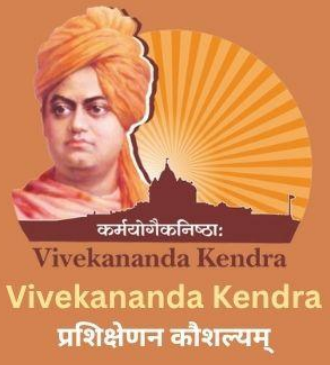


VK-AICYAM PERFORMANCE REPORT FY 25-26



**Vivekananda Kendra Academy for Indian Culture, Yoga And Management
(VK-AICYAM), Bhubaneswar**

विवेकानन्द केन्द्र ऐक्यम्

"All differences in this world are of degree, and not of kind, because oneness is the secret of everything."

- Swami Vivekananda

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ॐ सह नावतु ।

सह नौ भुनक्तु ।

सह वीर्यं करवावहै ।

तेजस्विनावधीतमस्तु मा विद्विषावहै ॥

ॐ शान्तिः शान्तिः शान्तिः ॥

Om saha nāvavatu,

saha nau bhunaktu,

saha vīryam karavāvahai,

tejasvināvadhītamastu mā vidviṣāvahai.

Om śāntiḥ śāntiḥ śāntiḥ.

May the Divine protect us both (teacher and student).

May He nourish us both.

May we work together with great energy.

May our study be enlightening and not give rise to hostility.

Peace, peace, peace.

VK-AICYAM Concept

The **Vivekananda Kendra Academy for Indian Culture, Yoga and Management (VK-AICYAM)** was founded in 2020 as a project of Vivekananda Kendra, Kanyakumari. **Vivekananda Kendra** - a spiritually oriented service mission – came into existence in 1972, as conceived by Mananeeya Sri Eknathji Ranade who always dreamt of building a living dynamic monument worthy of Swami Vivekananda. Guided by the twin ideals of *Man-Making* and *Nation-Building*, the Kendra embodies the noble principle: “*Service to Mankind is Worship of God,*” rooted in the national ethos of Renunciation and Service.

The thoughts behind the establishment of VK-AICYAM germinated from the great and noble work done by the **Vivekananda Kendra Institute of Culture (VKIC), Guwahati** (established in 1993) which is dedicated to exploring and promoting the cultural and spiritual traditions of Northeast India and their connection to the wider Indian ethos. VKIC fosters awareness, strengthens community confidence, and highlights individuals preserving indigenous faiths and has, over the years, built a significant knowledge base documenting the region’s lesser-known but vital belief systems. Drawing inspiration from the success of VKIC, VK-AICYAM was established as a **regional research, resource, and training centre** dedicated to serving the aspirations of Eastern India – Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Bengal, Telangana, and Andhra Pradesh – which is known for its cultural richness and traditional knowledge systems that face growing challenges from external forces threatening indigenous lifestyles and livelihoods.

Conceived as a centre of learning and action, the academy undertakes a wide range of initiatives in the fields of Indian Culture, Yoga, and Management, with special emphasis on research and documentation. Its purpose is to explore the richness of traditional knowledge systems, practices, and values what collectively constitutes the Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS).

Major Objectives: Three Transformative Pillars of VK-AICYAM

- **Research on Cultural Traditions and Janajati Heritage**
VK-AICYAM is committed to conducting research that enriches, promotes, and strengthens the cultural traditions and art forms of the Janajati (Tribal) communities of Eastern India. The academy seeks to highlight the distinctive features of these traditions while nurturing the commonalities that foster unity across communities.
- **Yoga for Holistic Living**
The academy works to expand awareness of Yoga and its multifaceted benefits. Beyond physical well-being, Yoga is promoted as a tool for holistic living, mental balance, and social harmony—particularly relevant in the context of rapidly changing social dynamics.
- **Management & Leadership**
VK-AICYAM bridges the wisdom of ancient scriptures with the demands of modern life. Courses and training programs are designed for youth and professionals, drawing upon timeless insights embedded in India’s classical texts including the *Bhagavad Gita*, *Vedanta* and

Arthashastra. These initiatives cultivate ethical leadership, resilience, and decision-making rooted in values, preparing individuals to contribute meaningfully to nation-building.

Alignment with Vivekananda Kendra's Twin Objectives

All activities of VK-AICYAM are aligned with the overarching mission of Vivekananda Kendra – “*Man Making and Nation Building*.” The academy strives to integrate cultural preservation, holistic living, and value-based leadership into its programs, thereby contributing to the creation of a stronger, more harmonious society.

The core functional activities are:

- Seminars, Workshops, Trainings, Events, and Guest Lectures (online participation)
- Student Internship
- Study by Research Scholars
- Collaboration with institutions to foster common objectives through field study and research
- Recognition of Communities, Researchers, and Key Contributors (Awards/Rewards)
- Documentation, Print Publications, Digital Publications, and Website Content Publications

The key support activities include Management of Fund Raising, Budgeting, Program and Operations.

VK-AICYAM may undertake other activities, which are aligned largely with its aims and objectives of the three areas – Indian Culture, Yoga and Management as well as other related core activities of Vivekananda Kendra. Such activities would be in the areas of Holistic Personality Development and/or skill development of under-privileged youth and women for betterment of their livelihood, empowerment of children of underprivileged communities, Health care, etc.

VK-AICYAM Infrastructure

A large and comprehensive infrastructure with latest communication facilities, manned by persons of proven intellectual competency and integrity are in place. The highlights of the available infrastructure are as follows:

- A 5-story building (Basement + 4) with built-up area of approximately 45000 sq. ft.
- One auditorium having a capacity of 250 seats.
- One hall for Yoga, Prayer, and Meditation
- Three seminar halls with 15-20 seating capacity, Library, and Research desks
- Residential facilities (Dormitory) for accommodating 120 persons at a time
- Dining facilities for 200 persons
- Guest rooms
- Close proximity and excellent connectivity to airport, railway station, and bus stand

(For more details, visit the website <https://vkaicyam.org>)

“Stand up, be bold, be strong. Take the whole responsibility on your own shoulders, and know that you are the creator of your own destiny. All the strength and succour you want is within yourselves”. – Swami Vivekananda

VK-AICYAM Advisors



Mananeeya Kum Nivedita Raghunath Bhide
All-India VP, Vivekananda Kendra, Kanyakumari

- A *Jeevanvrat*i since 1977, Ma. Nivedita has written over 15 Books, presented papers in National and International seminars, and given lectures in IITs and Universities, including Kansas University in the USA.
- Awarded Padmashree by Govt. of India (2017), Lifetime Achievement Award by IIT Kharagpur (2024) besides several other national and international accolades.



Prof. (Dr.) Sampadananda Mishra
*Director, Centre for Human Sciences,
Rishihood University (Sonipat)*

- Dr. Mishra is a renowned Sanskrit Scholar from Odisha and an advocate of Sanskrit language and Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS) – Indian culture, Yoga, spirituality, and education.
- He is also an Adjunct Professor at Centre for Indian Knowledge Systems, IIT, Guwahati.
- He has received several awards from Govt. of India and many institutions.



Prof. (Dr.) Nirmal Chandra Dash
*Professor Emeritus, Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences
(Bhubaneswar)*

- Dr Dash is a PhD in Anthropology with a distinguished academic career spanning over 50 years.
- Retired as Professor in the Department of Population Studies, FM University, Baleswar.
- Renowned for extensive contributions to research and teaching in anthropology and population studies.



Dr. Madan Mohan Padhi
*Former Deputy Director General, CCRAS,
Ministry of AYUSH, Govt. of India*

- Dr. Padhi is an MD and PhD in Ayurveda.
- He is known for treating chronic and critical diseases and published many case studies as leads to clinical studies.
- He has nearly 200 publications in the area of conservation and cultivation of herbal plants and the associated influencing factors.
- He is currently a Consultant at Zandu Ayurveda Chikitsalaya, Bhubaneswar.



Dr. Geetarani Padhi

Vice Chairman, Magnum Group of Industries

- Dr Padhi has a Ph.D. in Nuclear Chemistry and expertise in industrial projects, market research, and product development.
- Recognized as Best Lady Entrepreneur of Odisha in 1992, she has scaled ventures in cosmetics, polymers, and HDPE pipes.
- She founded MDB Foundation in 2015 to empower children and communities; she has been honoured for impactful community service and leadership.



Dr. Mahendra Singh

Former Managing Director, Shiva Cements Ltd.

- Dr. Singh has B.E. in Electrical Engineering, M.A. in Jainology, Master of Business Statistics, and M.A. in Science of Living.
- He is a Veteran professional with 50 years of leadership across 18 industrial units, including 35 years as chief executive.
- He is a spiritual scholar and author of multiple works on success and Vedantic philosophy.
- Through the initiative “Ghar-Ghar Gita”, he is spreading the message of the Gita.



Prof. Premananda Panda

Former Director, SCSTRTI, Govt. of Odisha

- Prof. Panda is a Ph.D. in Anthropology, 30+ years of academic experience wherein he published 8 books and 60+ papers.
- He is an internationally engaged researcher, consultant, and genome project collaborator.
- He is a Former Director SCSTRTI and Head of Anthropology, Sambalpur University; NGO leader with expertise in HRD, displacement and sustainable development.



Prof. Shakti Prasad Mohanty

Former Principal, CET

- Prof. Mohanty is Professor of Mathematics.
- He is a Former Director of Curriculum Biju Patnaik University of Technology (BPUT).
- He is also former Principal of College of Engineering and Technology (CET), Bhubaneswar.
- He is known for his oratorical skills and has published many articles

VK-AICYAM advisors provide mentoring, strategic guidance, subject specific insights, and impartial advice to strengthen VK-AICYAM’s strategy, planning, operation, and governance.

VK-AICYAM Executive Committee

The Executive Committee ensures effective governance, coordination, and implementation of programmes.



Shri Ajaya Ku. Sahoo

- Holds advanced qualifications in Yoga Education, Yoga Psychology, Applied Psychology, and Naturopathy; UGC-NET qualified in Yoga.
- 16 years of PG teaching experience at Utkal University and affiliated colleges; 6 years as an international Yoga professional in Cairo and Kuala Lumpur.
- Author of Yoga for Holistic Health, published by University of Malaya and released by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.
- Currently Visiting Faculty at multiple institutions, Evaluator & Counsellor for IGNOU, Centre Coordinator for NIOS, and Yoga Coordinator at VK-AICYAM, Bhubaneswar.

- Senior banker with 35+ years at SBI, specializing in Rural Credit, MSME, Retail & Agri Business, Stressed Assets, and Audit & Compliance.
- Held senior leadership roles across multiple states, driving Circle-level operations and governance.
- Associated with Vivekananda Kendra since 2002 and with AICYAM since 2022–23, contributing to organizational initiatives



Shri Ambika Prasad Mishra

- Development Consultant specializing in value-based program design and capacity building.
- Focus areas include education, management, and cultural development.
- Actively contributes to strengthening institutions through impactful, values-driven initiatives.
-



Shri Anup Mohapatra

- Professor of Commerce, with an academic career spanning over three decades (1979–2013).
- Served as Principal of Dharanidhar College, Kendujhar and then as Chairman, CHSE (Odisha) from 2013–2017.
- Dedicated Karyakarta of Vivekananda Kendra since 2001, actively engaged in Man Making and Nation Building initiatives.



Prof. (Dr.) Basudev Chhatoi



Shri Bibhuti Pattnayak

- Served over three decades in Indian Railways, retiring as Chief Office Superintendent in 2024.
- M. Com and a distinguished leader at Fakir Mohan College during student days.
- Continues dedicated social service through VK-AICYAM, reinforcing his lifelong commitment to community development

- B. Tech from NIT Rourkela, PG in Management from IIM Kozhikode, and Certificate in Public Policy from the London School of Economics, blending technical and managerial expertise.
- Management consultant focusing on strengthening public institutions, designing long-term vision plans, and delivering complex development and infrastructure projects.
- Engaged with State Governments, Govt. of India, PSUs, and private sector organizations on policy design and execution.
- Associated with VK-AICYAM for last two years.



**Shri Biranchi Narayan
Panigrahi**



Shri Girish Chandra Samal

- Veteran banker with 37+ years at SBI, spanning Rural, Corporate, International Banking, Treasury, and HR functions.
- Retired as Deputy General Manager (Senior Faculty) from State Bank Academy, Gurugram, Haryana.
- Associated with VK-AICYAM since 2022, contributing expertise in training and institutional development.

- Graduate Engineer in Electrical Engineering; PG in Business Management from XIM Bhubaneswar.
- Early career at Telco (Tata Motors) and Dunlop India; later 29 years with Tata Consultancy Services until superannuation.
- Established TCS's Bhubaneswar Development Centre; delivered global IT solutions and key projects for Odisha Government.
- Led Odisha Secretariat Workflow Automation System (OSWAS) and first ERP implementation at Odisha Mining Corporation (OMC), driving governance and process transformation.



Shri Kishore Kumar Swain



Shri Kishori Mohan Mishra

- Civil Engineering professional from the Indian Railway Service of Engineers (IRSE).
- Rendered 37 years of distinguished service in Indian Railways and its PSU, Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL).
- Recognized for leadership and expertise in large-scale infrastructure and railway development projects.

- Graduate of Khalikote College, Brahmapur who transitioned from banking to full-time service with Vivekananda Kendra in 1994.
- Experienced project coordinator and organizational leader, with assignments across Assam, Bihar, Bengal, and Odisha.
- Currently, serves as Secretary of VK-AICYAM, Prkalpa Sangathak for Odisha Seva Prkalpa, and is a member of VKPR Hospital committee at Paradip.



Shri Laxminarayan Panigrahy

- Retired Professor of Mathematics from OUAT with 30+ years of academic and leadership service.
- Held roles as Assistant Professor (12 years), Associate Professor & Head (8 years), and Professor & Head (17 years).
- Contributed significantly to OUAT and BPUT through teaching, departmental leadership, and academic development.



Prof. Minaketan Mahanti

- M.A. (Education, Yoga), Ph.D; academic contributor, author of PG-level Yoga textbooks for Utkal University of Culture.
- Chief Advisor, Dayanand Group of Institutions, Sambalpur; Trustee/Advisor, Centre for Education, Research and Training (CERT Trust), Sambalpur; associated with TRISA, Bhubaneswar.
- Secretary, All India Yoga Association (Odisha Chapter); Zilla Pradhan, Biju Patnaik Yoga Zilla (Bharatiya Yoga Sansthan); Executive Member, Vivekananda Yoga Therapy Research Institute, Bhubaneswar.
- Recognized public speaker and scriptwriter with national broadcasts on All India Radio; organizer of seminars, workshops, and large-scale Yoga initiatives across Odisha.



Dr. Prafulla Kumar Tripathy



Shri Ram Kishore Sharma

- Retired Head of Institute, National Career Service Centre for Differently Abled and SCs-STs, Ministry of Labour & Employment, Government of India.
- Authored 8 books and 100+ articles; published by Govt of India, Odisha, UNDP, ActionAid, and Indian Red Cross.
- Honoured with two National Awards from the President and Prime Minister of India, plus multiple state and regional recognitions.
- Trainer, motivational speaker, rehabilitation professional, career counsellor, and TV panellist.
- Conducted training for PSUs, Odisha Govt, corporates, and academic institutions continuing to contribute to inclusive development and workforce empowerment.

- Retired banker from UCO Bank with extensive experience in financial and operational management.
- Serves as Vyavastha Pramukha at VK-AICYAM, overseeing organizational administration and coordination.
- Leads the Working Group on Operations Management, contributing expertise in systems, governance, and efficiency.



Shri Samarendra Nayak



Dr. Santosh Kumar Mohanty

- Director of VK-AICYAM, Bhubaneswar; Fellow and Board Expert at Institute of Directors, advancing IKS-driven social value creation in education, healthcare, and culture.
- Served 25 years at TCS leading global roles in R&D, technology excellence, IP management, and product engineering.
- ICT Industry Strategy Officer at World Economic Forum (2015-20).
- Distinguished IT architect and IP strategist with 10 granted patents and 100+ publications; award-winning contributor to innovation, governance, and industry leadership.

- Holds a Master's in Physics, PG Diploma in Computer Science, and MBA from XIM.
- Professional journey includes faculty role at OUAT, Scientific Officer at NIC (Govt. of India), and managerial IT leadership at NALCO.
- Post-retirement, actively contributes to social institutions with a focus on societal development and youth empowerment.

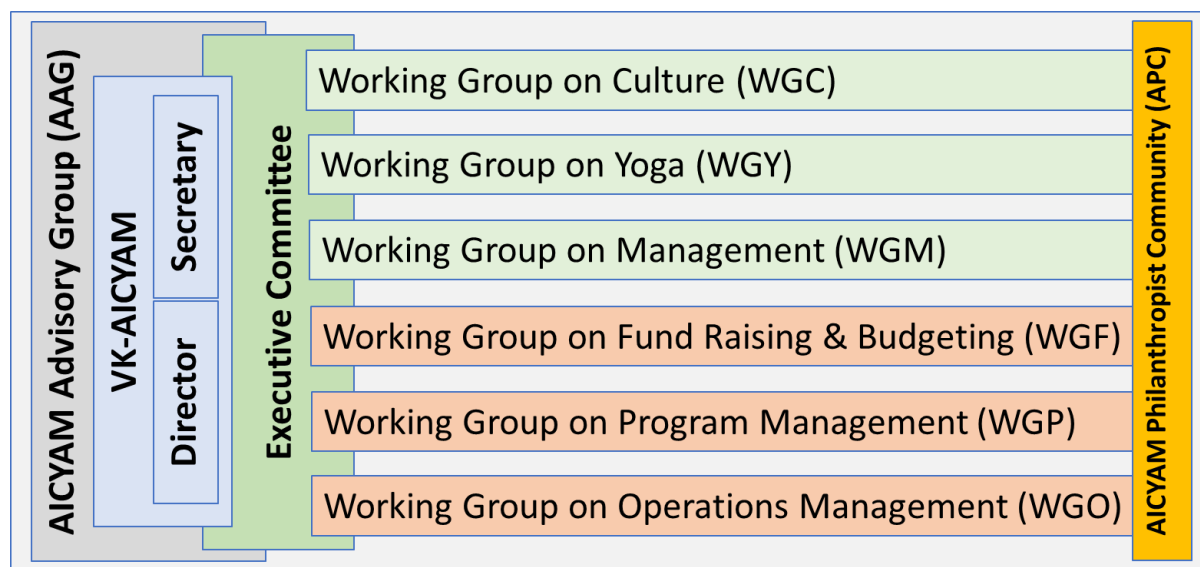


Shri Sudhakar Sahoo

VK-AICYAM Organisational Framework

On **15 November 2025**, a **formal governance framework** was established to ensure the realization of objectives and goals, along with the effective implementation of activities. This framework defined clear **roles, responsibilities, and principles of collaboration** to guide the process.

The following diagram depicts the relationships amongst various roles in the new set-up:



Secretary

This position shall be nominated by the VK HQ. VK HQ may select one of the Jeeven Vrati Karyakarta - either Prant Prakalpa Sangathak or Prant Sangathak or any one deputed from VK HQ. The Secretary will be the overall in-charge of VK-AICYAM.

Director

The position shall be held by a person of eminence, preferably with strong academic background with leadership and administrative experience. The person should be willing to spare his/her time on a regular basis for spearheading multiple activities of VK-AICYAM in coordination with Secretary and other willing members. The person should also be a patron of VK Kanyakumari as well as VK-AICYAM.

Executive Committee (EC)

The Secretary and the Director will be ably supported by an Executive Committee. The Executive Committee should have a composition of 10 – 25 members covering representation from Eastern Regions (Odisha, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana). As the basic nature of AICYAM is that of an applied research organisation to undertake research in the fields of Tribal Culture, Yoga and Management, the members of the committee should be persons of eminence in one or more of the multifarious fields such as academics, tribal culture, yoga, Indian scriptures, organisational leadership, management professionals, and subject area experts. The Executive Committee has to setup **Working Groups (WGs)** depicted in the chart to effectively develop, manage, and govern AICYAM capabilities.

Each member of the Executive Committee needs to be a self-driven and willing member to contribute voluntarily some of his/her quality time consistently for VK-AICYAM to plan and execute the assigned

roles and responsibilities in coordination with other group members and achieve a meaningful progress from time to time in a systematic manner.

The Secretary and the Director shall be the ex-officio members of the Executive Committee and can be a part of one or more Working Groups depending upon their willingness and interest. Additionally, one of the Life workers (Jeevan Vrati) in-charge of Vivekananda Kendra, Odisha Prant (Prant Sangathak/Sah-Prant Sangathak) and/or the Prant Pramukh shall be a permanent invitee. Presence of such a member in the meetings is desirable to ensure the right communication and execution of some of the action points through various branches and activity centres of VK Odisha Prant.

VK-AICYAM – Team Collaboration Principles

The VK-AICYAM members deliberated and agreed on collaboration principles across different organisational role play. The following matrix provides a chart on activity level accountability and responsibility across role plays (RACI – Responsible, Accountable, Consulted, and Informed)

VK-AICYAM Activities and RACI Matrix	Responsible		Accountable		Role Play				Consulted		Informed	
	SE	DR	EC	WGC	WGY	WGM	WGF	WGP	WGO	APC	AAG	
Convening the Executive Committee Meeting	R	A	R	I	I	I	I	R	I	I	I	
Convening the Annual Meeting	R	A	R	I	I	I	I	R	I	I	C	
Convening the Working Group Meeting	C	C	R	A	A	A	A	A	R	I		
Website and Social Media Communication	C	C	R	I	I	I	I	A	R	I		
Annual Souvenir Plan and Publication	C	C	R	I	I	I	I	A	R	I		
Annual Report Plan and Publication	R	A	R	I	I	I	I	R	I	I	C	
Event Planning & Execution - Culture Stream	C	C	R	A	I	I	I	R	R	I		
Event Planning & Execution - Yoga Stream	C	C	R	I	A	I	I	R	R	I		
Event Planning & Execution - Management Stream	C	C	R	I	I	A	I	R	R	I		
Event Planning and Execution - Cross Stream	A	R	R	I	I	I	I	R	R	I	C	
Minutes of Meeting Preparation (EC Meeting)	R	A	R	I	I	I	I	R	I	I	I	
Minutes of Meeting Circulation (EC Meeting)	R	A	R	I	I	I	I	R	I	I	I	
Minutes of Meeting Preparation (WG Meeting)	I	I	R	A	A	A	A	A	A	I		
Minutes of Meeting Circulation (WG Meeting)	I	I	R	A	A	A	A	A	A	I		
Circulation of Periodic Updates	R	R	R	I	I	I	I	A	R	I	I	
Financial Prudence (Collection, Expenses, Advisory)	C	C	R	I	I	I	A	I	R	C	I	
Member Acquisition	A	R	R	R	R	R	I	R	I	C		
Member Promotion	R	A	R	R	R	R	I	R	I	C		
Fund Raising - Individual Donors	A	R	R	I	I	I	I	R	I	C		
Fund Raising - Institutional Donors	R	A	R	I	I	I	I	R	I	C	C	
Proposal - Scouting, Writing, Submission, and Q&A	R	A	R	R	R	R	I	R	I	I	C	
Website and Multi-Media Management	I	I	R	I	I	I	I	A	R	I		
Institutional Relationship Building	R	A	R	I	I	I	I	I	I	C	C	
Operations Management	R	R	R	I	I	I	I	I	A	I		
Formal Visit (Donor/Potential Donor) Facilitation	A	R	R	R	R	R	I	R	R	I		

The meetings and consultations are either in-person or online. The information sharing is primarily through emails/messages.

The chart presented is the assigned responsibilities within the VK-AICYAM structure. VK-AICYAM team collaborates with OSP (Odisha Seva Prakalpa), Eastern Region Prants, and VK Kanyakumari in conducting activities to deliver the results.

VK-AICYAM Philanthropist Community (APC)

A community can be formed among the philanthropists of VK-AICYAM. The philanthropist can be of the following categories:

- Donors, who are donating a minimum amount at monthly/annual frequency on a regular basis to AICYAM but are unable to devote quality time for AICYAM due to their other commitments. The minimum donation amount would be decided by the Executive Committee time-to-time.

- Persons, who were engaged/associated with AICYAM in the previous years but are unable to engage themselves with AICYAM now because of either old age or ill-health or other pertinent reasons and are interested to know about ongoing activities so that at times, they can contribute something positively to AICYAM.
- Some eminent personalities, who are open to support AICYAM to fulfil its objectives.

VK-AICYAM Advisory Group

The Secretary and the Director, in discussion with VK HQ may onboard some eminent personalities as ‘Upadestha’ (AICYAM Advisory Group – AAG) to advise and guide the VK-AICYAM Executive Committee towards the realisation of its strategic intent. VK-AICYAM advisors provide mentoring, strategic guidance, subject specific insights, and impartial advice to strengthen VK-AICYAM’s strategy, planning, operation, and governance.

VK-AICYAM – Results to Deliver – 3-YEAR PLAN

VK-AICYAM in collaboration with VK- OSP (Odisha Seva Prakalpa), Eastern Region Prants, and VK Kanyakumari strategizes and plans to progressively deliver the following results in three years beginning the financial year 2025-26.

1. Deeper and Trusted Interaction with the traditional communities and field works in the Eastern Region (Odisha, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana)
2. Skills Development and Upgradation through Training
3. Knowledge Dissemination through Documentation and Outreach Programs
4. Outreach to establish, listen, and grow VK-AICYAM Support Base – VK-AICYAM Patrons, VK-AICYAM Members, and VK-AICYAM Donors (Individual and Institutional)
5. Proactive Support Team that operates with agility and efficiency

Expected Social Impact on VK-AICYAM Activities

- Shaping the character, conduct, and career of Anandalaya children
- Building community leadership attitude and aptitude among the village youths and village community – Acharyas, Supervisors, Samaj Prabodhaks, Gram Mitras, and Traditional Healers
- Developing a trusted platform to expose traditional healers to the enabling ecosystem for the benefits of healers and healing community
- Community driven inclusive rural development (cultural, social, and economic) leading to ‘Vikashit Gram’ (Anand Gram)
- Development of quality learning and program management artefacts that help in delivering efficient, responsive, and timely results (output).
- Bringing a sense of deep satisfaction among the VK-AICYAM patrons, members, donors, and evangelists as their contributions lead to creation of social, cultural, and economic wealth.

(For details, visit website <https://vkaicyam.org>)

Notable Activities During FY 25-26

Training Intervention By VK-AICYAM In Anandalaya

Anandalaya is an ‘education supportive service’ of Vivekananda Kendra Odisha Seva Prkalp (VK-OSP) for the tribal and the socially disadvantaged children in the age group of 3-9 years.

To provide a solid foundation for children’s future, the learning methodologies and pedagogy practiced in Anandalaya are based on four key aspects of man-making process:

- **Shiksha** develops the ‘aptitude’ to perform an activity or action
- **Samskara** develops the ‘attitude and approach’ to perform an activity or action
- **Swasthya** prepares the readiness of ‘body and mind’ to perform an activity or action
- **Swabhiman** teaches to perform an activity or action with a ‘belief’ and in a ‘respectful manner’

The pedagogical approaches (such as play, music, songs, dance, games, activities, story-telling, conversations, yoga practices, and the innovative combinations) help in stimulating children for development and motivate them to keep learning.

There are teachers called *Acharyas* in charge of Anandalaya, who are imparted continuous training by VK-OSP. A cluster of contiguous Anandalayas are supervised by a person called Supervisor. VK-AICYAM provides institutional training to the Acharyas on a residential basis to enhance their skill and capability levels for effective conduct of the Anandalayas.

Acharya Prasikshan Shibir

In the month of May 2026 (16th to 30th), VK-AICYAM conducted two batches of Anandalaya Acharya Prasikshan Shibir (APS) (one week training for each batch) at the VK-AICYAM premises. The APS was attended by 180 Acharyas. Significant learning objects were digitized during the APS. These learning objects have been processed and catalogued for further use. The following chart is the summary of the feedback given by the participating Acharyas:

ନିକାଶ ସ୍ତର ପ୍ରତିକ୍ରିୟା (ଶିକ୍ଷଣ ଦିଗ)		Exit Level Feedback (on Learning Aspects)																						
FB01	ଏକନାଥଜୀ, ବିବେକାନନ୍ଦ ଶାଳା ସ୍ମାରଣା ଓ ବିବେକାନନ୍ଦ କେନ୍ଦ୍ର ବିଷୟରେ ଜାଣିବା	Knowing about Eknathji, VRM, VK																						
FB02	ଶିକ୍ଷା, ସଂସ୍କାର, ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟ ଏବଂ ସ୍ୱାଭିମାନ ନୀତି ସମ୍ପର୍କରେ ଜାଣିବା	Knowing the four principles - Sikshya, Samskara, Swasthya and Swabhiman																						
FB03	NCF ଅଧୀନରେ ଲକ୍ଷ୍ୟ ବିଷୟରେ ଧାରଣା ପାଇବା	Getting idea of goals under NCF																						
FB04	ଆନନ୍ଦାଳୟରେ ଅନୁସରଣ କରୁଥିବା ଶିକ୍ଷଣ ବସ୍ତୁ ଏବଂ ପଢ଼ାପଦ୍ଧତିକୁ ବୁଝିବା	Understanding the learning objects and methodologies followed in Anandalaya																						
FB05	ବିଭିନ୍ନ ଶାରୀରିକ ବ୍ୟାୟାମ ଏବଂ ଯୋଗା ଜାଣିବା	Knowing various physical exercises and Yoga																						
FB06	ବିଭିନ୍ନ ପ୍ରାର୍ଥନା ଏବଂ ଶ୍ଳୋକ ଶିଖିବା	Learning various prayers and slokas																						
FB07	ଯୋଗାଯୋଗ ଏବଂ କାହାଣୀ କହିବାର କଳା ଶିଖିବା	Learning the art of communication & story telling																						
FB08	ଆନନ୍ଦାଳୟ ଶିଶୁ - ଦିକାଶ ତଦାରଖ ଏବଂ ଉନ୍ନତି	Anandalaya Children: Development Monitoring and Improvement																						
FB09	ଉଦ୍ଦେଶ୍ୟପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ଜୀବନ	Purposeful life																						
FB10	ଆଚାର୍ଯ୍ୟ ଭାବରେ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟ କରିବାକୁ ସମର୍ଥ ହୋଇ ପାରିବା	Being capable of functioning as Acharya																						
#3 - ଆଶାଠାରୁ ଅଧିକ #2 - ଆଶା ଅନୁଯାୟୀ #1 - ଆଶା ଠାରୁ କମ୍		#3 - Exceeds Expectation; #2 - As per Expectation; #1: Below Expectation																						
Prashikshan as per Expectation?	Batch – I										Batch – II													
	FB01	FB02	FB03	FB04	FB05	FB06	FB07	FB08	FB09	FB10	Average	FB01	FB02	FB03	FB04	FB05	FB06	FB07	FB08	FB09	FB10	Average		
	44	49	29	44	35	34	42	41	46	46	41	74	77	64	68	79	75	76	65	71	76	72.5		
	Exceeds	6	1	19	5	13	14	6	7	4	3	7.8	Same	18	17	27	26	15	17	18	28	22	18	20.6
	Same	0	0	2	1	2	2	2	2	0	1	1.2	Below	2	0	3	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	0.9
Below	0	0	2	1	2	2	2	2	0	1	1.2	Below	2	0	3	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	0.9	
Total	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50		Total	94	94	94	94	94	94	94	94	94	94		

The following chart provides a summary of what Acharyas look forward to achieve after this training:

Transforming Learning to Field Action (Prashikshan ru Prayog)	
1	To be known as a good and competent Acharya
2	To be a role model in the village for the holistic development of children
3	To establish supporting structure in the village such as Abhibhabak Vichar Samiti
4	Teaching children about empathy, diligence, responsibility, self-belief, and righteous path
5	Teaching children to pay respect to parents and elders
6	Imparting Value Based Education and Improving Quality of Education
7	Helping children in understanding and practicing punctuality
8	Helping children in learning and practicing different learning objects
9	Telling children stories and the art/approach of story telling
10	Telling children stories on different subjects such as freedom fighter
11	Explaining children about 4S - Shiksha, Samskara, Swasthya, and Swabhiman
12	To remain attentive for the overall development of Children
13	Putting efforts for full attendance of children in Anandalaya session
14	Remembering learning of Prashikshan Shibir and committing to practice
15	To diligently execute all responsibilities as Acharya
16	Learning to handle hurdles that come in our way to achieve goals
17	To be a part of all-round development of village
18	To engage in social service for the respective community
19	Leading a full life that is devoted to dharma and good work
20	Expecting Kendra to come forward in assisting Acharya's for Higher Education
<i>The above twenty are the Key Expectations listed by the participants (to achieve)</i>	

Anandalaya Supervisor Review Meeting

VK-AICYAM and Odisha Seva Prakalpa conducted a two-day long Anandalaya Supervisor training program at VK-AICYAM premises on Feb 28 and Mar 1, 2026. The focus was to understand the reason for supervisors' struggle in collecting and sharing the monthly information related to Anandalaya on a timely basis and with regularity. Certain action steps are agreed upon to improve the functional knowledge (learning objects covered during an Anandalaya session) and operational efficiency of supervisors so that they can have a better confidence to support Anandalaya Acharyas and effectively collect the data for reporting / analysis.

VK-AICYAM Student Internship Learning Module

VK-AICYAM team developed a student internship learning module with a purpose to provide practical experience and field exposure to interns along with the development of professional skills as well as promoting their moral, mental, and physical wellbeing. The core objectives are:

- To develop life skills and social interaction capabilities
- To gain practical experience through learning and field exposure on social system
- To document understanding of field learning on social interactions
- To list a set of key action points for consideration

The internship is planned for one month with 200 hours of intervention covering areas:

- Professional Skill Development
- Ethical Development
- Mental and Emotional Well-being and Flexibility
- Physical welfare (well-being) and self-care

The internship is expected to deliver the following to the student interns.

- Acquiring and documenting a structured list of key social skills, including communication, teamwork, problem-solving, and adaptability that are essential for effective engagement in social systems.
- Active participation in real-world community interactions that leads to hands-on experience in analysing and understanding social structures, challenges, and interventions.
- Preparing comprehensive reports summarizing key learnings, challenges faced, and insights gained from fieldwork.
- Formulating a set of actionable recommendations based on field observations to enhance social engagement strategies and improve intervention effectiveness.

Samaj Prabodhak Prashikshan Shibir (SPPS)

The Samaj Prabodhak Prashikshan Shibir (SPPS) was held on May 16-25 2025, VK-AICYAM Premises. This is the second SPPS and the program was redesigned based on the learning of first SPPS and the field interaction. The Prashikshan was planned at three levels with the following focus:

- a) Phase I: Introductory learning to prepare team for the field activities (10 Days)
- b) Phase II: Regulated field exposure after introductory training (04 Weeks)
- c) Phase III: Reflection on field work and preparation for 12 months project (05 Days)

The broad categories and sub-categories were agreed upon for field interaction, data collection and report preparation covering lifestyle, yearly festivals/celebrations, and traditional social principles and administration.

International Day of Yoga 2025

VK-AICYAM in collaboration with VK Odisha Prant hosted 'International Day of Yoga' Program on Sunday, June 29th 2025 with a one-day national seminar on the theme "One Earth, One Health". The seminar explored the interconnection between human well-being and ecological balance through the lens of yogic philosophy and practice. There were 60 participants and 20 research articles were presented. All participants received certificates for attending this national seminar. Prof. Pravakar Mishra (former Principal, KCG Sanskrit College) was the keynote speaker.

Maha Yuva Prerana Shibir

VK-AICYAM, in collaboration with the Odisha Prant team, designed the *Utthiṣṭha Jāgrata Yuva Mahāshibir 2025*. The programme was held during the last week of September 2025 at the SOA University campus, Bhubaneswar. As a flagship initiative, it aimed to empower the youth of Odisha with inner strength, cultural rootedness, leadership qualities, and a spirit of service.

The Mahāshibir brought together **503 youths** across districts of Odisha, embodying the aspirations of young India under the inspiring theme "*Sambhav Kare Asambhav Ko Bhi*". Among the participants were **393 college students** and **110 karyakartas**, with a ratio of **53:47** representation of **girls and boys**.

The Mahāshibir served as a dynamic platform for intellectual engagement and experiential learning. It offered participants a living exposure to discipline, cultural values, service orientation, and collective action. The carefully structured routine of the programme was designed to awaken and nurture the leadership potential inherent in the youth, enabling them to channel their energies toward purposeful action and societal contribution.

The *Utthiṣṭha Jāgrata Yuva Mahāshibir 2025* was not merely an event, but a **movement**—a collective awakening of young minds to their higher purpose and deeper potential.

Vimarsh on Sanskrit Language and Indian Culture

On **October 29, 2025**, VK-AICYAM organized a one-hour *Vimarsh* on “*Sanskrit Language and Indian Culture*” at its premises. The session was delivered by **Dr. Sampadananda Mishra**, Dean of Cultural Studies and Director of the Centre for Human Sciences, Rishihood University, Haryana.

The discussion was profound yet accessible, offering enlightening perspectives that stimulated fresh thinking. Dr. Mishra’s analysis highlighted the healing impact of Sanskrit words and their precise pronunciation, presenting thought-provoking insights. His exposition suggested that, with applied knowledge and sustained innovation, this dimension of Sanskrit has the potential to significantly influence the field of speech-language pathology.

Traditional Healing Conference

VK-AICYAM in collaboration with CARI (Central Ayurvedic Research Institute) Bhubaneswar hosted a National Conference on “**Cultivation, Harvesting, and Sustainable Utilization of Medicinal Plants for Farmers and Traditional Healers**” on November 02-03, 2025 at its Auditorium. There were 197 participants for the conference, of which 121 are traditional healers from 15 districts of Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, and Jharkhand and 23 practitioners, researchers, and policy makers representing various organisations i.e., Ministry of Ayush, Delhi, NMPB (National Medicinal Plant Board), Delhi, CSIR-TKDL (Traditional Knowledge Digital Library), SMPB (State Medicinal Plant Board), Bhubaneswar, CARI (Central Ayurvedic Research Institute), Bhubaneswar, SCSTRTI (SC and ST Research and Training Institute), Bhubaneswar, OUAT (Odisha University of Agriculture and Technology), and KISS University, Bhubaneswar. In addition, there were 53 participations from other organisations, Vivekananda Kendra, and VK-AICYAM members. (Gist of proceedings given at Annexure I)

VK-AICYAM Foundation Day Event (Jan 10-12, 2026)

To mark the occasion of VK-AICYAM’s establishment on **12 January 2020**, coinciding with the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda, three **national workshops** on Management, Yoga and Culture were organized from **10–12 January 2026** on the overall theme “**Researching, Documenting, and Promoting Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS)**”. The three-day programme included workshops, seminars, cultural evenings, release of the “**ऐक्यम् 2026**” Foundation Day Publication, and distribution of certificates to Mukta Kaushal Kendra (MKK) batches and participants.

Highlights

- **400+ participants** attended, with at least 120 present each day.
- **92 speakers** (keynotes, speakers, and panellists) contributed across **18 sessions**.
- The event featured **20 paper presentations**, participation from **16 organizations**, and **21 panellists**.
- **Cultural Evening (Jan 11)**: A live *Chhau Nritya* performance showcased themes of Kshatriya, Nataraj, Kumud Bandhu, and Rangpanda, alongside devotional *Bhajan Sandhya* and community performances.
- **Publication Release**: The *ऐक्यम् 2026 Foundation Day Publication* was launched, featuring **28 articles** (18 in English, 9 in Odia, 1 in Hindi).

- **Documentation & Media:** VK-AICYAM members meticulously recorded proceedings, with photography and videography by dedicated teams and support from the Odisha Research Centre (ORC).
- **Organizing Excellence:** Anchoring, cultural arrangements, back-end operations, and guest coordination were managed seamlessly by VK-AICYAM members and volunteers.
- **Organising partners:** NRDC (National Research Development Corporation) and ORC (Odisha Research Centre)
- **Knowledge partners:** Central Tribal University of Andhra Pradesh, Institute of Life Sciences, Bhubaneswar, KIIT School of Management, Bhubaneswar, KISS University, Bhubaneswar, SOA University, Bhubaneswar, and Sri Sri University, Bhubaneswar.
- **Sponsors:** Tata Sons, IDBI Bank, Canara Bank, NALCO, and Punjab National Bank and individual patrons

Outcome

The events created a vibrant platform for knowledge exchange, cultural expression, and documentation of indigenous traditions. It concluded with a collective resolve to continue research, documentation, and promotion of indigenous knowledge systems.

VK-AICYAM library system and operation design

A select set of VK-AICYAM members (based on their interest) met on 31st January, 2026 to discuss the VK-AICYAM library system and operation. Dr. Bijay Panda, Head of IRC (Information Resource Centre), TCS Bhubaneswar was invited as a guest speaker to deliberate on library process and planning (Standard Indexing Principles – Books/Journals, Racking Principles, Archiving Principles, Institutional Categorization, Usage (Issue, Read Out, Put-Back) Process, etc.). Shri Bibhuti Pattnayak (VK-AICYAM EC Member) volunteered to operationalize the VK-AICYAM library system as per the newer approach. The change management activities are planned to be undertaken and completed during the first quarter of FY 26-27.

Participation in ABAB 2026

VK-AICYAM members Dr. Santosh Mohanty, Shri Kishore Swain, and Shri Biranchi Narayan Panigrahy participated ABAB 2026 (Feb 06 – 08 at Bhilwara, Rajasthan). Dr. Santosh Mohanty presented the overarching views of activities on Indian Culture across Vivekananda Kendra Institutions.



- प्रबिद्यणेन कौशल्यम्

Vivekananda Kendra Kanyakumari

Prakalpa Reports on Culture (संस्कृति)

ABAB 2026



Dr. Santosh Mohanty also presented a brief on Traditional Healing Conference as a marquee event.



Traditional Healing Conference, Nov 02-03 2025: Learning & Next Steps

Learning

- Absence of structured database on healers, patients, treatments, and remarks
- Lack of documentation risks the extinction of traditional healing capability
- Lack of scientific validation reduces credibility
- Variations of oral traditions within and across communities for similar health conditions
- Practitioners not effectively leveraging the available official healthcare frameworks
- Limited opportunities for collaboration with modern healthcare providers
- Ad hoc commercial pathways for local products

Next Steps

- **Reach Out:** Continuous update of database of the Traditional Healers
- **Preservation:** Documentation of the treatment practices of the Traditional Healers based on their willingness and as per the policy guidelines
- **Publication:** Cultivation, Conservation and sustainable utilization of medicinal plants
- **Shaping the Focus:** Pathway for future research, innovation, development, and commercialization.
- **Partnership:** Facilitating the collaboration with Research/ Academic Institutes, Healthcare Industries, and Policy-making-bodies

Dr.

Santosh Mohanty along with Shri Vivek Patki presented the approach for publishing the VRMVK Annual Report 2025-26 to the VRMVK management team at ABAB 2026 and shared a reference deck for CSR reach out based on FY 24-25 Annual Report.

Online meeting with BAOU

Ma. Nivedita Didi facilitated an online meeting among Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University (BAOU), VK-AICYAM, and VK-Pradanam. The participants were Ma. Nivedita Didi, Prof. Ami Upadhyay (VC, BAOU) and Team, Shri Nirmalya Bhattacharyya (VK-Pradanam), and Dr. Santosh Mohanty (VK-AICYAM). The discussion was focused on understanding each institution's objective and the collaboration possibilities. The following was a list of key points tabled for potential collaborations:

- Agreement on the importance of **collaboration in studies of traditional medicine, healing, and health practices**. This can serve as motivation to start a new course or utilise the existing courses on health, lifestyle, and yoga.
- Introducing **traditional healing as one of the themes of the upcoming conference on the Indian Knowledge System** at BAOU.
- VK's expertise in culture, traditional knowledge, folk arts, and community development can be used to **connect with the Centre for Equal Opportunities and Inclusive Education – Atri and the Centre for Holistic Development of Women – Gargi** at BAOU.

Meeting with the Director ORC

The Odisha Research Centre (ORC) was one of the organising partners during our Foundation Day event. ORC partnered with VK-AICYAM for the National Workshop on Indian Culture. Prof. Chandi Prasad Nanda (Director, ORC) participated in a thematic session on 'Traditional Knowledge among Janajati Communities in Eastern India: Study, Documentation, and Promotion'. After the Foundation Day event, Dr. Santosh Mohanty, Shri Biranchi Narayan Panigrahi, and Shri Anup Mohapatra met Prof.

Nanda at his office to discuss the potential collaboration. VK-AICYAM participants spoke about their focus on Traditional Healing and Samaj Prabodhak initiatives. Prof. Nanda spoke about the ORC's focus and was keen to have collaboration on research, training, and field activities. All agreed to meet during the month of April with a plan to discuss on a set of activities for collaboration during FY 26-27.

Interaction with Ma. Nivedita Didi

Members of VK-AICYAM had the privilege of interacting with **Ma. Nivedita Didi** during her stay at the VK-AICYAM premises for the *Odisha Prant Varshik Baithak*. The meeting was held on Monday, March 23rd, from 5:30 PM to 7:45 PM, with the participation of over forty members. The session started with a formal welcome extended to Ma. Nivedita Didi, Ma. Pravin ji, and VK-AICYAM Advisor Gita Didi by the Program Head. Following this, the VK-AICYAM Director presented an overview of the organization's progress during FY 2025–26 and outlined the broad plans for FY 2026–27.

Shri Ajaya Sahoo (Yoga Lead) spoke on two topics related to yoga as an exploration during FY 26-27 in addition to the committed activities:

- (a) Exploring the possibilities on partnering with academic institution/ university to open diploma / degree courses in Yoga
- (b) Initiating a research work to study the Yoga Parampara in Odisha

Shri Biranch Narayan Panigrahy (Healthcare Lead) provided a brief on the activities and collaboration planned towards the recognition and promotion of traditional healing and traditional healers.

The meeting concluded with **Ma. Nivedita Didi** offering her perspectives and guidance to the team, inspiring further direction for VK-AICYAM's initiatives

Interaction meeting between Ma. Nivedita Didi and ORC Director

On Tuesday / March 24th early afternoon (12:30 PM to 1:15 PM), a special interaction meeting was organised between **Ma. Nivedita Didi** and **Prof. Chandi Prasad Nanda** (Director, ORC). VK-AICYAM advisor Prof. Premananda Panda, Secretary, Program Head, and the Director were present. Prof. Nanda reiterated his intent and commitment to collaborate with VK-AICYAM.

VK-AICYAM Factsheet 2025-26

VK-AICYAM Establishment	
Attribute	Value
VK-AICYAM Established on	January 12 th 2020
VK-AICYAM Postal Address	AICYAM, Vivekananda Kendra Jagamara-Pokhariput Road, Bhubaneswar – 751030
VK-AICYAM Website	www.vkaicyam.org
VK-AICYAM Office Email	vkaicyam@vkendra.org
Email contact for query/information	info@vkaicyam.org
VK-AICYAM Director	Dr. Santosh Kumar Mohanty Email: director.vkaicyam@vkendra.org
VK-AICYAM Secretary	Shri Laxminarayan Panigrahy Email: laxminarayan@vkendra.org
VK-AICYAM FY 25-26 Update	
Attribute	Value
Anandalaya Acharya Prashikshan Shibir	144 Anandalaya Acharyas were trained in two batches (May 16-30) at VK-AICYAM premises (one week of training for each batch)
Anandalaya Supervisor Refresher Shibir	11 Anandalaya Supervisors went through 02 days of refresher training (Feb 28 th -Mar 01 st) to improve their functional and operation efficiency. 185 Learning Objects were signed-off as a part of Anandalaya Margdarshika V2.0 Release
Samaj Prabodhak Prashikshan	12 participants from 06 communities were trained (Phase – I, May 16-25) at VK-AICYAM premises 06 participants from 04 communities continued for Phase – II training at their home location (04 weeks) and then attended the Phase – III training (reflection and learning) and then deputed for field activities.
Traditional Healing Conference	02 days (Nov 02-03) event at VK-AICYAM premises. Total Participants: 197 (Traditional Healers: 121 ; Practitioners/Policy Makers: 23) Organising Partner: CCRAS-CARI Bhubaneswar Knowledge Partners: National Medicinal Plant Board (NMPB); Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL); State Medicinal Plant Board (SMPB)
National Yoga Seminar	02 Yoga Seminars at VK-AICYAM Premises • June 29 th 2025 (20 articles presented) Theme: One Earth, One Health – Interconnection between human well-being and ecological balance through the lens of yogic philosophy and practice • January 11 th 2026 (20 articles presented)

	Theme: Meditation in Classical Yogic Literature – Theory and Practices
National Workshop on Management	January 10 th 2026 at VK-AICYAM Premises Theme: IKS-Focused Innovation, Intellectual Property & Entrepreneurship Organising Partner: National Research Development Corporation (NRDC), Government of India
National Workshop on Indian Culture	January 11 th -12 th 2026 at VK-AICYAM Premises Theme: Knowledge among Janajati Communities in Eastern India – Study, Documentation and Promotion Organising Partner: Odisha Research Centre
Foundation Day Event	January 10 th -12 th 2026 at VK-AICYAM Premises <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jan 10th: Inauguration, Release of ऐक्यम् Publication (2026), National Workshop on Management • Jan 11th: National Seminar on Yoga and a Special Session on Mukta Kaushal Kendra (MKK) • Jan 11th-12th: National Workshop on Indian Culture, Bhajan Sandhya, Cultural Program, and Valedictory Ceremony
VK-AICYAM Vimarsh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sanskrit Language and Indian Culture
VK-AICYAM Meetings (Knowledge Partner)	14 Partners and 30 Meetings (Birla Global University, CARI Bhubaneswar, CCRAS, CTUAP, Institute of Life Science, KISS University, NMPB, NRDC, ORC, OUAT, SOA University, SMPB, Sri Sri University, and TKDL).
VK-AICYAM Meetings (Community)	More than 200 Community Meetings as a part of Anandalaya Feedback Sessions at villages, Samaj Prabodhak Team’s meeting with Community, and Meetings with Traditional Healers’ Community
VK-AICYAM Institutional Sponsors	Tata Sons, NMPB, AGEPL, Canara Bank, IDBI Bank, NALCO, PNB, and SBI.
VK-AICYAM Publications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Publication through website ✓ Soft copy can be shared through email on request ✓ The print copy of ऐक्यम् Annual Publication (2026) can be shared through postal mail on request) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VK-AICYAM Concept Paper V2.0 • VK-AICYAM Governance Framework V2.0 • Publication of Anandalaya Margdarshika V2.0 • Student Internship Learning Framework • Traditional Healing Conference Proceedings • Foundation Day Proceedings • Samaj Prabodhak Program: The Journey • ऐक्यम् Annual Publication (2026) • VK-AICYAM Performance Report (FY 25-26) • VK-AICYAM Factsheet (FY 25-26) • VK-AICYAM Activity Calendar (FY 26-27)

Publication of Annual Calendar for FY 2026-27

Annual calendar was discussed and shared in the Members' online meeting on the 5th March 2026.

Schedule

1. **Online Meeting (Monthly):**
 - To be held on the **first Thursday of every month (8PM to 9PM)**
2. **In-person Meetings:**
 - **4th Saturday of first month of every Quarter** (April 2026, July 2026, October 2026, and January 2027)
 - Venue: VK-AICYAM premises
 - Broad Schedule:
 - 10 AM to 12 Noon (Members' meeting)
 - 12 Noon to 01 PM (Vimarsh)
 - 01 PM to 02 PM (Lunch and Networking)
 - 02 PM to 04:30 PM (Meeting of Executive Committee)
 - All Advisors are invited to attend
3. **Event Planning: Workshop**
 - **Workshop on Yoga:** Sunday, June 28th 2026 (Sunday following **International Day of Yoga**, June 21st), VK-AICYAM Premises
 - **Workshop on Traditional Healing:** Friday & Saturday, Sept 11th & 12th 2026 (including **Universal Brotherhood Day** Celebration, Sept 11th), VK-AICYAM Premises
 - **Workshop on Management:** Sunday, December 20th 2026 (on the auspicious day of **Gita Jayanti** – 5163rd Anniversary), VK-AICYAM Premises
 - **Workshop on Indian Culture, Release of AICYAM Annual Publication, and AICYAM Award Ceremony:** Monday & Tuesday, Jan 11th and 12th 2027 (including **VK-AICYAM Foundation Day** and **Swami Vivekananda Jayanti** addresses), VK-AICYAM Premises
4. **Event Planning: Prashikshan (Training)**
 - **Anandalaya Acharya Prashikshan Shibir – Batch I:** Saturday to Thursday, May 16th to May 21st, VK-AICYAM Premises
 - **Anandalaya Supervisor Refresher Training:** Friday, May 22nd, VK-AICYAM Premises
 - **Anandalaya Acharya Prashikshan Shibir – Batch II:** Saturday to Thursday, May 23rd to May 28th, VK-AICYAM Premises
 - **Samaj Prabodhak Prashikshan Shibir:** Sunday to Thursday, Sept 06th to Sept 10th, VK-AICYAM Premises
5. **Event Planning: Vimarsh**
 - **Vimarsh on Guru Purnima Day** by the Director, VK-AICYAM: Wednesday, July 29th, VK-AICYAM Premises
 - **Vimarsh on Sadhana Diwas** by the Secretary, VK-AICYAM: Thursday, Nov 19th, VK-AICYAM Premises
 - **Vimarsh by VK-AICYAM Member: 12 Noon – 1 PM, Quarterly Review Meeting** (4th Saturday of April, July, October, and January), VK-AICYAM Premises
 - **April 25th 2026, July 25th 2026, October 24th 2026, and January 23rd 2027**
 - **Vimarsh (online/in-person) by VK-AICYAM Advisors/Members/Invitees:** TBA (To Be Announced) with at least one week heads-up based on the Speaker's confirmation

The following table lists the Activity Calendar and Organisational Ownership:

Colour Legend		Colour Legend	
Review - Monthly		Review - Quarterly	
Vimarsh - on Review Date		Vimarsh - on Event Date	
Prashikshan - Acharya		Prashikshan - Supervisor	
Prashikshan - Samaj Prabodhak		Prashikshan - VK-AICYAM Karyakarta	
Workshop		Celebration	

VK-AICYAM FY 26-27 Calendar			Meeting	Meeting	Meeting	Activity Owners
Month	Date/Dates	Day/Days	Category	Type	Description	(By Role/By Name)
Apr-26	02-04-2026	Thursday (8 PM - 9 PM)	Monthly Review	Online	VK-AICYAM Members' Monthly Progress Review Meeting	Program Head (Girish Bhai)
Apr-26	25-04-2026	Saturday (12 Noon - 1PM)	Vimarsh	In-Person	Vimarsh by VK-AICYAM Member	Santosh Bhai
Apr-26	25-04-2026	Saturday (10 AM - 4:30 PM)	Quarterly Review	In-Person	VK-AICYAM Members' Quarterly Review Meeting	Director (Santosh Bhai)
May-26	07-05-2026	Thursday (8 PM - 9 PM)	Monthly Review	Online	VK-AICYAM Members' Monthly Progress Review Meeting	Program Head (Girish Bhai)
May-26	16th-to-21st	Saturday-to-Thursday	Prashikshan	In-Person	Anandalaya Acharya Prashikshan Shibir - Batch I	Education Lead (Minaketan Bhai)
May-26	22-05-2026	Friday	Prashikshan	In-Person	Anandalaya Supervisor Refresher Training	Education Lead (Minaketan Bhai)
May-26	23rd-to-28th	Saturday-to-Thursday	Prashikshan	In-Person	Anandalaya Acharya Prashikshan Shibir - Batch II	Education Lead (Minaketan Bhai)
Jun-26	04-06-2026	Thursday (8 PM - 9 PM)	Monthly Review	Online	VK-AICYAM Members' Monthly Progress Review Meeting	Program Head (Girish Bhai)
Jun-26	28-06-2026	Sunday (10 AM - 5 PM)	Workshop	In-Person	VK-AICYAM Workshop on Yoga (+ IDY 2026 Theme Reflection)	Yoga Lead (Ajaya Bhai)
Jul-26	02-07-2026	Thursday (8 PM - 9 PM)	Monthly Review	Online	VK-AICYAM Members' Monthly Progress Review Meeting	Program Head (Girish Bhai)
Jul-26	25-07-2026	Saturday (12 Noon - 1PM)	Vimarsh	In-Person	Vimarsh by VK-AICYAM Member	Santosh Bhai
Jul-26	25-07-2026	Saturday (10 AM - 4:30 PM)	Quarterly Review	In-Person	VK-AICYAM Members' Quarterly Review Meeting	Director (Santosh Bhai)
Jul-26	29-07-2026	Wednesday (4 PM - 6 PM)	Vimarsh	In-Person	Vimarsh by VK-AICYAM Director (+ Guru Purnima Diwas)	Director (Santosh Bhai)
Aug-26	06-08-2026	Thursday (8 PM - 9 PM)	Monthly Review	Online	VK-AICYAM Members' Monthly Progress Review Meeting	Program Head (Girish Bhai)
Sep-26	03-09-2026	Thursday (8 PM - 9 PM)	Monthly Review	Online	VK-AICYAM Members' Monthly Progress Review Meeting	Program Head (Girish Bhai)
Sep-26	05th-to-10th	Saturday-to-Thursday	Prashikshan	In-Person	Samaj Prabodhak Prashikshan Shibir	Culture Lead (Anup Bhai)
Sep-26	11th-to-12th	Friday-to-Saturday	Workshop	In-Person	VK-AICYAM Workshop on Traditional Healing (+ UBD)	Healthcare Lead (Biranchi Bhai)
Oct-26	01-10-2026	Thursday (8 PM - 9 PM)	Monthly Review	Online	VK-AICYAM Members' Monthly Progress Review Meeting	Program Head (Girish Bhai)
Oct-26	24-10-2026	Saturday (12 Noon - 1PM)	Vimarsh	In-Person	Vimarsh by VK-AICYAM Member	Santosh Bhai
Oct-26	24-10-2026	Saturday (10 AM - 4:30 PM)	Quarterly Review	In-Person	VK-AICYAM Members' Quarterly Review Meeting	Director (Santosh Bhai)
Nov-26	05-11-2026	Thursday (8 PM - 9 PM)	Monthly Review	Online	VK-AICYAM Members' Monthly Progress Review Meeting	Program Head (Girish Bhai)
Nov-26	19-11-2026	Thursday (4 PM - 6 PM)	Vimarsh	In-Person	Vimarsh by VK-AICYAM Secretary (+ Sadhana Diwas)	Secretary (Laxmi Bhai)
Dec-26	03-12-2026	Thursday (8 PM - 9 PM)	Monthly Review	Online	VK-AICYAM Members' Monthly Progress Review Meeting	Program Head (Girish Bhai)
Dec-26	20-12-2026	Sunday (10 AM - 5 PM)	Workshop	In-Person	VK-AICYAM Workshop on Management (+ Gita Jayanti)	Management Lead (Kishore Bhai)
Jan-27	07-01-2027	Thursday (8 PM - 9 PM)	Monthly Review	Online	VK-AICYAM Members' Monthly Progress Review Meeting	Program Head (Girish Bhai)
Jan-27	11th-to-12th	Monday-to-Tuesday	Workshop	In-Person	VK-AICYAM Workshop on Indian Culture	Culture Lead (Anup Bhai)
Jan-27	12-01-2027	Tuesday (2:30 PM - 5PM)	Celebration	In-Person	VK-AICYAM Publications, FD Address, SVJ Address, and Awards	Program Head (Girish Bhai)
Jan-27	23-01-2027	Saturday (12 Noon - 1PM)	Vimarsh	In-Person	Vimarsh by VK-AICYAM Member	Santosh Bhai
Jan-27	23-01-2027	Saturday (10 AM - 4:30 PM)	Quarterly Review	In-Person	VK-AICYAM Members' Quarterly Review Meeting	Director (Santosh Bhai)
Feb-27	04-02-2027	Thursday (8 PM - 9 PM)	Monthly Review	Online	VK-AICYAM Members' Monthly Progress Review Meeting	Program Head (Girish Bhai)
Mar-27	04-03-2027	Thursday (8 PM - 9 PM)	Monthly Review	Online	VK-AICYAM Members' Monthly Progress Review Meeting	Program Head (Girish Bhai)

Supplementary Note:

- Each meeting listed in the schedule shall be facilitated by the Program Team and shall be championed by Director / Secretary / Stream Leads / Theme Leads as appropriate.
- Additional Vimarsh (online/in-person) sessions by VK-AICYAM Advisors/Members/Invitees based on interest and confirmation shall be communicated to Members at least one week prior to the schedule.
- The stream leads and theme leads may decide to conduct more events (seminar / workshop / conference) – either at VK-AICYAM premises or other locations based on the need / demand / opportunity with the concurrence / go ahead from Executive Committee.

Annexure I: Traditional Healing Conference: Proceedings

Inaugural Ceremony and Keynote Address

The inaugural ceremony, chaired by **Dr. Madan Mohan Padhi**, set the tone with traditional rituals and a call for large-scale cultivation of medicinal herbs, district-level medical gardens, and support for codifying new treatment approaches, including Varmam therapy.

Shri Hanumantha Rao emphasized naturopathy and Siddha medicine, urging trust in traditional systems and alignment of diet with climate, season, and mental state.

Shri V. Karthick highlighted the medicinal value of *haldi*, SMPB's conservation and commercialization initiatives, and the launch of "Kalinga Herbs," alongside collaborations with FRLHT, IRMA, and MSSRF to strengthen knowledge and application. He also announced plans for district herbal gardens and recognition of local healers.

Dr. Debasish Panda, citing a 2022 survey showing 95% awareness of traditional remedies, stressed the promotion of indigenous systems, R&D, clinical validation, and standardization to ensure safety and efficacy. He warned of rising scarcity and costs of Ayurvedic medicines, underscored the enduring effectiveness of Ayurveda compared to antibiotics, and emphasized compassionate care (*daya bhava*) and confidence (*sadhya bhava*), while cautioning against incompatible diets (*Viruddha Ahara*) that disrupt balance and health.

Subject Keynote: Recognising and Integrating Traditional Health Practices

Dr. Brahmananda Mahapatra underscored humanity's enduring bond with nature, noting that traditional healing practices—rooted in plants, animals, spiritual therapies, and exercises—have provided holistic care since the Stone Age and continue to serve rural communities today. He emphasized the urgency of formally recognizing these age-old traditions. While codified systems such as Ayurveda, Unani, and Siddha are government-recognized under the Ministry of AYUSH, folk and *Janajati* medicine remain uncoded and orally transmitted. Dr. Mahapatra called for integrating traditional healers into formal healthcare through regulation, research validation, certification, awareness, and training. Documenting efficacy, quality, and safety would enable fair compensation for practitioners, including mechanisms like royalty payments for their contributions. This integration would preserve cultural heritage while strengthening healthcare delivery.

Session - I: Preventive Health care Values of Medicinal Plant

The session underscored the vital role of medicinal plants in preventive healthcare, beginning with Prof. Basudev Chhatoi's call to embrace the principle "Prevention is better than Cure" and conserve nature's pharmacy. **Shri Tularam Chalan** shared his large-scale cultivation efforts, highlighting the need for institutional support. **Padmashri Patayata Sahu** warned against overexploitation, deforestation, and adulteration, urging strict regulation and sustainable forestation tailored to local climates. **Dr. Viswajanani Sattigeri** introduced the Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) as a safeguard against bio-piracy, advocating codification and patenting to protect village healers' intellectual property. **Dr. Chinmay Rath** detailed the National Medicinal Plants Board's (NMPB) initiatives in conservation, training, financial support, and quality assurance, stressing collective responsibility

among farmers, policymakers, industry, and government. Together, the session highlighted conservation, sustainability, and recognition of traditional knowledge as pillars of preventive healthcare.

Session II: Herbal Cure – Focus on Gut and Orthopaedic Health Issues

Dr. Susmita Ota emphasized the opportunity for traditional healers to strengthen indigenous practices through validation under clinical research protocols, before inviting panellists to share their work. **Shri Nehru Pradhan** highlighted the preventive value of traditional foods like *Kadi Patta*, *Dahi*, and *Haldi* for internal strength. **Shri Harekrushna Mahanta** described his extensive herbal nursery with over seven lakh plant varieties, his collaboration with *Vaidyas* across Odisha, and his expertise in treating blood pressure and cardiac issues. **Shri Hari Pangi** outlined his medicinal plant nursery initiatives that promote sustainability, farmer engagement, and quality assurance, supported by NMPB and CCRAS, including a seed bank of 500 varieties. **Shri Jashaketan Guru** shared his experience of treating over 2,500 patients across two decades, continuously refining his methods through patient outcomes. Collectively, the session showcased the diverse contributions of traditional healers in food-based wellness, herbal cultivation, sustainable practices, and patient care, while underscoring the importance of institutional support and research validation.

Session III: Local Health Traditions by Janajati

Dr. Nirmal Chandra Dash introduced the session with insights from four decades of field research, before inviting Janajati healers to share their practices. **Shri Baikuntha Mahanta** described treatments for spinal injuries, knee and joint pain, and dislocations, while **Shri Dukhishyam Hansda** shared expertise in cardiac issues and epilepsy. **Shri Jagannatha Naik** recommended a daily herbal mix of *Amla*, *Matha Shaag*, and *Safed Gengura* to prevent fevers. **Shri Pabitra Behera** explained *Shabda Vigyan*, a sound-based therapy effective for brain haemorrhage, alongside remedies for urinary and kidney issues using *Pippali* and corn silk. **Shri Sarathi Bhuyan** highlighted plant-based formulations for fevers, cardiac ailments, and cancer, while Shri Sukdev Badra shared treatments for snake, dog, and scorpion bites. **Shri Natabar Dandsena** elaborated herbal cures for malaria and typhoid, and **Shri Padmalochan Behera** presented expertise in managing piles, diabetes, kidney disorders, and cancer. Collectively, the session showcased the diversity, depth, and practical relevance of Janajati healing traditions in addressing a wide spectrum of health challenges.

Keynote: Local Health Traditions – Prospects & Future

Dr. Nirmal Chandra Dash emphasized the enduring relevance of traditional healing systems, particularly among tribal and rural communities, noting their deep association with nature's resources and cultural practices. While often dismissed as dogma, he highlighted the scientific value and resilience of these traditions, which continue to save lives and inspire research and innovation. He credited the Ministry of AYUSH for providing impetus to integrate and advance such practices. Complementing this, Dr. Madan Mohan Padhi illustrated the diverse applications of medicinal plants in treatments, home remedies, cosmetics, and supplements, stressing their wellness benefits and socio-economic potential. He noted the growing interest of traditional healers in understanding plant

anatomy and medicinal impacts, reflecting a promising future for local health traditions through validation, conservation, and innovation.

Session IV: Sustainable Usage of Medicinal Plants – Conservation, Cultivation, Utilization, and Value Addition

The session focused on sustainable approaches to medicinal plants, with **Shri Bibhuti Bhushan Mund** outlining the four pillars—conservation, cultivation, utilization, and value addition. **Shri Gauranga Rout** emphasized documentation, commercialization, and practical measures such as forest fire control, proper plantation management, awareness of botanical names, input support, marketing, and herbal gardens in tribal schools. **Shri Harischandra Behera** drew on his long experience to advocate homestead cultivation for self-reliance and affordable herbal products. **Shri Jatindra Kar** highlighted the importance of identification, cultivation, conservation, and marketing, calling for minimum support prices and inclusion of *Vaidyas* in forest protection committees. **Dr. Vimal Pandey** stressed the need for plant databases and drug discovery, sharing progress on cataloguing 183 species with QR-coded information. **Shri Gangadhar Sahu** underscored forest and environmental protection, citing Gandhamardan mountain's rich biodiversity with 225 medicinal plant varieties. Collectively, the session reinforced sustainability, institutional support, and innovation as key to strengthening the medicinal plant sector.

Session V: Policy-Level Understanding & Intervention – Medicinal Plants, Traditional Healing, and Integrated Healthcare Systems

The session emphasized the Indian system of medicine as a way of life for many, highlighting the need for policy-level interventions to conserve, cultivate, and integrate medicinal plants and traditional healing into healthcare. Drawing on the National Policy on ISM&H (2002), discussions centred on expanding preventive and affordable healthcare, improving education and research, ensuring drug quality, integrating ISM into national programs, and validating therapies for emerging diseases. **Shri Devpriyo Kampo** outlined SMPB Odisha's *In-Situ* and *Ex-Situ* strategies, including a five-year vision plan, biodiversity registers, GI tagging, PPP models, and district herbal gardens. **Shri Gagan Sahoo** stressed stricter conservation policies, revival of extinct species, regular surveys, market demand analysis, and crop insurance. **Shri Sukhlal Pansari** highlighted the aspirations of traditional healers for recognition, economic self-reliance, and involvement in planning. Collectively, the session underscored the importance of robust policy frameworks, institutional support, and healer participation to strengthen integrated healthcare systems rooted in medicinal plants and traditional practices.

Session VI: Priority Areas for Future Research, Innovation, Propagation, and Commercialization

The session focused on charting future directions for medicinal plant research and innovation. **Dr. Sudhanshu Meher** emphasized strengthening ecosystems, awareness, and scaling effective treatments, while **Prof. Premananda Panda** highlighted tribal healers' deep knowledge of preventive care and patient-centred diagnosis, urging cooperation to preserve this wisdom and stressing the "4Ps"—Processing, Production, Packaging, and Pricing. **Dr. Subash Chandra Swain** outlined critical

factors for sustainable cultivation, including soil composition, genetic traits, alkalinity, quality testing, and commercialization planning, noting Odisha's potential for entrepreneurship in medicinal plants. Shri Kishore Swain, speaking as a beneficiary, advocated large-scale promotion of medicinal plants akin to India's Green and White Revolutions, urging innovation, community engagement, and quality benchmarks to ensure recognition and resilience. Collectively, the session underscored research validation, sustainable cultivation, commercialization strategies, and community empowerment as priority areas for the future.

Session: Felicitation of Traditional Healers & Subject Experts and Closing Ceremony

The closing session, anchored by **Prof. (Dr.) Biswajit Mohapatra**, celebrated the successful conduct of the two-day national conference, with heartfelt appreciation for the organizing committee, speakers, and participants. **Shri Laxminarayan Panigrahy** reiterated VK-AICYAM's mission to conserve traditional knowledge and cultural expression, urging collective commitment across society to create social value and serve humanity. **Dr. Madan Mohan Padhi** and **Shri Hanumantha Rao** inspired traditional healers by invoking the values of the *Vedas* and *Charak Samhita*, encouraging them to uphold discipline, simplicity, and thorough knowledge while preserving *Parampara* through study, documentation, and careful piloting for integration into modern healthcare. The ceremony concluded with the distribution of participation certificates, marking the conference's impact in fostering dialogue, recognition, and renewed commitment to traditional healing and integrated healthcare.



Conference Organising Team; **Reference:** *Traditional Healing Conference Proceedings*, www.vkaicyam.org

(For more information, visit website <https://vkaicyam.org>)

Annexure II: VK-AICYAM Foundation Day Events (Jan 10–12, 2026)

Proceedings

National Workshop on Preserving and Promoting Indian Knowledge System (IKS) - Saturday, January 10, 2026

Theme: IKS-Focused Innovation, Intellectual Property & Entrepreneurship

Co-organiser: National Research Development Corporation (NRDC), Government of India (An Enterprise of DSIR, Ministry of S&T, Government of India)

Inaugural Session & Release of AICYAM 2026 Publication

The inaugural session began with the ceremonial lamp-lighting, symbolizing wisdom and enlightenment, followed by Dr. Santosh Kumar Mohanty's welcome address reflecting on VK-AICYAM's six-year journey and its vision of integrating management with the Indian Knowledge System (IKS).



Dr. Bijay K. Sahu, NRDC, set the thematic context of the workshop and emphasized self-reliance, innovation, and intellectual property protection within IKS, citing examples like Kandhamal turmeric and Koraput coffee as models for value addition and global potential.

Dr. Debasish Dash Director, DBT–Institute of Life Sciences (ILS), Government of India, spoke on the importance of integrating traditional knowledge systems with modern scientific research and highlighted the need to reconnect youth with indigenous traditions, stressing meditation, yoga, and stress management in education.

Mr. Sambit Tripathy, CMD, Livelihood Alternatives, elaborated on the **5Cs approach to development -- Collaboration, Connectivity, Collectivization, Capacity Building, and Convergence** and 3S frameworks -- **Sizeable, Scalable, and Sustainable** for rural development, advocating chemical-free agriculture, women's participation, and early IKS exposure through "Shishu Sahitya."

Mr. Swaraj Mishra, Former Secretary, **Ama Odisha**, and noted columnist, underscored the societal relevance of IKS, urging clarity of mind, discipline, and yoga as tools for personal and national transformation.

The session concluded with the formal release of the **AICYAM 2026 Publication**, envisioned as a future research journal to advance scholarly discourse on Indian Knowledge System (IKS). The Publication is available at <https://vkaicyam.org> (VK-AICYAM website).



Release of ऐक्यम् 2026 Publication

Panel Discussion I: IKS: Challenges and Opportunities in Leveraging Entrepreneurship

The panel explored how Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS) can be transformed into sustainable entrepreneurial models, addressing policy, grassroots innovation, and institutional support. **Mr. Yugabrata Kar** showcased Desia Eco-Tourism as a community-driven model that converts tribal knowledge, culture, and ecology into livelihoods, empowering women and reviving hospitality traditions. **Prof. Biswajit Mishra** emphasized skill-based education, innovation, and documentation of indigenous practices, while **Prof. Biplob Biswal**, Sri Sri University, highlighted dharma-based economics, cautioning against profit-centric approaches and excessive reliance on technology, and advocating documentation and standardization of remedies. **Ms. Jayanti Mohapatra** presented her goat-based enterprise rooted in animal welfare and rural empowerment, contrasting holistic Indian food traditions with Western dining. **Mr. Dipti Ranjan Behera** Additional Secretary, Government of Odisha, stressed the role of government in preserving, validating, and digitizing IKS, promoting Swadeshi products under *Atmanirbhar Bharat*. Collectively, the discussion underscored that IKS-driven entrepreneurship must balance tradition, innovation, sustainability, and value creation to strengthen

communities and contribute to national development. The session was effectively moderated by **Mr. Kishor Swain**, Advisor, OCAC.



Panel: IKS - Challenges and Opportunities in Leveraging Entrepreneurship

Panel Discussion II: IP & Innovation Management for Entrepreneurial Avenues

The panel examined how intellectual property (IP) and innovation management can unlock entrepreneurial opportunities within Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS), emphasizing incubation, commercialization, and global competitiveness. **Prof. Binay Bhushan Jena** illustrated innovation through terracotta craftsmanship, stressing context-specific development and triple-helix collaboration between academia, industry, and government. **Dr. Sashikanta Dash** highlighted Odisha's ₹50 crore Marine Biotechnology Corridor and the need to convert traditional knowledge into IP, drawing on the *Samudra Manthan* analogy to underscore collective innovation. **Prof. Renu Sharma** showcased SOA's vibrant ecosystem, women-led startups, and biomedical technology transfers, while Dr. Pavan Kumar urged timely IP protection, noting India's lag in patents and GI tags compared to global leaders. **Dr. Ashwini Kumar Rath** emphasized digitization and simplification of IP systems, paralleling UPI's success, and **Dr. Nivedita Jena** highlighted incubation support, clinical validation, and global marketing of IKS-based innovations. The discussion concluded with examples of collaborative initiatives like Jal Jeevan Mission, reinforcing that structured IP management, digitization, and validation are essential to transform indigenous knowledge into sustainable entrepreneurial value.

Dr. Bijay Kumar Sahu (NRDC) steered and moderated the session, stressing structured IP frameworks, industry-academia collaboration, and strategies for innovation and risk mitigation. He underscored NRDC's pivotal role in driving collaborative innovation, especially during COVID-19, when rapid knowledge translation and partnerships proved vital.



Panel: IP & Innovation Management for Entrepreneurial Avenues

Panel Discussion III: *Stakeholder Engagement – Perspectives, Platforms & Purpose*



Panel: Stakeholder Engagement: Perspectives, Platforms & Purpose

The panel underscored the importance of cross-sector collaboration in advancing Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS) through entrepreneurship, highlighting roles of media, industry, academia, financial institutions, and policy frameworks. Mr. Satwik Swain emphasized incubation centres and shared infrastructure as critical for manufacturing startups, urging youth to commit to long-term innovation. Mr. Ashok Das stressed media’s role in connecting diverse stakeholders—farmers, artisans, teachers, and entrepreneurs—advocating value-based livelihoods and renewed interest in IKS-driven farming. Dr. Anita Sabat highlighted the urgency of documentation and Geographical Indication (GI) protection,

citing Odisha’s rich heritage and the Rasagola case as lessons in safeguarding traditional assets. Dr. Uma Charan Pati linked IKS values to holistic development, advocating outcome-based education, happiness courses, and self-governance for national progress. Mr. Pramod Panda reflected on India’s cultural strength and civilizational wisdom, noting RBI-led digital platforms as hybrid models combining technology with trust to scale inclusive growth. Collectively, the discussion emphasized that stakeholder engagement, documentation, and value-based innovation are essential to preserve IKS and position it as a driver of sustainable national development.

Dr. Santosh Kumar Mohanty (Director, VK-AICYAM) chaired the session, encouraging open sharing of insights. He outlined the five-step journey from idea to market: ***Suspecting, Prospecting, Piloting, Penetrating, and Pioneering the Market.*** **Dr. Bijay Kumar Sahu (NRDC)** co-chaired, emphasizing collaboration and stakeholder-driven innovation.

Concluding Session, Rapporteur, and Way Forward

The concluding session synthesized the day’s deliberations, with rapporteurs **Dr. Binita Nanda** and **Dr. Hareram Sahoo** presenting key insights and recommendations. Dr. Jagdish Sahoo emphasized MSMEs as engines of GDP growth, highlighting government IPR support schemes for patents, GIs, designs, and trademarks, while urging youth to embrace entrepreneurship, skill development, and service-sector expansion beyond Bhubaneswar. **Dr. Kumar Mohanty** stressed industry–academia collaboration, innovation labs, and value-based leadership rooted in India’s civilizational ethos, drawing parallels from the *Ramayana*, *Dashavatara*, and cultural marvels like Konark. **Dr. Ramanuj Narayan** linked IKS with modern science, illustrating everyday practices as early innovations, citing indigenous metallurgical and herbal knowledge, and emphasizing applied wisdom as the foundation of creativity and progress. Together, the session reinforced that India’s path to *Viksit Bharat 2047* lies in integrating traditional knowledge with modern innovation, fostering ethical entrepreneurship, and empowering youth through skills, values, and collaborative ecosystems. The day concluded with the chanting of the *Śhānti Mantra*, symbolizing peace, continuity, and collective aspiration.



Concluding Session – Speaker’s Interaction

National Seminar on Yoga: Sunday, January 11, 2026

Theme: Meditation in Classical Yogic Literature – Theory and Practices

Inaugural Session

The programme commenced witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, yoga practitioners, teachers, researchers, and yoga enthusiasts. The inaugural proceedings began with *Dīpa Prajwalanam*, *Puṣpārpaṇam*, and *Śānti Pāṭha*, creating a serene and contemplative atmosphere. Anchored by Shri Ajay Sahoo, Executive Member of VK-AICYAM (Yoga), the session introduced the seminar's theme by highlighting the deep interconnection between meditation, medicine, dharma, and yogic practices. He emphasized the holistic value of *āsanas* and meditative postures, while noting the cultural distinctiveness of traditional Indian practices such as floor-sitting, which remain integral to yogic discipline yet are often unfamiliar in Western contexts.

Welcome Address

In his welcome address, **Dr. Santosh K. Mohanty**, Director of VK-AICYAM, highlighted Vivekananda Kendra's 54 years of service and its expansive presence through 1,200 branch centres across 25 States and 4 Union Territories. He outlined five thematic focus areas—value-based education, primary healthcare in remote regions, environmental preservation, promotion of Indian culture and yoga, and integrated rural development—underscoring yoga as the unifying vision that integrates all these initiatives. Stressing the transformative role of meditation in health, he remarked that regular practice reduces dependence on medicine, encapsulating his philosophy with the observation: *"If meditation is practiced, medicine becomes less necessary. Food should be taken as medicine; otherwise, medicine will become our food."*

Address by Guest of Honour

Prof. Rabindra Mohan Acharya of SVYASA Yoga University emphasized Swami Vivekananda's teaching that "each soul is potentially divine," urging discipline and practice to manifest inner potential. He highlighted the subconscious mind's influence, the importance of early childhood conditioning, and the role of meditation as inner freedom rather than effort. Linking yogic insights with scientific studies on collective consciousness, he underscored the transformative power of meditation and reaffirmed the global significance of the International Day of Yoga.

Keynote Address

Prof. Alekha Chandra Sarangi, former Vice-Chancellor of Shri Jagannath Sanskrit Vishwavidyalaya, opened with the prayer "Asato Mā Sadgamaya" and emphasized the inseparable bond between literature (Sahitya) and culture (Sanskriti). Drawing on Vedantic concepts, he urged society to transcend individualism and sectarian divides. Tracing yoga's origins before Patañjali, he described it as the unification of chitta and buddhi, leading to mental steadiness. Referencing the Gītā, Upaniṣads, and Vedānta, he highlighted meditation as one-pointed awareness beyond religion, affirming that the true Guru resides within.

Technical Session I

Chairperson: Dr. Satyanarayan Mishra, Co-Chairperson: Er. Bibhudendu Nanda

The session featured a total of ten scholarly paper presentations, exploring different forms of Meditation and Yoga as presented in Upanishad and other texts. The discussions also examined the effect of Meditation on body and mind. Experimental study was also presented to enhance the strength and capacity of body by yogic practices. The session has enriched the academic pursuits of the participants with a thoughtful discussion.

Summary of Paper Presentations

The paper presentations reflected the rich diversity of meditation traditions, spanning classical texts, psychology, ethics, and modern applications. **Dr. Paramba Shree Yogamaya** emphasized *Om* as the supreme symbol of Brahman and central to liberation, while Gadadhar Mohapatra explored the subtle body, chakras, and Kundalini awakening through ethical living. **Mr Kashinatha Pandahas** highlighted the Upanishads as authoritative sources of meditative wisdom, and **Dr. Subhashree Panda** discussed meditation's psychological benefits for health and emotional well-being. **Iteeshree Panda** examined technological challenges to meditation, stressing balance between digital tools and tradition. **Nirjharini Das** shared experiential insights from Vipassana practice, while **Chandrakanta Barik** presented an experimental study showing meditation's positive impact on athletes' strength and performance. **Ushantilata Hota** underscored Yama–Niyama as ethical prerequisites, **Jyotirmayi Mohapatra** demonstrated therapeutic and neuroscientific applications, and **Pradip Kumar Sahu** traced Vipassana's roots and relevance for modern crises.



Felicitation to Chair, Co-chair, and Presenters of Technical Session - I

Special Talk: “Work in the Field of Yoga in the Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) and Scientific Validation of Yoga in Specific Health and Wellness Cases”

Dr. Viswajanani Sattigeri, Head of TKDL, delivered a special talk on safeguarding India's traditional knowledge and validating yoga's health benefits. She explained how the Traditional Knowledge Digital Library digitizes and translates classical wisdom to prevent biopiracy, citing cases like turmeric, neem,

and basmati rice. With over 5.2 lakh formulations documented and shared globally, TKDL has achieved 374 positive outcomes in patent disputes. She also highlighted the SVASTIK initiative, which disseminates scientifically validated traditional knowledge in accessible formats. Presenting meta-analyses and systematic reviews, Dr. Sattigeri demonstrated yoga's proven benefits in managing cardiovascular disease, asthma, cancer, chronic pain, hypertension, pregnancy, and mental health. Concluding, she emphasized that yoga—supported by strong scientific evidence—has gained global acceptance, symbolized by the International Day of Yoga.

Technical Session II

The session featured nine scholarly papers that explored meditation from textual, philosophical ethical, and practical perspectives within classical yogic and Indic traditions. Chaired by **Dr. Rajendra Kumar Dash** and co-chaired by **Sri Santosh Kumar Sahu**, the session fostered an academically enriching environment, encouraging thoughtful engagement with both the theoretical foundations and applied dimensions of meditation.



Felicitation to Chair, Co-chair, and Presenters of Technical Session - II

Summary of Paper Presentations

The nine papers presented in Session II offered diverse insights into meditation across classical texts, ethical frameworks, and contemporary applications. **Smt. Manjula Mishra** and **Smt. Sabita Choudhury** emphasized *Om* and mantra meditation as central to spiritual realization. **Sri Akshaya Kumar Swain** and **Sri Biswa Ranjan Giri** highlighted the *Bhagavad Gītā's* vision of meditation through selfless action, equanimity, and self-regulation. **Smt. Madhusmita Sha** and **Ushantilata Hota** underscored the ethical foundations of meditation through *yama* and *niyama*, linking ethical living to psychological harmony. **Dr. Sushir Kumar Mohapatra** explored meditation in the Odia *Bhāgabat*, offering practical guidance rooted in devotion. **Smt. Sasmita Parida** clarified *dhyāna* within Patañjali's *aṣṭāṅga yoga*, while **Smt. Priyanka Mohanty** examined meditative concepts in *Pañcasakhā* literature from a scientific lens. Finally, **Dr. Sujata Acharya** stressed meditation's growing relevance in student life, highlighting its role in concentration, emotional regulation, and academic success.

Session on Mukta Kaushal Kendra (MKK)

A special session was organized on **Mukta Kaushal Kendra (MKK)**, a collaborative initiative of **VKAICYAM** and the **National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS)**, with a focus on skill development and inclusive education.

Dr. Santosh K. Mohanty, Director, VK-AICYAM, delivered the welcome address, outlining the vision and objectives of MKK. He highlighted key initiatives such as six-month certificate courses in Yoga and Computer Education for women, offered free of cost, aimed at empowering women through health awareness, knowledge enhancement, and digital skills.



Certificate Distributions

National Workshop on Indian Culture: Sunday-Monday, January 11-12, 2026

Theme: Knowledge among Janajati Communities in Eastern India – Study, Documentation and Promotion

Co-organiser: Odisha Research Centre, Bhubaneswar

The two-day Workshop on “Traditional Knowledge among Janajati Communities in Eastern India: Study, Documentation, and Promotion” was successfully organized with the objective of highlighting the importance of indigenous knowledge systems, traditional healing practices, folklore, and folksongs of Janajati communities. The programme aimed to promote sustainable living practices, cultural preservation, and academic documentation of traditional knowledge and practices.

The workshop brought together academicians, researchers, traditional healers, cultural practitioners, and students to engage in meaningful discussions and demonstrations rooted in lived traditions and scholarly perspectives.

Sunday, January 11, 2026

Inaugural Session

The programme was **inaugurated** with the ceremonial lighting of the diya, followed by the chanting of the Shanti Mantra. **Dr. Santosh K. Mohanty, Director, VK-AICYAM**, delivered the welcome address and felicitated the distinguished guests. In his address, he emphasized that the ecosystem for nurturing traditional knowledge among Janajati communities comprises not only VK-AICYAM, but also the Government, academia, researchers, and other stakeholders, all of whom play a vital role.



Address by the Chief Guest

Prof. Kasi Nath Jena, Pro Vice-Chancellor, KISS Deemed University, in his address posed several thought-provoking questions: *What are the challenges before us? What is our objective? Can we become another Swami Vivekananda?* He observed that although many knowledgeable individuals exist today, acknowledging someone as a perfect representation of Vivekananda is difficult — not due to a lack of knowledge, but because of the absence of conviction, trust, and the practice of lived philosophy. He emphasized that the goal is not to become Swami Vivekananda, but to imbibe the qualities that defined him.

Referring to Vedantic philosophy, he explained concepts such as *Shunya* (nothingness), creation as a divine expression, and the idea of “I in you and you in me,” stressing that selfishness arises when this sense of unity is forgotten.

Prof. Jena further highlighted Vivekananda’s view that culture is manifested through action — whether in books, art, or thought—and that nationalism, as envisioned by him, is rooted in humanity and Indian spiritualism, which is borderless and inclusive.

Concluding his address, he stressed that a true understanding of the Indian Knowledge System (IKS) requires the use of India’s own conceptual tools and indigenous frameworks.

Chief Speaker's Address

Shri Khetrabasi Manseth (OFS), noted Odia scholar and researcher on Dom language and culture, delivered a compelling address on the meaning and significance of Adivasi identity. He explained that the term *Adivasi* derives from *Adima Adhibasi*—the original inhabitants—and highlighted the rich diversity of 64 distinct communities.

Drawing on Swami Vivekananda's teachings, he emphasized that true gentility lies in thoughts, values, and conduct rather than attire, and that virtues such as *daya* (compassion), *kshama* (forgiveness), and *achara* (righteous conduct) define human greatness. Using the metaphor of the *kasturimruga basana* (musk deer unaware of its own fragrance), he observed that Adivasi communities often remain unaware of their inherent strengths and wisdom. He stressed that while many Adivasis may be *nirakshara* (nonliterate), they are not *ashikshita* (uneducated), as the Indian Knowledge System (IKS) continues to thrive organically in their livelihoods and daily practices. Citing traditional housing as an example, he illustrated how intergenerational knowledge transfer sustains indigenous traditions.

Shri Manseth cautioned that the erosion of Adivasi culture is a collective responsibility, urging communities to document and narrate their own histories. He warned against cultural homogenization, noting the decline of languages worldwide, and called for an integrated, respectful approach to cultural exchange. Concluding, he likened culture to a living tree planted by ancestors—a legacy to be nurtured and preserved for future generations.



Felicitations of Chief Guest and Chief Speaker

Cultural Programme

The evening cultural programme began with the chanting of the *Shanti Mantra*, creating a serene and auspicious atmosphere. This was followed by *Bhajan Sandhya*, which set a

devotional tone for participants. A film screening on the Vivekananda Rock Memorial and Vivekananda Kendra (VRMVK) highlighted the vision, dedication, and people's participation led by Shri Eknath Ranade ji in establishing VRMVK.

Prof. Sadashiv Pradhan and team **AANGIKA** presented a vibrant *Chhau Nritya* performance, showcasing four expressive forms—Kshatriya, Nataraj, Kumud Bandhu, and Rangpanda — reflecting Odisha's rich cultural heritage through rhythmic movements and dynamic artistry. The programme concluded with traditional song and dance performances by participants from the Bathudi community, celebrating indigenous cultural traditions. The evening concluded with a group dinner, allowing participants, guests, and artists to interact informally and reflect on the cultural and spiritual experiences of the day.



Demonstration of Nataraj (Left) and Kumud Bandhu (Right)

Monday, January 12, 2026

Session 1 – Topic: Role of Traditional Healing for Sustainable Living of Janajati Communities

The Programme commenced with the ceremonial lighting of the diya by Janajati women, symbolizing the preservation of indigenous traditions and collective participation.

Keynote Address

Dr. Banamali Das, Research Officer at the Central Ayurveda Research Institute (CARI, Bhubaneswar), delivered the keynote address, elaborating on Ayurveda as a holistic science of life that integrates physical, mental, and spiritual well-being. He emphasized that true happiness lies not only in personal joy but also in fostering happiness within one's surroundings, family, and society.

Explaining the foundation of Ayurveda, Dr. Das highlighted the cosmic principles of *Surya*, *Chandra*, and *Vayu*, corresponding to *Pitta*, *Kapha*, and *Vata* doshas, and stressed the importance of maintaining their balance for a healthy life. He underscored daily and seasonal regimens (*Dinacharya* and *Ritucharya*), moderation in diet (*Ahara Matra*), and practices such as oil massage, exercise, and pulse diagnosis (*Nadi Pariksha*) as essential for disease prevention and health preservation.

Addressing Janajati communities, he discussed initiatives such as Women and Child Health Activities (WCHA) and the Tribal Community-Centered Research Programme (TCCRP), while also highlighting the challenges in documenting and validating *Bana Ausadhi* (traditional herbal medicines) under the Ministry of AYUSH. He noted that reluctance among practitioners to share detailed knowledge hampers wider recognition.

Dr. Das's keynote enriched participants' understanding of Ayurveda, reaffirming its relevance within the Indian Knowledge System, Janajati health traditions, and sustainable living practices.

Panel Discussion – Topic: Role of Traditional Healing in Sustainable Living of Janajati Communities

Moderator: Prof. Nirmal Chandra Dash, Professor Emeritus, KISS DU

Participants: Traditional Healers from Various Janajati Communities

Traditional healers from various Janajati communities shared their experiential knowledge, indigenous medicinal practices, and community-based healing methods.

During the panel discussion, eight traditional Vaidyas from different Janajati communities such as Bathudi, Santala, Ho, Munda, Bhotra and Sabar participated and explained their healing practices for treating common and chronic ailments such as piles, diabetes (sugar), malaria, typhoid, and other health conditions.

They highlighted the use of locally available medicinal plants and traditional therapeutic techniques, emphasizing their effectiveness, affordability, and sustainability. The interaction facilitated a meaningful dialogue between traditional practitioners and academicians, underscoring the relevance of indigenous healthcare systems and the need for systematic documentation and preservation of traditional healing knowledge.



Felicitation of Moderator and Panellists – Section I Panel Discussion

Thematic Discussion – Theme: Traditional Knowledge among Janajati Communities in Eastern India – Study, Documentation, and Promotion

Dr. Santosh K. Mohanty (Director, VK-AICYAM) welcomed guests, highlighting the Odisha Research Centre (ORC, est. 2023) as a hub for culture, history, economy, and innovation, envisioned to drive holistic, community-based development in Odisha.

Dr. Prafulla Chandra Mishra raised concern over the marginalization of traditional *Vaidyas* due to lack of formal degrees, stressing that indigenous medical wisdom is eroding under current academic norms. He illustrated the value of traditional practices, such as rice-based diets for diabetes, medicinal plants like *Bhrusanga* and *Dimiri*, and fermented preparations like *sura* — noting their effectiveness and minimal side effects. He strongly advocated revival of *Maulik* (indigenous) healthcare systems, urging reliance on local, seasonal foods and region-specific practices for sustainable health and well-being.



Dr. Prafulla Chandra Mishra addressing the audience

Prof. Basanta Kumar Panda (former Project Director, Centre of Excellence for Studies in Classical Odia) emphasized that lived practices preceded the Vedas, and NEP 2020 offers a vital opportunity to revive forgotten Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS). He highlighted Sanskrit's depth across disciplines and stressed the importance of cultural foundations such as Ayurveda, temple sciences, agriculture, folklore, and *Loka Vaidya* traditions.

He described *Loka Sahitya* as a “living archive” preserving Janajati knowledge and values through oral traditions, underscoring cultural identity (*Asmita*) as central to continuity. Citing tribal inclusivity and the philosophy of *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam*, he invoked Lord Jagannath as *Jagatara Natha*—a symbol of universal guardianship.

Prof. Panda advocated *Maulik Shiksha* rooted in local language and culture, noting government efforts to prepare primers in 117 indigenous languages to safeguard diversity. Concluding, he affirmed that

“every forest is a pharmacy and every home a dispensary,” reflecting the depth and relevance of indigenous wisdom.

Dr. Gopal Prasad Mohapatra called for a common platform uniting *Loka Vaidyas*, Ayurvedic, Homeopathic, and Allopathic practitioners to foster dialogue between traditional and modern healing systems. He emphasized grassroots engagement in Janajati regions to preserve indigenous medical practices, warning that many medicinal plants are becoming unidentifiable. To safeguard this wisdom, he advocated systematic audiovisual documentation for future generations.

Drawing on Swami Vivekananda’s vision of *Dharma* as Bharat’s way of life, he stressed that knowledge is universal, beyond degrees or boundaries, and inseparable from India’s spiritual identity. He highlighted *Mulya Bodha* and *Jeevan Mulya Bodha*, noting that culture is defined by practice and civilization by *Sanskriti*. Every forest, he observed, is a pharmacy, and even poisonous plants hold medicinal value.

He shared simple remedies like herbal *kadha* (kalajira, dhania, dalchini, milk) for common ailments, underscoring the practicality of indigenous wisdom. Concluding with the principle “talk less, work more,” he urged action-oriented revival of India’s knowledge traditions.

Dr. Chandni Prasad Nanda (Director, ORC) described the Odisha Research Centre as a new multidisciplinary institution dedicated to heritage, culture, economy, and society. Referring to NEP 2020, he emphasized reconnecting with indigenous knowledge often misattributed elsewhere and highlighted the need to learn directly from community-based sources.

He called for reversing the traditional researcher–subject dynamic, positioning Janajati communities as active knowledge holders. Stressing systematic documentation, ethical research, and community participation, he underscored that *Janajati Sanskriti* embodies lifestyle (*Jeevan Charya*) and knowledge traditions (*Gyana Parampara*).

Dr. Nanda concluded by affirming *Dharma* and *Sanskriti* as integral to India’s *Jeevan Shaili* and outlined ORC’s initiatives to promote, document, and preserve indigenous knowledge and cultural heritage.

Session 2 – Topic: Theme: The Importance of Folklore and Folksongs in Conserving Janajati Culture

Keynote Address

Speaker: Shri Rabindranath Naik, Author, Researcher, Janajati Sangathak & Philanthropist

Shri Rabindranath Naik emphasized folklore as a living archive that preserves the history, values, and collective memory of Janajati communities. He categorized *Loka Katha* into six types—*Alaukika* (mythical), *Laukika* (social), *Bibaha* (marriage), *Yuddha* (war), *Shikara* (hunting), and *Pashu-Pakshi* (animal and bird tales)—noting their role in transmitting intellectual knowledge, ethical values, and cultural identity.

He observed that the origins of *Loka Katha* are difficult to trace, as they arise from the human mind and deeply touch people’s hearts. Due to their strong emotional and cultural impact, folklore continues to remain relevant. He noted that institutions like VK-AICYAM are making efforts to rediscover these traditions.

Demonstration of Folk Songs and Folktales

Moderator: Shri Anup Mahapatra

Participants: Folk Song and Folktale Artists from Various Janajati Communities

The session featured live demonstrations of folk songs, dances, and folktales performed by artists from various *Janajati* communities, with twelve groups participating and showcasing their rich cultural heritage. Each performance vividly reflected the communities' cultural identity, oral traditions, and intergenerational transmission of knowledge. The artists also explained the social relevance and underlying messages of their performances, highlighting their role in promoting values, collective memory, and social harmony.

The participating *Janajati* communities were Bathudi, Juanga, Bhuyan, Ho, Sabar, Saura Kandha, Santhal, and Bothoda. The session featured twelve vibrant folk presentations, each embodying cultural identity, oral traditions, and ethical wisdom:

1. **Bathudi Vandana Geet** – Reverence to nature, ancestors, and collective harmony.
2. **Juang Folktale** – Moral values, ecological ethics, and community memory.
3. **Paudi Bhuyan Swing Song** – Joy, renewal, and balance with nature.
4. **Bathudi Moral Story** – Righteous conduct and social responsibility.
5. **Juang Poosh Poda Song** – Gratitude to *Dharitri Mata* and reverence for the earth.
6. **Santal Bhasa Surakhya Song** – Language as identity, unity, and dignity.
7. **Bathudi Rutuchakra Geet** – Celebration of seasonal cycles and sustainable living.
8. **Ho Kimbadanti Galpa** – Courage, ethics, and ancestral wisdom.
9. **Bothoda Song Against Child Marriage** – Protecting childhood and social progress.
10. **Saura Song on Equality** – Fraternity, inclusion, and shared humanity.
11. **Ho Folktale (Sukhdev Badra)** – Courage, coexistence, and moral guidance.
12. **Sabar Veer Geet Dance Drama** – Heroism as dignity, resilience, and community defence.

The collective presentation of folk songs, stories, and dance-dramas by Janajati delegates from different parts of Odisha emerged as a **living panorama of indigenous wisdom, ethics, and cultural vitality**. Together, these performances transcended artistic expression to communicate profound messages on **reverence for nature, moral conduct, social justice, linguistic identity, gender dignity & community solidarity**, reflecting Janajati knowledge as a holistic way of life.





The above photographs capture living moments of Janajati wisdom, where songs, stories, and performances become expressions of culture, ethics, and harmony with nature. They reflect indigenous voices speaking to the world through tradition, dignity, and collective memory.

Valedictory Ceremony

The valedictory ceremony marked the formal conclusion of the seminar–workshop.

Shri Damburdhar Sabar, community leader, emphasized the preservation of Sabar Bhasa and urged all Janajati communities to sustain their languages, cultures, and traditions for future generations.

Shri Biranchi Narayan Panigrahy, VK-AICYAM Executive Council member, shared his experiences of engaging with Janajati communities, inspired by Swami Vivekananda’s philosophy, and highlighted the value of firsthand learning from traditional healers.

Mr. Sachidananda Panda, VK-AICYAM member, noted that the three-day programme successfully brought together scholars, healers, artists, and community members. He reported 20 paper presentations, participation from 16 organizations, and 21 panellists, alongside vibrant cultural demonstrations.

Dr. Basudev Chhatoi, VK-AICYAM member, delivered the concluding remarks, appreciating the organizers and summarizing key deliberations and outcomes.

Certificates and mementos were formally distributed to the speakers, traditional healers, folk artists, and participants in recognition of their valuable contributions to the Workshop.

The reflection session that followed emphasized the urgent need to preserve indigenous languages, cultural expressions, and traditional knowledge systems as living heritage and to draw inspiration on reverence for nature, moral conduct, social justice, linguistic identity, gender dignity, and community solidarity. Members of VK-AICYAM shared their journeys of learning, inspired by the philosophy of Swami Vivekananda, highlighting community engagement, cultural rootedness, and collective responsibility as guiding principles for meaningful social transformation to address contemporary societal concerns on sustainability, equality, and ethical living.



Felicitation of Team demonstrating Cultural Expression



A snapshot of Valedictory Session

(For details, visit website <https://vkaicyam.org>)

Arise! Awake! And stop not
until the goal is reached.

-: Swami Vivekananda



VK-AICYAM

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