



“SRT humming..... Soil enriching, Crops booming and Farmers Empowering”

Hill No. 2 in Flames: Years of Restoration Devastated in One Night

Namaste,

Welcome to the 190th edition of the Newsletter.

Warm greetings from Saguna Rural Foundation!

The SVT work on Hill No. 2 began in 2018. Since then, repeated fire incidents have caused damage to the area. For several years, only the unprotected 150-acre private portion was affected, while the equally sized protected Forest Department area remained largely safeguarded due to the SVT treatment. The positive environmental improvements brought about by this work were clearly visible.

However, on the night of 12 March 2026, fires were allegedly set at multiple locations, resulting in widespread destruction. The scale of the damage has deeply shocked our team and left us greatly disturbed and anxious.

Many of you in the community must be witnessing blackened and charred landscapes during your travels, especially across Maharashtra. This incident is a painful reminder of how vulnerable our natural resources remain, and how important it is for all of us to stand together to protect them.

“The SVT team protected nature, preserved the hill, and breathed new life into the environment; we never lost while battling the forces of nature; but one foolish and destructive person reduced our carefully preserved green dream to ashes.”

Before & After the Wildfire Destruction



All the biomass above ground and the organic carbon in top soil has charred away.



One could not see a person behind the Vetiver LCB wall plus the grass covering ground has all gone to ashes.



The plant which was grown and saved for past 3 years has given up in front of crazy human brain



Even though the crazy human brain has burnt it all the nature is still supporting the positive hope.