

# बेलाबंग पुस्तिका

अभिव्यक्ती

Vol. 1 - June - 2021

The Lockdown (ISC Newsletter)

Quarantine Tales

## An Indian Village with 60 Millionaires



I am glad to share a wonderful experience gained while completing my Sociology final project for grade XI. I realized that the internet is not the only source for completing an assignment. I went from being a confused writer to a sorted one. The catalyst was my conversation with a voracious reader- my grandmother - who does not miss reading a single newspaper. Yes, she came across Hiware Bazar in the daily newspaper. This is how she became my guide throughout the project.

Hiware Bazar, a village in Maharashtra's drought-prone Ahmednagar district, was sliding into an abyss after degrading its environment. Nonetheless, in less than a decade it turned itself around into one of the most prosperous villages of the country. No magical wand, just common sense! It used funds from government schemes to regenerate its natural resources, forests, watershed and soil. Over the past few decades, people who had left the village in search of jobs had been returning in a steady stream. Going by the official panchayat, 40 families returned to the village between 1992 and 2002.

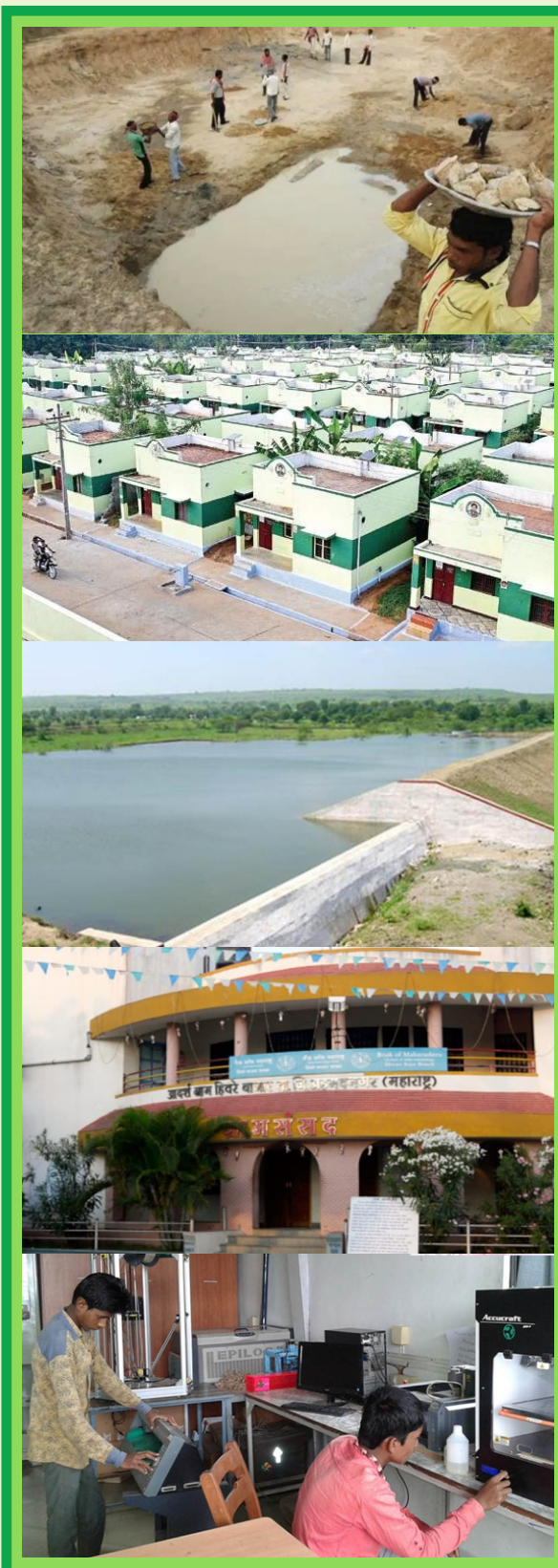
The credit for this rags-to-riches success goes to Popatrao Baguji Pawar (the village head), who changed the socio-economic fabric of the village forever. He is of the opinion that today over 1/4<sup>th</sup> of 216 families in the village are millionaires, just over 50 families have an annual income of 10 lakh. The per capita income of the village is twice the average of the top 10 percent in rural areas nationwide (Rs. 890 per month) and in the past 15 years the average income has risen 20 times. What particularly struck me is that we always look to the West for inspiration; whereas here we have a case study on the way government-citizen partnership, with accountability, can improve socio-economic conditions in our own backyard.

The message for students of my generation is to develop reading habits in our daily life. Remember, the internet is just another substitute source for data collection.

**Saumitra Bhide,**  
XII-Humanities



**Popatrao Baguji Pawar**  
Village Head



Dear readers,

We are happy to present the first newsletter of the Academic year 2021-22. I would like to extend my warmest wishes to everyone at the beginning of the New Academic Year.

Let us start our new year at school with hopes and dreams, and the resolve that no matter what the difficulties, we will do our best to achieve our goals.

It is rightly said that "Anything well begun is half done". Similarly, anything that is started with a positive attitude, is done well.

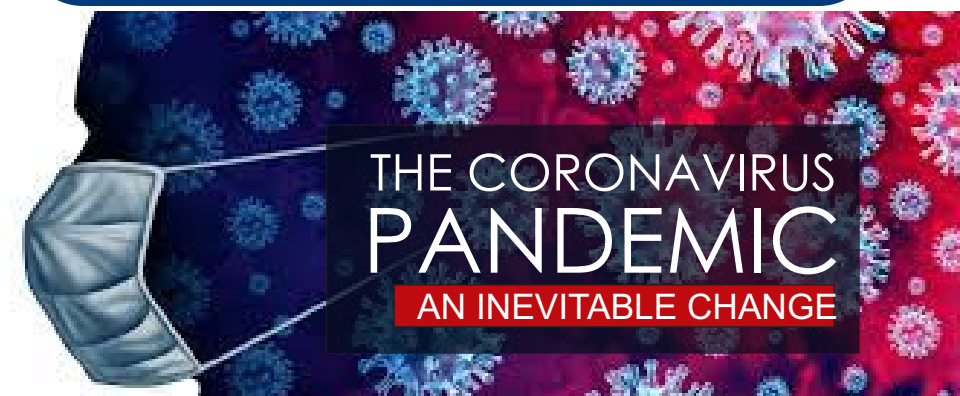
As you begin to make a list of even the smallest ideas that take you to the path of success, we are here to guide you in the best possible manner.

Respect your parents, Obey your teachers, and Believe in yourself.

Wish you all a grand and successful year ahead.

Warm Regards,

**Rajashri Rane**  
Section Head (ISC)



While the pandemic caused a lot of death and destruction, the silver lining was that it opened a lot of opportunities for thousands of entrepreneurs and businesses across the globe. It introduced various ways of running a business. During the pandemic, businesses ensured that they serve the public as well as run their business. They came up with creative solutions and catered to various needs of the public at that point of time.

The success stories of some businesses that emerged during the pandemic are very inspiring and it forces us to think out of the box. The ideas are fresh and new which broadens the way we think about business.

Soren Lex from Plasticpreneur explained during the SEM 2020 meeting that during the pandemic, his business used recycled plastic and plastic chips to make face shields, face masks and other equipments of protection. The production was much faster due to the innovative technology and production kits were exported globally to produce faster at local level. Plasticpreneur is a social enterprise in Australia that produces and sells machines that used recycled plastic to make new products and creates awareness about the establishment of new social businesses across the world.

Social distancing norms also disrupted the co-working space during the pandemic. Many people started working from home and following the guidelines. During that time Workshaala, a Bengaluru based company that is a co-working space came up with a venture called, 'Homescape' where they started providing office furniture like chairs, tables and desks to improve the efficiency of an individual. They also came up with setting up of an ergonomic workstation at home with customisable options so people can work comfortably and efficiently.

It is indeed proven that the pandemic evolved businesses to a whole new level with sustainable changes. The change from physical to digital workstation that was expected around 10-15 years later came up. Businesses have gone through digital transformation giving employees the flexibility to work from home, while also taking care of their physical and mental well being, which improved the efficiencies of businesses and the hybrid model is definitely here to stay.

**Mansha Singh**  
XI- Commerce

# ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION



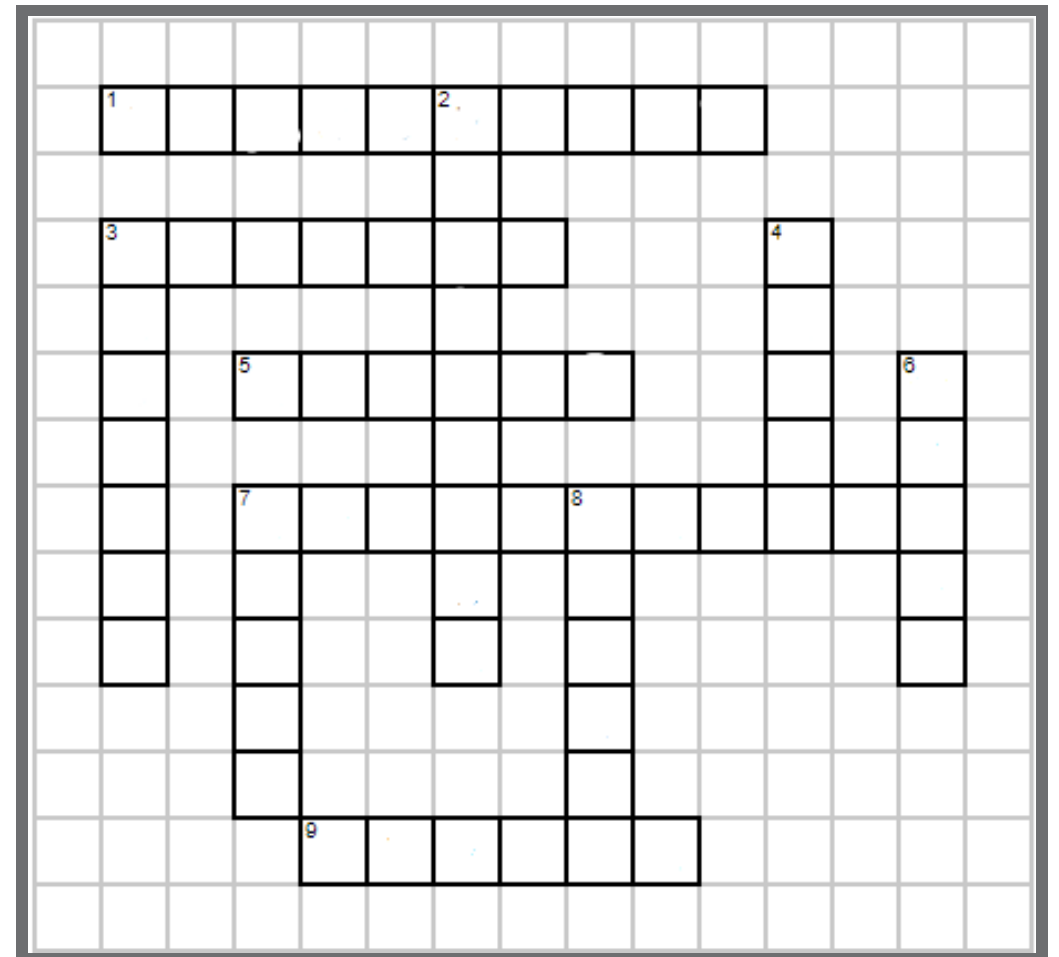
An ecosystem is the basic unit of the field of the scientific study of nature.

Ecosystem restoration means assisting in the recovery of ecosystems that have been degraded or destroyed, as well as conserving the ecosystems that are still intact. Healthier ecosystems, with richer bio diversity, yield greater benefits by actively planting or by removing pressures so that nature can recover on its own. All kinds of ecosystems can be restored, including forests, wetlands and oceans. Restoration initiatives can be launched by almost anyone, from governments and development agencies to businesses, communities and individuals. Restoring ecosystems, large and small, protects and improves the livelihoods of people who depend on them. It also helps to regulate disease and reduce the risk of natural disasters. In fact, restoration can help us achieve the goal of Sustainable Development.

There are many types in which we can help our mother Earth in restoring the ecosystem by following the three 'Rs' ("Reuse, Recycle, Reduce") which will help in decreasing the amount of waste we produce in our daily life. The great increase in production of food grains due to the introduction of high-yielding varieties, to the use of pesticides, and to better management techniques. This is called the green revolution. This method helped us cope up with large famines that occurred in the 19th century. Using a cycle nowadays is very popular. People are showing a preference for using their cycles instead of driving fuel-guzzling cars, in order to improve their health and even to contribute to the improvement of the ecosystem. Hence the thought "Be the change you want to see in the world" expresses the view that it all starts from you. It is always the ordinary citizens who influence others 'Go Green!' and contribute to restoring our ecosystem.

Aarya Lad, (XI)

## BHIS CROSSWORD



### Across

- 1 the whole mass of air that surrounds the earth
- 3 The process of recovering scrap or waste and reprocessing the material into useful products.
- 5 The physical world as a whole
- 7 he surroundings or conditions in which a person, animal, or plant lives or operates.
- 9 A chemical element that constitutes 21 percent of the Earth's atmosphere

### Down

- 2 The introduction of harmful substances or products into the environment
- 3 A place set aside for special use.
- 4 To use again especially in a different way
- 6 A molecule made of two hydrogen atoms and one oxygen atom
- 7 The third planet from the Sun
- 8 Using fewer resources in the first place

Crossword Puzzle by Purva pavani

### Who

Archana Venkatachalam



### The Birth of Earth

(inspired by *The Birth of Venus*)

Archana Venkatachalam



### The Boy Who Lived

Archana Venkatachalam



### Save Environment Save Earth

Vaishnavi Patil

