

Afforestation Projects at Asthi Paharh and at Ananda Nagar	Two Football Tournaments by Ananda Marga Sports Academy
Tattva and Kiirtana at Jeladih village	Drawing Class at Fine Arts Building
Activities of Medical Department	Three Hours Akhanda Kiirtan
Visitors in Ananda Nagar	Ananda Marga Activities in ISRN's Newsletter
Farmer's Awareness Camp	Activities of Prout Department
First Diocese Seminar	

Afforestation Projects at Asthi Paharh and at Ananda Nagar

Few words about the implementation of "Ultra Dense Forest Project" in Ananda Nagar Asthi Paharh:

Purpose of Ultra Dense Forest Project:

Due to very low rainfall in the Western Rarh, there is very little forest with vast empty land. Most of the government forest lands, hills and common lands are bare lands without trees. The consciousness and mentality of planting trees among the common people of the locality is very insignificant, almost nil. But it is true that if the number of trees increases, the rainfall in this region will increase.

Site selection for Ultra dense forestation in Ananda Nagar:

In Ananda Nagar, Srii Srii Anandamurtiji has given plan to establish various types of sanctuaries, eco-friendly orchards (PASKAS), fruit orchards and gardens. He also gave the same for Asthi Paharh too. When our senior Anandamargii and Grihii Acarya Sri Kisen Singh Sood Dadaji proposed to me for Ultra dense forestation project in Ananda Nagar and asked me to identify the land, also he said that he wanted to do the same in a modern scientific way. Naturally, I was overjoyed to hear starting of such a social development project in Ananda Nagar. Among the many places in the Ananda Nagar, I chose the land adjacent to the Asthi Paharh in the first list. Because its future is very bright, there are more possibilities and opportunities.

Naming of the Asthi Paharh:

This Asthi Paharh is located in Abhedananda Dihi. Only the name of the hill is Asthi Paharh. BABA went to Avhedananda Dihi on December 27, 1980, where he discovered dinosaur fossils. BABA went up the hill and sat on the rock and discovered dinosaur fossils. He named the place where the dinosaur fossils were found as "Asthi Paharh".

Sacrifice:

Ananda Nagar has a special glory in the whole world. BABA has mentioned that many times. His dream of Ananda Nagar has been built through the sacrifices of many devotees. This Abhedananda Dihi project has also been repeatedly attacked by evil forces. Specially a brutal attack came on Acarya Anirban Brahmhacari, a young ascetic monk, at the Avhedananda Dihi Ashram on September 29, 1997 at 11 pm. CPM thugs brutally hacked him to death to stop the development work of Anandamarga forever.

Why is the Asthi Paharh first on the list for Ultra Dense Forest Project?

- 1) Its natural location is very beautiful. Khirkhira hills on two sides i.e. west and north, plain land on the south. A little to the southeast is the Belamu Hills, the oldest decaying mountain in the world.
- 2) Our Abhedananda Dihi is at one of the ends of the Ananda Nagar border on the west side. Here we have Jagriti, one school and a monk also posted at our Ashram.
- 3) There is a huge lake near the Asthi Paharh.
- 4) There are no other plants in the Asthi Paharh except some shrubs.
- 5) As there were no trees, the open hills were rapidly eroding with the passage of time in the sun rays, rain and storms.
- 6) Generally, if there are enough plants, trees the environment will be soft and the erosion of the mountains can be prevented.
- 7) It will also be convenient to practice Tantra Sadhna here.
- 8) It will become an attractive tourist destination for devotees, visitors and travellers.

Preparation of Intensive Forestry and Tree Planting:

The hill and the adjoining area are about 15 acres. First of all, the soil has been tested from the government laboratory. The place was dug with JCB four months before the rains. Because, the soil will not be able to hold water, if it is not made loosen. After digging the land, arrangements have been made to increase the fertility and excellence of the land with adequate amount of straw, leaves and dung manure. Government departments and private body were contacted for the seedlings. But after making sure promises, they finally refused to give it. As an alternative, twenty thousand seedlings of twenty species compatible with the local environment have been procured from a private nursery in Medinipur. In addition the owner of the nursery donated 3,000 different saplings of 3 to 6 feet height for free with the great purpose of encouraging, managing and preparing our forestation project. Different species of trees have been planted in rows blocks of one square meter. In addition to the Panchabati trees such as Bell, Amalaki, Neem, Shimul, and any one of Bot or Ashwath, saplings of Shal, Pia Shal, Mahogany, Chatim, Bakul, Krishnachura, Mango, Jackfruit, Almond etc. have been planted. During the planting of saplings by the infinite grace of the Supreme father it rained daily. At the entrance of the ashram, Bakul, Shibali, Parijat, Mango, Jackfruit, Sabeda etc. have been planted as avenue trees.

Overcoming Adversity:

Arrangements were made to bring saplings from Medinipur in two matador vehicles. A vehicle was able to reach the ashram properly. The other one came near the ashram and while turning the wheel got stuck on the soft ground on the side of the road. The vehicle had to be pulled up with a tractor. The second problem is that the road to the asthi paharh is already bad and very slippery during the rainy season. As a result, the saplings have to be kept in other place of our ashram at Banshgarh. From there the saplings had to be taken to the asthi paharh by tractor. So, some seedlings have been damaged due to repeated lifting and lowering.

Maintenance:

- 1) Areas are being fenced to protect the seedlings from the cattle like Goats, sheep, cows and buffaloes.
- 2) Irrigation will be provided from two wells of the ashram and reservoirs if necessary.

3) Pumps and pipes, electric wires have been arranged for irrigation.

4) There are two guards organized by the Anandamarga Farm department for day and night. Moreover, Acharya Shubhamoy Brahmachari Dada is in charge of the ashram and is taking necessary care of the plants.

5) Acharya Devpremananda Avadhut Dada, Diti Secretary who has completed the process of planting saplings with devotion. Under his sincere supervision, this dense forest project is going to be implemented.

Second Dense Forest Project:

Dakshin Anandnagar is the south of Baba Memorial. Acharya Kalyaneshwarananda Avadhut Dada's long and untiring efforts have created forests here on about five acres of land. This time, one thousand cashew nuts saplings have been planted in three more acres of land in a scientific manner. The entire maintenance is being taken care of by the dada himself.

Third Dense Forest Project:

"Rambutan Compound" is in Guridi Mouza. About two and a half thousand different species of trees and five hundred cashew nuts saplings have been planted there. Acharya Devpremananda Avadhut Dada is also supervising this project regularly. There is a forest of different species of trees on about ten acres of land.

Acknowledgments:

This new "Ultra Dense Forest Project" was launched in July 2021 with the financial and direct support of Shri Kishen Singh Sood Dada, a senior Margii and Grihi Acharya of our mission. On behalf of the people of Ananda Nagar, I congratulate and wish him all the best. We hope that he will implement more development projects in Ananda Nagar in the future as well.

By the way, we can see peacocks and peahens and different kinds of beautiful birds in our central Ananda Nagar. In a few years, their number will certainly increase a lot.

Acharya Narayanananda Avadhuta
Rector Master, Ananda Nagar.



Afforestation at Asthi Paharh



Afforestation at Dakshin Anand Nagar, South of Baba Memorial



Afforestation at Rambutan Compound

Tattva and Kiirtana at Jeladih village

2nd July : Six-hour Akhanda Nam Kiirtan "Baba Nam Kevalam" was performed at Jelyadih village. A meeting was also held with young women on this occasion on the topic of "What is the importance of spiritual practice"? Avadhutika Ananda Atisha Acarya spoke at the tattva sabha (theory meeting).



Activities of Medical Department

Ananda Marga Medical Department organized Medical Camps in villages of Ananda Nagar where villagers were given essential medicines, vitamin-C tablets, Zinc tablets, B-complex syrups and masks at the camp. Everyone present was also made aware of the rules of hygiene.

2nd & 3rd July: Medical Camps in Baejnathdih & Kurmidih villages. People came from Mayadih, Dhogjora villages also to get medicine. Total of 243 Villagers were benefited.



7th July: Medical Camps in Darikuri village. Total of 256 Villagers were benefited.



14th July: Medical Camps in Shalgram village. Total of 166 Villagers were benefited.



21st July: Medical Camps in Upper Baglata, Lower Baglata and Bhagudih villages. Total of 139 Villagers were benefited.



Visitors in Ananda Nagar

3rd & 4th July: Three persons including two LIC Administrative Officers visited Ananda Nagar and they were shown in detail about our various service projects in Ananda Nagar, water conservation projects, forestry projects, Navcakra caves, dead volcanoes, dinosaur fossils and beautiful natural environment and they were fascinated with them. They expressed their desire to involve themselves in the social development projects of Ananda Nagar.



Farmer's Awareness Camp

8th July: By the initiative of Ananda Marga Degree College a meeting on awareness and education to farmers were held at Central Farm House. Farmers from different villages attended. Shri Ashish Ghosh, Agriculture Officer, Jaipur Block, explained how to yield more crops and what helps they can get from the Government. At the end, 80 farmers were given high yielding improved maize seeds.



First Diocese Seminar

9th to 11th July: The first diocese level seminar of Ananda Nagar Diocese was held from 9th to 11th July at the hall of Power House. It was started with three hours of Akhanda "Baba Nam Kevalam" kiirtan from 9 am to 12 noon. At the end of the kiirtana, collective meditation was performed. On the first day there was First Solid Food and Naming ceremony of the first son of Anadi Gope and Keshari Gope of Damru village was also held and Child's name was given Vikram Dev. Acarya Muktananda Avadhuta conducted the naming as well as first solid food feeding ceremonies and explained the significances of this ceremony.

Following issues were discussed in the Seminar:

- 1) An Exemplary Life.
- 2) Renaissance in All the Strata of Life.

- 3) Shudra Revolution and Sadvipra society.
- 4) The Final Desideratum of Expressed Beings.

Acarya Sarveshvarananda Avadhuta and Acarya Mohanananda Avadhuta were the trainers.



Three Hours Akhanda Kiirtan

18th July: Monthly 3 hour Akhanda kiirtan done at Baba Memorial.



Drawing Class at Fine Arts Building

Under the supervision and management of Ananda Marga Gurukula, drawing classes (for beginners) have been started recently at the Fine Arts building in the Far-South of Ananda Nagar. At present 72 local students are attending the classes. Everyone is showing great interest in learning drawing.



Two Football Tournaments by Ananda Marga Sports Academy

18th July: Football tournament for the players under 13 years of age was held at the Ananda Marga Primary School ground in Madhya Ananda Nagar. Following eight teams participated:

1) SSAC, Ananda Nagar 2) Bagalta F. C. 3) Damrughutu 4) New Youth Club, Rarekcha 5) Dadhichi Hostel, Ananda Nagar 6) P.P. Hostel, Ananda Nagar 7) Upper Hostel, Ananda Nagar 8) ASSC Chirkamu.

SSAC Ananda Nagar team became winner and Damrughutu team became runner

Best player - Nitish Dev, Best Goalkeeper- Subroto Mahato, Highest goal scorer - Sanjay Dev

Man of the final - Umesh Dev, Man of the final goal scorer- Subham Dev.



25th July: Football tournament for the players under 15 years of age was held at the Ananda Marga Primary School ground in Madhya Ananda Nagar. Following sixteen teams participated:

- 1) JST Chitmu,
- 2) Belegutu,
- 3) SSAC Ananda Nagar,
- 4) Dambera,
- 5) Adibasi Club, Singhhagra,
- 6) Upar Khatanga,
- 7) Rarekacha,
- 8) Kusumtikri,
- 9) Damrugutu,
- 10) Bangidir,
- 11) SSAC Chirkamu,
- 12) Bhagudih,
- 13) Chakudih,
- 14) Santosh Sports, Pundag,
- 15) Ananda Marga Sports Academy,
- 16) PP Hostel, Ananda Nagar.

Rarekacha Football team became winner and PP Hostel Ananda Nagar team became runner at the end of the intense competition.

Man of the match - Gopesh Mandi, Rarekacha, Man of the series- Abinash Hembram.







Ananda Marga Activities in ISRN's Newsletter


ISRN (Indian Social Responsibility Network) supported by Ministry of Culture, Government of India regularly publish Quarterly E-News Letter where activities/services provided by various Non-Government Organizations are displayed. In their issue Volume 29 for the period April to June 2021, the news of the service works done by Ananda Marga Pracaraka Samgha for the development of the grass roots people in Ananda Nagar has been published. The newsletter also reached out to 408 organizations in India who are working for the most backward people in the society and are recognized by ISRN and others.

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MEMBERS' PORTAL

INDIAN SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY NETWORK



Acarya Narayananda Avadhuta

During the covid second wave, the organization carried out activities including Medical Camp, Sanitization and Mass Feeding at Ananda Nagar, Purulia District, West Bengal on the month of April to June, 2021.

Activities of Prout Department

27th July: Prout Department has undertaken “Ideal Village Developmental Project” at Damrughutu Village of Ananda Nagar last year. Today seedlings of various fruits i.e. mango, Blackberry, Jackfruit, Almond, Shawl and Teak were distributed to all the villagers of Damrughutu. As per their program out of eight types of fruit saplings, two types of saplings were distributed last year. The remaining three varieties of fruit saplings will be distributed next year. The Coaching classes for all students, Computer training classes and Tailoring training are continuing since last year.



N.B.: All monthly Ananda Nagar News are now available on the website: <http://www.Ananda Nagar.org>,

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Contributions are welcome.