



***"SRT humming..... Soil enriching, Crops booming and Farmers Empowering"***

## **Six Years of Shielding Nature - The Success of the Saguna Vansanvardhan Technique (SVT) in Reducing Risk of Forest Fire**

The Saguna Vansanvardhan Technique (SVT) represents a pioneering approach in the prevention of forest fires, developed by Krishiratna Chandrashekhar Bhadsavle and his team. Since 2018, team SVT has been dedicatedly demonstrating this technique on Hill No. 2 at Matheran-Neral, Raigad, MH, aiming to mitigate the risk of forest fires in the area. The technique has shown promising results over the past six years, demonstrating a clear pattern of effectiveness in the designated area.

Hill No. 2 is divided into two main sections: the southern half, spanning 150 acres, is privately owned, while the northern half is under the jurisdiction of the Neral forest department, it also covering 150 acres. Historically, the privately owned section has been susceptible to annual forest fires, losing significant portions of its vegetation each year. In stark contrast, the area protected by the SVT has remained notably unscathed, showcasing the technique's potential in safeguarding forested areas from the devastating impacts of fires.

Once again during the remarkable instance of SVT's effectiveness was observed on 26th Feb 2024 when a forest fire broke out for the 6th consecutive year at the base of privately owned land. The SVT team had established a preventive measure known as the "Laxman Rekha," a 2km long metaphorical line akin to a protective barrier, which successfully contained the fire, preventing it from spreading into the SVT-treated area. This incident underscores the technique's capability in creating a robust defense against the spread of forest fires.

The Saguna Vansanvardhan Technique, through its innovative approach and successful implementation, offers a beacon of hope for forest conservation efforts. By effectively reducing the risk of forest fires, SVT not only protects the ecological balance but also preserves the food chain required for the biodiversity of forested regions, ensuring their sustainability for future generations.



*The Saguna Vansanvardhan Technique in Action - A Visual Journey of Fire Prevention*

The replication of the SVT in fire-prone areas, with the support of the Forest Department of Maharashtra, could significantly enhance the resilience of forests against fires, thereby preserving biodiversity, protecting wildlife habitats, and contributing to the overall health of forest ecosystems. This collaborative effort would not only safeguard natural resources but also promote sustainable forest management practices across the region.

Thank you !

