.



Khadya Evam Poshan Swaraj (Food and Nutrition sovereignty): Tribal communities have over 75 diverse, nutritious, and climate-resilient seed varieties. However, due to a lack of demand, they are hesitant to continue cultivating them. Supporting these indigenous seeds is crucial to food and nutrition security



Beej Swaraj(Seed Sovereignty): Indigenous seeds have been widely preserved and used through community seed banks, but they are still not recognized in government policy. For establishing Seed Sovereignty, it is crucial to influence for policy changes that support and protect the use of these traditional seeds.



Jal Swaraj (Water sovereignty): The principle of "Gaanv ka pani, Gaanv me hi rahe" emphasizes that water resources should be preserved and managed within the village itself. By ensuring local water storage, restoring water bodies, and building check dams, communities are trying to achieve Jal Swaraj, making water more accessible and sustainable, reducing dependence on external sources.



Mrida Swaraj (Soil Sovereignty): To restore soil fertility, communities should focus on the 3Ms—replenishing minerals, maintaining moisture, and supporting microbial activity through organic farming, water conservation, and composting to ensure sustainable agriculture and soil health.



Sanskriti Swaraj (Cultural sovereignty): The community shared powerful insights on how the circular lifestyle of their ancestors helped maintain ecological balance. This connection between traditional practices and environmental sustainability is central to VAAGDHARA's vision of Cultural Swaraj. The community recognized the importance of reviving these practices to mitigate the adverse effects of modern-day environmental challenges

Swaraj Samwad Samagam

The culmination of the Yatra into the Samagam was held simultaneously across four regions within the tri-junction area of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Gujarat. With over 8,000+ community members, equally representing both women and men, the event fostered a collective spirit of unity and empowerment, reinforcing the commitment to Swaraj and community-led sustainable development.

During the event, KASS members shared insights and ideas they gathered from the dialogues held during the Yatra. Additionally, 27 Agrah Patras were developed by the KASS members, each representing a collective vision for Swaraj at the local level. These were created through exercises and discussions during the Samagam event.

The community approached the Agrah Patra development through an engaging two-stage process. They started with an interactive brainstorming Exercise where members mapped out different energy sources, classifying them as renewable or non-renewable while exploring the community's existing knowledge. The next activity took a deeper dive, carefully examining the energy sources used across various aspects of community life — from agriculture and livelihood to household management and public spaces like schools, panchayats, and hospitals. This exploration helped participants understand their current energy consumption patterns and recognize the balance between renewable and non-renewable sources. The process wasn't just about identifying resources, but sparking meaningful conversations about potential shifts towards sustainable energy alternatives that could benefit the entire community.

The KASS members developed comprehensive recommendations across five key domains of Swaraj. In Energy Swaraj, they proposed mandating solar energy in public places and training tribal youth in solar equipment repair. Seed Swaraj focused on establishing seed banks and supporting native grain production. Soil Swaraj recommendations prioritized organic farming and banning chemical fertilizers. Water Swaraj emphasized well deepening and rainwater harvesting. Cultural recommendations included protecting tribal traditions, promoting regional tree plantation, and encouraging traditional practices. These recommendations reflect a holistic approach to community development, addressing energy, agriculture, environment, and cultural preservation.

Vaagdhara consolidated the 27 individual Agrah Patras into a comprehensive, unified document that will be presented to the government as a collective community vision for local development.

Glimpses













Media Coverage

पादेशिक

उज्जैन रविवार १७ नवम्बर २०२४

संघर्ष से सिद्धि

स्वराज संदेश संवाद पदयात्रा हुई शुरू- पर्यावरण संरक्षण का सन्देश लेकर निकले पदयात्री

इराबुआ। संजय जैन-स्टेट हेड। आदिवासी समुदाव में व्याग पर्यावरण संरक्षण के पार्पिक प्रवासों को नई पीड़ी से जोड़ने तथा उन्हें प्रकृतिक संस्थानों को संग्रिक तथा प्रेरित करने के लिए स्वराज संदेश संजाद प्रसाज कल व अलग अलग स्थानों से एक

को 4 अलग-अलग स्थानों से जन प्रतिनिधियों ने हरी झंडी दिखा कर



जीवन-प्रवाओं में निहित हैं साज का नेतृत्व आदिवासी और कृषक समुदायें ने किया। झावुआ जिले के घरिला क्लाक के प्राप्त का मा कावूरी से पाता को रूपमाल महेंचा - खावुरी सरपंच, मुकेश काम जनपर सहस्य ने हरी होंडी

निकाली पदयात्रा, दिया पर्यावरण संरक्षण का सन्देश



बांसवाडा @ पत्रिका. आदिवासी समुदाय को प्राकृतिक संसाधनों को संरक्षित करने के लिए प्रेरित करने के लिए स्वराज संदेश संवाद पदयात्रा शनिवार को 4 अलग -अलग स्थानों से निाकली गई। यात्रााओं को जन प्रतिनिधियों द्वारा हरी झंडी दिखा कर रवाना किया गया। वाग्धारा संस्था के सचिव जयेश जोशी ने बताया कि स्वराज को सही मायने में जीते हए आदिवासी व कृषक समुदाय ने सदियों से आज तक प्राकृतिक संसाधनों का संरक्षण व संवर्द्धन किया है। यह जानकारी संस्था के परमेश्वर पाटीदार ने दी।

दैनिक नवज्योति banswara-dungarpur - 29 Nov 2024 - Page 6

प्राकृतिक संसाधनों का संरक्षण और ऊर्जा समाधान का संकल्प



आने वाली पीढ़ी का रखना होगा ध्यान

कार करना माना था पराणा होगी थाने कार्या संस्था संस्था जरेत जाते ने करा कि रामा रहेरन मानुष्य की निसंदा दूसरों पर से कम कर उसे अस्मिन्स कार्या है। हमें हमरों आने कार्य पीड़ियों के लिए कार्य की, सूर्य की, बोर्ड की जनारा की सुपत करनी है और अने धानी भी जानार की सुपत करनी है और अने धानी भीड़ों की निस्ता से जीइस है। उन्हेरी कार्य

दैनिक भारकर

बांसवाडा भास्कर 24-11-2024

पदयात्रा में मिट्टी का पूजन किया

कुरातपदः उपसंद में रानियार को स्वराज संदेश संबाद पदफात्र के समापन पर कृषि एवं आदिवासी स्वराज सम्बाम हुआ। मुख्य समापन पर पृष्ट-स्वयान सम्ब्रगा हुआ। मुक्त-अदिथ कुरालाचा विष्यासक रखेला खाँडेया ने स्वरा कि खुराहाल जीवन के लिए ऊर्जा, स्वयाज और पर्यवारण अनुकृत के अपनाना आधारकक है। के ब्यंची आयु के स्वराज और पंचावरण अनुकृत कृषि अपनाना आवश्यक हैं स्वरम्ब जीवन और लंबी आयु के लिए पंचीवरण अनुकृत कृषि से उत्तत्त्र पोजन ही श्रेट हैं, जिसकी परंपरा हम्बरे पूर्वजों के समय से चली आ खी हैं। कार्यक्रम में



परंपराएं भूलने से है नित नई चुनौतियां खड़िया

डीकली में किए एवं आदिवासी स्वराज समागम 2024

बांसवाडा @ पञ्चिका वाग्यारा की और से कृषि एवं आदिवासी स्वराज समायम 2024 के तहत कुशलगढ़ सैंग्र के झीकली पंचायत के भवन में क झकला पंचायत क भवन म आयोजित कार्यक्रम में शतिवार को विधायक रमिला खंडिया ने मृदा पूजन किया। कृषि एवं आदिवासी स्वराज मंच संयोजक मानरिंह निनामा की अध्यक्षता में कार्यक्रम में बतौर मुख्य अतिथि खडिया ने कहा कि आज हम आतीथ खाडया न कहा क आज हर अपनी परंपरागत पद्धतिया व कृषि प्रणालियां मूलते जा रहे हैं, जिससे नित-नई चुनोतियों का सामना करना पड़ रहाहै। पहलेदोसी तरीकों सेबुबार से भी ठीक नहीं हो रहे। बाजरा कींदरा बड़ी, जुरी, कांगनी जैसे अनाज थाली में शामिल करनाकेवल कटी-सुनीबार्वे नहीं हैं। ये सर्वियों से अपनाई अच्छे पोषण की प्रणाली है। उन्होंने पुरानी परंपराओं को बढ़ावा देने का आहवान

इस अवसर पर वाग्धारा के सचिव



बांसवाड़ा. झीकली में कृषि एवं आदिवासी स्वराज समागम 2024 के तहत

अदिवासी किसानों में आत्मनिर्भरता लाना है। बवा, कृषि, ऊर्ज आदि पर बेतहसा खर्चों के कारणों को खोजकर उन्हें कम करना होगा। इससे बचत होगी, जो जीवनस्तर सुधारेगी। इससे पहले अतिथियों ने यहां सजाई बीज रगोलीव आविवासी समुदाय की जीवन शैली दर्शाती प्रदर्शनी का अवलोकन दिनेश डिंडोर ने जताया।

किया।शुरुआत में स्वागत वाग्धारा के परमेश पाटीवार ने किया। कार्यक्रम में सात कृषि एवं आदिवासी स्वराज संगठनी गाम स्वराज सम्ह. सक्षम समूह तथा बाल स्वराज समूह के संवर्शों सहित 276 गांवों के सैकड़ों





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