Mensa India Pune Chapter Annual Report 2011-2012

1. Administrative Work:

   a. **Pamphlet Preparation**: Four color demi size Mensa India Pune chapter Mensa testing Information pamphlet designing has been completed. 1000 copies will be printed in English and will be translated in Marathi, Hindi for distribution.

   b. **Mensa India Database Software**: New Software has been designed which includes Annual members and life members data along with people who have been qualified for Mensa test and not taken membership. More than 6000 entries have been done. Database from 1994 to 2012 has been completed.

   c. **Mensa India New Office**: Mensa India has been allotted new place in Jnana Prabodhini’s new building (Vinayak Bhavan). Mensa India Head quarter is paying Rs. 1500 per month as Central Building Maintenance charges.

   d. **Balance Sheet Consolidation**: Pending work of consolidation of 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 Mensa India Balance Sheets has been completed.

2. Mensa Testing:

   a. Mensa India Pune chapter has started satellite center at Nasik in the Wisdom High International School Campus. In this year satellite center has conducted testing. This is the fourth year the satellite center has conducted Mensa testing. More than 200 students of 6th Grade and 100 students from 10th Grade appeared for the test. 11 students were qualified as Mensan.

   b. **Regular Testing**: This year was set back for regular testing at Jnana Prabodhini. Mensa India Pune has made special arrangement and appointed Mrs. Kshipra Joshi as coordinator for regular test. Henceforth twice a month test will be conducted at Jnana Prabodhini. It has been noticed
that people give confirmation on phone and never turn up. So the new policy: Participants have
to send money to Dena Bank Mensa India account Money Transfer (A/C No. 074410003814)
c. **Mensa Tatkal**: (Payment of Rs. 750) There is large demand for Mensa test from students seeking
admission abroad. Due to lack of time conducting they were not able to appear for regular
testing schedule. To easy out the process, Mensa India Pune is conducting Mensa Tatkal test
were the certificate is given in two working days.
d. **Kalpini Talegaon Testing**: Art and Performance group (Kalapini) of Talegaon requested Mensa
India Pune to conduct test for Kalpini members. 38 people attended the test and 6 people
qualified as Mensans. Three students become life member. Mensa India Pune has given
advertisement to Kalapini calendar as a promotional activity.
e. **Individual Testing**: Bangalore and Chennai (Students Below 10 years): Mensa India Pune
receives individual enquiries (special cases) of giftedness for conducting test. Two individuals
were tested and counseling was done by Dr. Devasena N. Desai face to face from a client from
Bangalore and another from Chennai telephonic, the third contacted through email.
f. **Gifted Counseling Center**: Dr. Devasena N. Desai, Counselor conducted more than 10 counseling
sessions (individual) for gifted students along with parents.
g. Mensa India Pune has conducted testing at Industrial area based school at Nasik for more than
300 students on charity basis. 55 students qualified as Mensan. Giftedness identification and
nurturing program were not organized as the school authority decided to do the activity as
profit making activity.

3. Promotion Activity:

a. **Giftedness Child Program expansion Poorna Pramati School, Bangalore**: Dr. Narayan R. Desai
visited Poorna Pramati school as school evaluator. Dr. Desai discussed the possibility of having
giftedness identification and nurturing program in collaboration with Poorna Pramati. The matter is under consideration. Probably during 2013-14, we will have regular testing (below 15 years) at Poorna Pramati.

b. **Giftedness Child Program expansion Palimar Matha, Udupi:** Palimar Matha is 800 years old south Indian Madhva Matha. The Matha runs “Sanskar Varga” (Cultural Classes) every year. More than 500 students attend the same. Mensa India Pune was invited to present their concept to parents. More than 300 students and their parents attended the lecture. From next year, Mensa India Pune will start exploring the possibility to conduct Mensa test in that region i.e. South Karnataka.

c. **Giftedness Child Program expansion IPCA Pharmaceutical Company Daman Campus:** IPCA Pharmaceutical Company under the banner of Prabhat Foundation has provided Rs. 5 lakh donation last year. The company has been requested to provide Rs. 10 lakh funding for Tribal Mensa Project. Two meetings have been held. The company has been positive. In return Mensa India Pune is willing to conduct Giftedness Identification program for IPCA Company staff located in Daman.

d. **Giftedness Child Program expansion at Chennai:** Dr. Chalini (Eye Surgeon) visited Jnana Prabodhini and showed interest in promoting giftedness program. She will be providing space and infrastructure for the same in Chennai. Incorporate the nurturing program at Madurai along with testing.

4. **Giftedness Nurturing Workshops for Urban Students: workshops at Nasik:** In year 2010 – 2011, Mensa India Pune has conducted 8 workshops (one day) and 1 outdoor workshop (4 days at Kaivalyadham Lonavala). Creativity and other giftedness tests were conducted.
5. **Mensa Testing Fees Collection System:** Mensa India Pune encourages people to pay the test fees before the test. To facilitate the process, Mensa India Pune will be using Dena Bank Core Banking facility for the same.

**Tribal Mensa Nurturing Program**

**A. Tribal Mensa Mobile Giftedness Identification Van:** Kher Foundation, Mumbai has provided Rs. 5 lakh 50 thousand for said Mobile Van project. Old Mitsubishi Voyeur has been provided by Jnana Prabodhini for the same. Mobile van is now equipped with Mensa Posters, LCD projector and other nurturing activity. In a month, the Mobile van visits one school for either giftedness identification or nurturing.

**B. Tribal Mensa Giftedness Identification Program**

1. In year 2011 – 2012 under the TMNP we have conducted Mensa testing for **5100 students** from 22 schools of Maval Taluka, Thane region and Ratnagiri. 156 student’s qualified Mensa Membership criteria and 148 qualified for workshops.

2. Mensa India Pune has completed survey for **Nasik Tribal Area** for Giftedness Identification and now looking for funds to execute the same.

3. Mensa India Pune has conducted Giftedness Identification Program at **Gurukul Residential School** at Lonavala and 55 students qualified for Mensa Membership. These students will participate Bal Yogesh project along with Salumbre, Kamshet and Nigdi school gifted students.

4. **Tribal Mensa Certificate Distribution Program:** Major event was organized at Gram Prabodhini, Salumbre for distribution of Tribal Mensa certificate. The event took place on 15 January 2012. Mr. Anand Desai and Mrs. Sonavi Desai (Trustee, Kher Foundation) were invited as chief guest for the same.
5. **Tribal Mensa Nurturing Program Web Site**: New Tribal Mensa Web Site has been launched with help of Mr. Touhin.

6. **Tribal Mensa Nurturing Booklet**: Indus Source Publication has agreed to publish Giftedness Nurturing Activity books (Series of books). Basic designing and content finalization is in progress.

7. **Tribal Mensa Scholarship Program**: The students selected as Mensan in 2007 to 2009 were approached and requested to apply for Scholarship program. Mensa India Pune is providing academic scholarships. Last year more than 12 students were beneficiaries of the same.

8. **Present Status of Tribal Gifted Students identified since 2002 to 2007**: Out of 50 students selected for previous workshops only 40 students are in contact. Only one student has left the school. We are trying to bring him in to main stream by offering vocational training. One girl student died in year 2009 because of lack of medical facilities. Rest of them are in pursuing their academic career i.e. diploma, graduation. One student has taken admission in Agricultural discipline. This year Mensa India Pune will organize get togather for old students.

9. **Sushama Kate Medical and Educational Help**: Miss Sushama Kate (Mensan identified in year 2002 from Sevadham Tribal School) is working as teacher at Sevadham Tribal School. Mensa India Pune has offered scholarship of Rs. 14,000 so that she can enroll to D.Ed. course. Last year she had a medical problem and was to be hospitalized. Appeal was made to all Mensans for generating funds for her medical bill. Rs. 31,000 was collected for the same. All medical investigations were done in Aditya Birla Hospital and her hospital bill (Sevadham Hospital, Talegaon) was paid. She has recovered and is doing fine.

10. **Providing academic material to Tribal Gifted**: This year more than 15 Tribal Mensan students received help (in kind) in form of academic material.
11. **Assistance to Kamshet Tribal School:** With help of Rotary Club Pune, Mensa India Pune has providing LCD Projector and Computer to Karve Tribal Residential School, Kamshet.

12. **Distribution of Sports equipment’s to 4 Tribal Schools:** Under Karthik Kridalaya program, this year we have provided indoor sports material (Chess boards, Business etc.) to students of four schools.

13. **In Kind Donation:** Mensa India Pune has received laptop from Mrs. Poorvi Choutani for Tribal Mensa Project. Currently the Laptop has given to Sri Madhavacharya (Hyderabad) who is working on Concept of Buddhi from Vedic literature for Mensa India Pune. After completion of the project, the laptop will be returned to Mensa India.

14. **In Kind Donation:** Mensa India Mumbai chapter has provided two gunny bags of playing equipment’s. The said toys etc. has been donated to Mrs. Parameshwari Damale who runs Slow Learners School at Lonavala.

15. **New Avenues:** Mensa India Pune has been contacted by non governmental organization working in Jharkhand. In coming years Mensa India Pune, under the banner of Tribal Mensa Nurturing Program will screen more than 20,000 students and provide material for giftedness nurturing.

16. **DePaul University Students visit:** This is the second year; DePaul University (Chicago, USA) visited Tribal Mensa Project. Tribal Mensa Nurturing Program received donation of Rs. 25,000 for organizing their logistics.

17. **Collaboration with Belin Blank Center:** Tribal Mensa has signed research collaboration agreement with Belin Blank Center, University of Iowa USA. Under the collaboration agreement, Dr. Devasena Desai visited the center for training and discussed possibilities for future research projects.
**Research:** Mensa India Pune is very keen to do research in Giftedness. Few steps were taken in the research front.

1. **Micro Nutrient Absorption Research Project:** In collaboration with Kaivalyadham, Mensa India Pune has launched Micro nutrient absorption project at Gurukul School, Lonavala. 50 gifted students will be provided with Yoga Intervention (3 months: 5 days a week) and their micro nutrient absorption level will be quantified. The project is funded by Kaivalyadham.

2. **Bal Yogesh Project:** In collaboration with Kaivalyadham, Mensa India Pune will train 150 Mensa students in field of Yoga. The project will be launched at four different places: Kridakul Nigdi, Kamshet Tribal School, Gurukul School and Salumbre.

3. **Sacred Grove Restoration Project Proposal:** Monica (Spanish researcher) was supported by Tribal Mensa program to develop sacred grove restoration project. Monica stayed for one year and developed the project proposal. Mensa India Pune is looking for more funds. During her stay, she prepared Herbarium and Seed Collection. This collection has been scientifically identified and kept in Gram Prabodhini. This collection will help Tribal Gifted to understand the natural resources.

4. **Sacred Grove Restoration Research Pilot Project:** Next step after having project proposal was to initiate pilot project. Rohan Shetti, Mensa India Pune chapter life member pursuing master’s degree in Natural Resource Management at University of Greifswald, Germany took up Sacred Grove Restoration Pilot project for his master degree thesis. Herbarium and seed collection has been digitized by him.

5. **Seed collection by Tribal Gifted:** More than 25 plants seeds have been collected by Tribal Mensans as a part of their scholarship program. Seed bank has been created at Gram Prabodhini Salumbre.
6. **Buddhi**: Mensa India Pune has initiated project on Buddhi. The concept of the project is to extract “Buddhi” word from Vedic Scripture and derive the contextual meaning. The word Buddhi has been extracted from 108 Upanishad and Gita. Mr. Sunil (Puttiage Matha, Udupi) and Sri Madhavacharya (Hyderabad) are working on the same.

7. **Emotional Intelligence Assessment Tool**: In collaboration with Jnana Prabodhini Institute of Psychology Mensa India Pune wishes to develop Emotional Intelligence Assessment tool for Tribal Gifted. Dr. Anagha Lavalekar has been presented the conceptual research note. The project will cost approx. Rs. 2 lakhs.

8. Following are few proposed projects by Mensa India Pune

   - Imagery Skills development in Tribal Gifted: Mrs. Geeta Muthya
   - Effect of Yoga on Anxiety of Gurukul School Gifted: Mr. Amod Shepal
   - Sports giftedness and Mensa Giftedness: Dr. Narayan R. Desai
Tribal Mensans (2007 Batch) received Scholarships from B.G. Kher Foundation

Seema Memane

Chandana
Pravin Aswale (Tergun Tribal School)

Phulewade Tribal School Mensans
In year 2010-2011, more than 300 students were identified as Mensans from 22 Schools. Mensa Certificate distribution program was organized at Gram Prabodhini School, village Salumbre. Mr. Anand Desai and Mrs. Sonavi Desai (Trustee, B.G. Kher Foundation) distributed certificates on 15th Jan 2012. B.G. Kher Foundation is main donor of Tribal Mensa Giftedness Identification & Nurturing Program for last 5 years.
Tribal Mensa Girl is taking Blessings from Mrs. Sonavi Desai

Mr. Anand Desai blessing Tribal Mensans
More than 200 Tribal Mensans attended 15th Jan 2012 program at Gram Prabodhini
Tribal Mensans collected Plants samples, seeds and created Herbarium. This work has been assisted by Monica and Rohan. The herbarium is kept in Gram Prabodhini, Salumbr.