VK-AICYAM - MAJOR ACTIVITIES/EVENTS
DURING 2023 AND UPTO 12.01.2024 – A BRIEF UPDATE

Brief update on the activities undertaken/events celebrated by VK-AICYAM during 2023 and upto 12.01.2024 (the 4th Foundation Day) is as under for information of all:

A. PROGRAMMES RELATING TO INDIAN CULTURE –

i. 11.01.2024 and 12.01.2024 – Two days Workshop with the theme, “Janajatiya Jibanshailira Bibhinna Diga – Different Dimensions of Janajati Lifestyle” was organized as a part of celebration of 4th Foundation Day of AICYAM. 147 Janajati community members from 14 Janajati Communities participated in the two days workshop, which was inaugurated on 11.01.2024 by Prof. (Dr.) Deepak Kumar Behera, VC, KISS Deemed to be University, Bhubaneswar. Prof. T V Kattimani, VC, Central Tribal University, Vizianagaram and Prof. N Nagaraju, VC, GM University were the Chief Guest and Chief Speaker respectively during the concluding Session on 12.01.2024. The Janajati Communities made presentations on three sub-themes, namely, (a) Living in Harmony with the Nature: Natural Way of Living of Janajati Communities towards preservation of Environment, (b) Efforts made by each Janajati Community towards Survival and Enrichment of their Culture and Language and (c) Janajati Traditional Systems of Treatment and efforts undertaken to preserve these rich traditions. In addition, there was a cultural function by these communities during the evening of 11.01.2024.

ii. 11.01.2023 and 12.01.2023 – Two days Workshop with the theme, “Significance of Folk Traditions in Janajati Communities” was organized as a part of celebration of 3rd Foundation Day of AICYAM. The workshop, participated by 101 Janajati community members from 12 Janajati Communities, was inaugurated by Ma. Hanumant Rao Ji, All India Vice President of Vivekananda Kendra, Kanyakumari.

iii. AICYAM SAMMAN – Acknowledging the significant contribution in multiple fields to their respective Janajati Community, eminent personalities of the said society have been felicitated with “AICYAM SAMMAN” on the AICYAM Foundation Days, as per the details under:
a. AICYAM SAMMAN 2024 has been awarded to Sri Srikanta Juanga of Juanga Community - He is the first graduate of Juanga Community. Being an Asst. Teacher, he is spearheading penetration of education in his community relentlessly for the past several years. Juanga Community is classified as a ‘Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group’ by the Central Government.

b. AICYAM SAMMAN 2023 has been awarded to Sri Dambaru Dhar Mandal of Sabar Community on 12.01.2023. Mr. Mandal spearheads in establishing strong bondage between 50000+ Sabar Community persons, residing in 5 districts of Odisha, through a robust organizational structure, facilitated increase in their living standards, cleanliness, hygiene, education, Stoppage of Podu cultivation, afforestation etc. He is translating Bhagavat Gita to Sabar script.

c. AICYAM SAMMAN 2022 has been awarded to Sri Makaradwaja Nayak of Bathudi Community on 12.01.2022. Sri Nayak has been working relentlessly to bring harmony in the Bathudi community and rejuvenating their community culture.

iv. Orientation Session for Janajati Youth on 12.01.2024 – During the Orientation Session, 20 Janajati youths from different Janajati communities have volunteered to attend the workshop, scheduled to be held during the month of March’24. This group will be provided guidance and training on how to undertake survey on their community traditions, cultures etc.. Such survey will strengthen AICYAM to carry out research and documentation on various Janajati Communities in future.

v. Multiple “Loka Samparka” programmes were also organized round the year at various tribal villages and communities.
B. YOGA RELATED PROGRAMMES –

i. 07.01.2024 - Yoga Shashtra Seminar with the Theme, “Hatha Yoga Traditions” was organized on 07.01.2024. Dr. Gopal Chandra Dash inaugurated the seminar and was also the Chief Speaker. Nine scholars presented their papers. The seminar was attended by 35 Yoga enthusiasts /practitioners /students /scholars.

ii. 25.06.2023 - Yoga Shashtra Seminar with the Theme, “Yoga for Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam” was organized on 25.06.2023, as a part of celebration of ‘International Yoga Day’. Prof. Kamalakanta Bal inaugurated the seminar and was also the Chief Speaker. Seventeen scholars presented their papers. The seminar was attended by 45 Yoga enthusiasts /practitioners /students /scholars.

iii. 14.01.2023 - Yoga Shashtra Seminar was organized on 14.01.2023. Ma. Hanumant Rao Ji, All India Vice President of Vivekananda Kendra, Kanyakumari and Prof Subash Chandra Dash graced the inaugural function. 20 scholars presented their papers. The seminar was attended by 50 Yoga enthusiasts/practitioners/students/scholars.

iv. 09.01.2023 to 11.01.2023 – Workshop on “Om Meditation, Cyclic Meditation and Yoga Vashishta” was organized during these three days, conducted by Ma. Hanumant Rao Ji, All India Vice President of Vivekananda Kendra, Kanyakumari.

The workshop was attended by 50 Yoga enthusiasts/practitioners/students/scholars.

v. 17.12.2023 - Discourse on the topic, “Yoga: A Practical Psychology through the Lens of Sri Aurobindo” was organized at AICYAM on 17.12.2023. The talk was delivered by Sri Diganta Biswa Sarma. The Discourse was attended by 34 participants.
C. MANAGEMENT RELATED PROGRAMMES –

i. 15.01.2023 - A full day conclave was organized on 15.01.2023, with the theme, “Addressing Leadership Challenges in Contemporary Management, based on Indian Scriptures”. Mananneeya (Kum.) Nivedita Raghunath Bhide and Ma. (Shri) Hanumant Rao, both the All-India Vice Presidents of Vivekananda Kendra, Kanyakumari and Dr. Ashok Kumar Mahapatra, the famous Neuro-surgeon, were the Chief Speakers. In addition, eight eminent panelists participated in two separate panel discussions. The conclave was participated by executives from Corporates/Banks, Directors/Deans/Faculties of seven B- schools and around 27 B-Schools students, totaling 67.

ii. A talk series has started for B-School students with the topic, ‘Nurturing Holistic Leaders – You are the Maker of Your Own Destiny’. The first such talk has already been delivered in BIITM, Bhubaneswar on 08.01.2024, which was participated by around 60 students. Similar talk will be delivered in other institutes during 2024.

D. OTHER IMPORTANT PROGRAMMES/EVENTS AT AICYAM AND DEVELOPMENTS

i. 15.10.2023 – Vimarsha (the intellectual discourse) on the topic, “Does present technological revolution has its roots from rich Indian cultural traditions?” was organized at AICYAM on 15.10.2023. Dr. Debi Prasad Swain of TCS, Bhubaneswar, deliberated on the topic. The discourse was participated by 30 intellectuals of eminence.
November, 2023 to December, 2023

ii. September, 2023 to December, 2023 - Engagement of MBA students of the School of Management, Birla Global University, Bhubaneswar for undertaking independent study of two highly socially impactful projects of Vivekananda Kendra, namely, ‘Sanskara Varga’ and ‘Anandalaya’, as a part of their ‘Social immersion Project’. Two group of students, totaling 12, had undertaken the independent study of both these projects through their field visits and submitted their reports. Both the reports are testimonies to the creation of significant social capital of these two vibrant projects.

iii. 23.01.2023  – Inauguration of the first All-India Mukta Kaushal Kendra, under MoU with NIOS (National Institute of Open Schooling), Noida, New Delhi and Vivekananda Kendra, at AICYAM, Bhubaneswar – Under the MoU signed between NIOS and Vivekananda Kendra, the first All-India Mukta Kaushal Kendra was inaugurated on 23.01.2023 at AICYAM, which was attended by the Chairperson (Prof. Smt. Saroj Sharma) and Secretary (Sri Pradeep Kumar Mohanty) of NIOS and Mananneeya (Kum.) Nivedita Raghunath Bhide, All India Vice President of Vivekananda Kendra, Kanyakumari. The physical classes of the first batch of 6 months course on ‘Yoga’ and ‘Basic Computer Course’ has already been completed, the examination of which will be conducted by NIOS in the month of May, 2024. The successful students will be issued certificate by NIOS, which will make them eligible for employment. The first batch was for ladies and girls and was completely free of cost to them.

iv. 08.01.2024 – Signing of MoU with KISS, Deemed to be University, Bhubaneswar – MoU was signed between VK-AICYAM and KISS, Deemed to be University, Bhubaneswar on 08.01.2024 to undertake joint research, workshops, seminars etc. in respect of various Janajati communities of Odisha.
v. Anandalaya Acharya Prashikhyan Shibir –

a. 19.05.2023 to 24.05.2023 – The ‘Anandalaya Acharya Prashikhyan Shibir’ was conducted for six days, from 19.05.2023 to 24.05.2023 at AICYAM. The shibir was attended by 52 youths, who have been engaged as Acharyas at various Anandalayas.

b. 27.12.2023 to 02.01.2024 - The ‘Anandalaya Acharya Prashikhyan Shibir’ was conducted for seven days, from 27.12.2023 to 02.01.2024 at AICYAM. The shibir was attended by 72 youths, who have been engaged as Acharyas at various Anandalayas.

vi. 04.08.2023 - Interaction with Ma. Mohan Bhagwat ji, Sarsanghachalak of RSS with AICYAM members - Ma. Mohan Bhagwat ji, Sarsanghachalak of RSS interacted with AICYAM members on 04.08.2023 and provided his ‘Margadarshan’ on how to develop AICYAM as a strong research centre for Janajati Communities.

vii. 01.08.2023 - Interaction with Ma. S. Gurumurthy ji with AICYAM members - Ma. S. Gurumurthy ji interacted with AICYAM members on 01.08.2023 and suggested on how to develop AICYAM as a research centre to fulfill its objectives.

viii. Establishment of first AICYAM Extension Centre at Visakhapatnam – Post the visit of Sri Laxmi Narayan Panigrahy, Secretary, VK-AICYAM, and discussion with the local persons on 18.08.2023, efforts have been made to establish the first Extension Centre of AICYAM at Visakhapatnam to undertake the activities aligned to the objectives of AICYAM in Andhra Pradesh. The Extension Centre has now been functional and has celebrated the AICYAM Foundation Day on 12.01.2024.
ix. **Mission 1000 Membership drive and Loka Samparka** – 38 new members, with minimum annual membership donation of Rs. 6000/-, and 4 new Life Members, with donation of life membership of Rs. 25000/- have been mobilized from 01.01.2023 till 12.01.2024. In addition, number of eminent personalities have also been contacted to involve themselves with AICYAM.

x. **01.08.2023 to 07.08.2023 – ‘Vishesha Prashikhyan Shibir for Pranta Adhikaries’** – Vivekananda Kendra, Kanyakumari has organized the fully residential ‘Vishesha Prashikhyan Shibir for Pranta Adhikaries’ from 01.08.2023 to 07.08.2023 at VK-AICYAM. The Shibir was attended by 120+ dignitaries including all the top dignitaries of Vivekananda Kendra, Kanyakumari and Adhikaries and senior functionaries of various Prantas, Projects, Prakalpas of Kendra across India. Ma. Mohan Bhagwat ji and Ma. S Gurumurthy Ji had also attended the Shibir and addressed the participants.

xi. **22.01.2023 - C20 India 2023 Workshop by Vivekananda Kendra, Kanyakumari at VK-AICYAM** – C20 is an Official Engagement Group of G20. Vivekananda Kendra, Kanyakumari was the chairperson of the C20 Task Force, ‘Diversity, Inclusion and Mutual Respect’. As a part of this Task Force, a series of workshops were organized by Kendra in various parts of India. VK-AICYAM organized one of these workshops in Bhubaneswar, which was chaired by Mananneeya (Kum.) Nivedita Raghunath Bhide, All India Vice President of Vivekananda Kendra, Kanyakumari and participated by 12 NGOs of Odisha.

xii. **Celebrations by Vivekananda Kendra, Bhubaneswar Branch at the Auditorium of VK-AICYAM** – All the important annual functions of Vivekananda Kendra were celebrated by the Bhubaneswar branch at the auditorium of VK-AICYAM, namely, National Youth Day, Universal Brotherhood Day, Rashtriya Nababarsha Utsav, Guru Purnima, Gita Jayanti, Sadhana Divas and Samartha Bharat Parva.
Publication of Souvenir on the 4th Foundation Day of AICYAM (12.01.2024)– 20 articles on various segments (Indian Culture, Yoga, Management, Vimarsha and Miscellaneous) have formed part of the Souvenir, which has been released on 12.01.24. A number of these articles are related to various activities undertaken by AICYAM during 2023. This could be possible due to the relentless efforts and contribution of Sri Girish Chandra Samal, Prof. Nirmal Chandra Dash, Dr. Prafulla Kumar Tripathy, Sri Ajay Kumar Sahu, Sri Ambika Prasad Mishra, Dr. Biswajit Mohapatra, Sri Abhay Sahoo, Sri Samarendra Nayak and Sri Ashutosh Das.