



Shiksha Sopan

An Initiative of IIT Community for social upliftment

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Newsletter December 2018

In the month of November Shiksha Sopan took several important initiatives to expand its work areas and make more impact. Programs for developing Sopan Ashram for Science tourism, producing organic foods and running online courses in collaboration with IIT Kanpur were planned. Greater participation of IIT Kanpur students in activities of our centers led to higher standards of development of children.

New Initiatives

Development Of Science Tourism Initiative (DOSTI)

It was decided that Sopan Ashram will be developed as a Tourist place to promote Science in all sections of society. Different outdoor and indoor Science activities will be used to increase curiosity, questioning spirit and spirit of innovation. The architectural look will also be accordingly structured under professional guidance. Mr Amit Kumar Bajpai has been nominated to lead this project.

Sopan-IITK Online Courses (SIOC)

Shiksha Sopan has collaborated with CDTE, IIT Kanpur to produce online courses at BSc level in Hindi. While IITK will provide the platform MOOKIT to run the courses, Shiksha Sopan will prepare the lectures at Sopan Ashram and will use its network to reach hundreds of thousands of Hindi medium students enrolled mostly in colleges of rural areas.

Basic of Special Theory of Relativity

offered by
Teaching Learning Centre, PMMMNMTT
&
Centre for Development of Technical Education
Shiksha Sopan -IIT Kanpur Lecture Series.



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The first of this series of courses in already floated. The course in on Basics of Special Theory of Relativity. The 25-lecture course in Hindi, being given by Dr H C Verma has been recorded and edited at Sopan Ashram. Thanks to our donors of BLESS program that we have the Studio and we are running this SIOC program.

Sopan's Only Organic Food Initiative (SOOFI)

Living with nature is the best way to be healthy and happy. Sopan Ashram has been given access to some farming space and facility for organic farming by the owner. We have decided to undertake growing vegetables, fruits and oil and promote "only organic food" culture. All volunteers working at Sopan Ashram and visitors will have food at Sopan Ashram using our products.



Deepavali celebrations

7th November was Deepavali, the festival of light. It was celebrated at all centers on different dates prior to 7th November.

Barsirohi Evening Center: On the occasion of Deepavali, BEC children decorated the whole campus with self made Paper-Deepaks and colorful posters. They made beautiful Rangoli's too at different places. Class 11 student Saurabh anchored the program. Sneha, Kashish, Deepali welcomed the guests with a welcome song. Shiksha Sopan Secretary Atul Verma and Rtd teacher MR J P Sharma did Lamp lighting and Ganesh-Laxmi Poojan.



Addresses were made by IITK B Tech students Kritarth, Sachin, Tathagat, PhD student Jyoti and M Tech student Dhananjay. Shiksha Sopan senior volunteers Abhishek Savarnya, Abhishek Dass, Pawan, Archana and OM JI also addressed students and told them about the background and importance of Deepavali and the precautions to be taken during celebrations.

Ms Jyoti motivated the students through the song Ham Honge Kamyab. Finally all students, guests and volunteers lighted the deepaks and had sweets as Prasad.

Shiksha Sopan Anaupacharik Kendra: On 5th November, IITK students Girish, Subhendra and Abhishek gave a special session on Deepavali telling them how they can celebrate it with least pollution created and what kind of precautions to be taken during fire cracking.

Children had made beautiful decorated Deepaks. Ms Seema and Nisha presented these to Dr H C Verma, Dr Sameer Khandekar and other Sopan well wishers.

Sopan Ashram Evening Center: Deepotsav was celebrated at SAEC on 6th November. During morning hours Sundarkand Path was arranged. Children made beautiful Ram Darbar. About 50 children and some parents participated. Shri Ram Prasad Bajpai, Manager of Sopan Ashram, led the Path. All participants were given copies of Sundarkand and all of them loudly chanted the verses.



Children made a beautiful Rangoli at the main corridor and put lots of Deepaks at various places at the center and lighted them in the evening.

Children's Day celebration

Through the centers, Shiksha Sopan interacts on daily basis with about 300 children. It was natural that Children's day was celebrated with great enthusiasm.

Shiksha Sopan Anaupacharik Kendra: The 129th Birth anniversary of Pt Jawahar Lal Nehru was celebrated at SASK on 14th November. Children did garlanding on Chacha Nehru's image and Class-7 student Saraswati narrated main events in the life of Pt Nehru.

Ms Seema arranged Games event at this occasion. Competitions were held for Carromboard, Chess, Musical chair, Alphabet Fun game etc. IITK students Subhendra and Shrish supervised these events.



It was a day long program in which children did lots of entertainment together with learning.

Barasirohi Evening Center: Children's day was celebrated with enthusiasm on 14th November. IITK PhD student Rohit told inspiring stories from Pt Nehru's life. Several games like Kabaddi, Kho-Kho, musical chairs, Chess, etc were conducted by our volunteers Kshama, Puspendra, Abhishek and Avinash. Stationary items were gifted to the students at this occasion. Finally all had some refreshment.

Sopan Ashram Evening Center: It was sports day at SAEC on 14th November. Our volunteer Poonam Nishad took the lead. Poonam had been a Sopan student from her class-6 days and now doing B Tech from CSJM University. She herself is a very good Kho-Kho player and had represented her school at National level. Children at the center participated in various sport competitions including Kho-Kho, skipping, frog jump, kabaddi, different kinds of races etc. All were highly enthusiastic. Finally they were given a session in which the



importance of sports in life were described. The points focused were health, discipline, teamwork, spirit of achieving targets etc.

Sopan Library: Sopan Library conducted a special Children's day event on 14th November. All members (around 50) participated at Type-1 community center. Ms Pragya Khandekar, Ms Achala Josan and Ms Bhakti Sathe were the chief guests. They addressed the members and talked about various issues related to life.

Songs and poem recitation were the main attraction of the event. Gosai ji sang AAO BACHCHON TUMHE DIKHAYEN. Priyanshi performed dance at Saraswati Vandana. Several children recited poems. A quiz was conducted and the children answering correctly were given toffees.

Other Activities at Centers

Shiksha Sopan Anaupacharik Shikshan Kendra

Visit of MHRD Leadership Program Participants: Deans and HODs of different NITs and Central institutes were given a Leadership Camp at IIT KNPUR under an MHRD program. A visit of these participants to SASK was arranged on 24th November to give them an experience of how IITK outreach policies are making impact on rural and underprivileged society. The visit was led by Shiksha Sopan President Dr Sameer Khandekar.



The Guests were welcome by SASK Mentor Mrs Pragya Khandekar and the Principal Ms Seema Verma. Children sang a welcome song. A craft exhibition of things made by SASK children was put up. A science show was also put up by the children in which they showed experiments on charges, pressure, making fountain in a bottle, balloons, chemistry tricks of producing fire etc.

Children themselves made a Power point presentation showing all the activities in SASK. Participants were highly impressed and they wished the children the very best and made collection among themselves and donated for the center.

Visit by new IITK Students: IITK PhD Students Rupesh and Reshama visited SASK on 26th November and talked to the children on their education and skill development. They had brought notepads, pencils, erasers, scales etc. Children reciprocated by gifting self-made pen stands and bukes.

Barasirohi Evening Center

Chhath: It is a major devotional event in Bihar and UP. It is celebrated in the week following Deepavali. B Tech student Ravi who is from Bihar, gave a special talk on the social, scientific and spiritual background of Chhath and described in detail the 4-day sequence of this pooja. The collective effort of the entire society in making the locality absolutely clean is something very special about this event. Students at the center were very happy to learn all these.

Visits : Mohit Agnihotri and Pawan Mishra were students at BEC and are now settled in job. Mohit Ji is Junior Engineer in a Textile Industry in Ludhiyana and Pawan Ji is Assistant manager in Pune. Both of them visited BEC on 18th November. They told about the opportunities after Polytechnic Diploma. Students asked several questions on this career option.

Mr D S Bhadauria, a senior volunteer of Sopan, visited the center on 25th November and gave information about Jawahar Navoday Vidyalay. BEC is helping students of class 5-8 in filling the forms and in preparing them for the entrance test.

Talks: On 26th November, Geeta ji gave a talk on Statue of Unity as a part of General knowledge class. This 182 m tall statue is very special as iron was collected from all over the country especially from farmers.

Khel Diwas: 29th August is celebrated as National Sports day. This date is chosen as Sports day in memory of the great Indian hockey player Major Dyanchand. A special program was conducted at BEC on 29th August in which children were told about the importance of sports in life. Puspendra ji and others also told the life sketch of Major Dhyanchand and interesting events in his life. Certain games were conducted on 29th August to mark the sports day.

Sopan Ashram Evening Center

National Education Day: This day was celebrated at SAEC on 11th November. At this occasion the first coordinator of SAEC Mr Vimal visited the center and talked to students on education in life. Sharing his own experience he emphasized that through education one can make his/her life better and fulfill the dreams. No dream is small and unachievable.

Nothern Lights: Vaibhav Varun is doing Engineering course from Moscow. While he was in school at Madhya Pradesh he had written science fiction book Aham Brahmasmi. He shared about his adventures like jumping from 13000 ft and going to North pole region. He showed beautiful photos of Nothern Lights captured by him. All children were thrilled and excited about this very new knowledge.

Calculus classes: Vaibhan Varun also gave classes on Calculus to class 11-12 students. He explored the history of calculus and connecting with this taught the basics of calculus. His emphasis was learning topics with its full relevance.



Other Informations

Web site : For more details please visit www.shiksha-sopan.org

How to donate: Shiksha Sopan

(a) You can pay through credit/debit card by going to www.godparents.in, clicking "support a child" from the left top panel, selecting Shiksha Sopan from the "caretaking NGO" list at the bottom left of the page and then selecting a child from the list. Click on "Be my Godparent" below the photograph.

(b) You can write cheques/draft for donations in the name of "Shiksha Sopan" payable at Kanpur and send to the address given below.

(c) Online transfer can be made in State Bank of India, IITKanpur branch. Account No. **10426002488**, Account name "Shiksha Sopan", IFSC code **SBIN0001161**

(d). People in US can use the link <http://www.iitk.ac.in/dora/donation/PayPal/> and Choose Shiksha Sopan Charitable Contribution to donate through IIT Kanpur foundation using credit cards. All donations are 100% tax deductible in the United States. IIT Kanpur Foundation (Tax ID: 94-3370645) is Tax Exempt under 501(c)(3) classification of IRS.

(e) All donations are Tax free (up to 50%) under section 80/G.
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