

Shiksha

Sanskar

Swavalamban



Shiksha Sopan

An Initiative of IIT Community for social upliftment

Reg. Office: 391, Nankari, IIT, Kanpur 208016

Newsletter September 2011

August was very hectic. Sopan workers with new energy conducted Independence day celebration, Anti-corruption rallies, 2-day camp for PPY children, drive for NTSE awareness and preparation, and other programmes apart from the regular activities. Here is a brief description of the activities in August 2011.

Independence Day Programme

Independence Day celebrations were made on 16th Aug in L-7 from 6 to 8 PM in a grand way. It was packed with nationalistic songs, dances and a documentary Drama enacted by Sopan Children. Each and every seat in the 500+ capacity L-7 was occupied by the viewers. Family members of Sopan children from various centers, IITK students and employees turned up in big numbers. The Hall was frequently reverberated with shouting of Bharat Mata Ki Jai and Vandemataram. Our old student Aman Bajpai, who is now doing Aircraft Maintenance course, anchored the programme. With beautiful insertion of couplets he made the programme lively.



Children from all centers presented some show. Lots of dances and songs by the tiny tots attracted the audience. Many of these were showing the concerns about the corruption, terrorism and social evils in India and the determination to fight them out. A very educative drama on the great social Reformer Shri Jyoti Ba Phule and the his wife Savitri Devi was enacted. The drama was directed by our senior worker Ms Poonam Rahura, who presented it as a story, parts of which were acted by Sopan children and volunteers.



It was highly appreciated by all. Dr H C Verma, Ms Rita Singh, Shri Ranjan Upadhya, Shri Anil Gupta of TDS were some of the dignitaries.

Rally in support of Sh Anna Hazare

Shiksha Sopan promotes National integrity and belongingness of its children and volunteers with the Nation. With large scale agitation going on all over India, against corruption, led by Sh Anna Hazare, Sopan workers too exhibited their support to this mass movement. On 22nd August, Janmashtami day, about 300 Sopan volunteers, children and local people from Barasirohi, too



out Chetana Rally. All were very excited and were clapping, dancing and shouting slogans of Bharat Mata Ki Jai , Vandemataram, Anna nahee ye Aandhi Hai, Vartaman ka Gandhi Hai, etc. All this slogan raising was being led by our EC member Md Nazir, who himself was observing Roza but was displaying a great deal of energy.



After moving through different parts of Barasirohi for about 2 hours, the rally terminated at Sopan Vidyalaya. Several of the village youths, seniors, Sopan volunteers expressed their views on how to fight corruption. Jaiprakash Ji very well coordinated this meeting. It was heartening to see that village youth like Pratap Kushwaha, Satish Chandra, Pawan, Ms Uma came out to speak up on this important social issue.

Mini Camp of PPY

A two-day camp was organized on 20th – 22nd August for the class-8 students selected under Pratibha Poshan Yojana. After the 22-day summer camp in May, this was our first interaction. A total of 12 out of 20 turned up. In this camp we talked to their academics, problems faced at school, and general counseling. A special focus was to tell about NTSE(National Talent Search Examination) conducted by NCERT all over India. We gave them Application form and guided how to fill and submit. We also gave them practice on the Mental Ability Test and Scholastic Ability Test patterns asked in NTSE Exam.

A specialty of this camp was that children stayed in night in faculty houses and interacted with them during night and morning hours. Six faculty members volunteered for this and were very happy to guide and encourage the children.

Similarly, the lunch and dinner for these children were provided by Sopan children from different centers in Barasirohi, Nankari and outhouses of



IITK. This enhanced commitment of our children and their families with Sopan and its broader objectives.

The management of the entire camp was coordinated by our workers Mahendra and Santosh, who had been our students in early days at Evening centers.

NTSE Awareness and Preparatory classes

In order to improve the overall academic standards in the villages around IITK, Shiksha Sopan decided to spread awareness about National Talent Search Examination at class 8 level conducted by NCERT. Sopan volunteers contacted about 35 schools in the immediate vicinity of IITK campus catering to the need of village children. Volunteers gave full information about the examination and encouraged children to appear in it. The examination is held first at State level and then the state wise selected students go for National level test. Some 100-150 children are selected in UP test, according to the sources. The exam has a large component of Mental Ability test and needs specific kind of training. 📢

Shiksha Sopan decided to give this training to some class 8 students from its working area. It conducted a test on 14th and 18th August at Oppurtunity School in which a total of 121 students appeared. The exam papers had components to test Maths, Science and some mental ability. The answers were evaluated by our senior members and we selected 25 students to give preparation classes specifically aimed at NTSE. Classes have started on 23rd August.



Evaluation of NTSE Prep. Test

All teachers of Sopan Vidyalay remain present in the NTSE classes. This is with a view that they can orient the teaching at vidyalaya to include such training from the lower classes. Also it helps the internal management of the classes.

Day-long Science programme at an Unnao school

Saraswati Vidya Mandir, Civil Lines, Unnao is a typical small town high school. The management is keen to inspire the children and give right exposure and guidance. They invited Shiksha Sopan to conduct a day-long science and Maths activity with children of their school on 3rd August. Dr H C Verma, Sh Amit Bagpai and Sh Deepak Mishra together with Dr Suneel K Mishra of DAV College went to the school with Science Experiments, some video, laptop and multimedia projector.

After inauguration and welcome speeches by school authorities, there were lectures inspiring them to study in the right perspective. They were made to realize that they can learn science enjoyfully from the environment and surrounding itself. Amit and Deepak gave them Science Demo. Several experiments were performed and the relevant science was discussed.

We showed them a video made on concept of Percentage at Dr H C Verma's lab. All children enjoyed as it introduced the subject through very familiar situations they see in the market. They were also given a test prior to and after seeing the video. Video improved the total performance by about 40%. Later, in the activity session we taught them to make paper helicopter.



Sopan Vidyalay Activities

- Tricolour Flag was unfurled on 15th August in a well organized function at Sopan Vidyalaya. Children gave beautiful performances singing patriotic songs and raising slogans for the nation. Ranjan Ji gave a talk on concurrent situations, Sh Anna Hazare movement against corruption and participation of children in national building.

- Class-1 and 2 children were given table books, dictionaries, Hindi books on stories, grammar, poem books etc.

- Mathematical procedures based on Vedic maths were introduced in classes 5 onwards. Teachers of the school first learned these methods and are now delivering to children.

- Anjali, a student of class 8 from Sopan Vidyalaya got selected for the NTSE Preparatory Classes being conducted by Shiksha Sopan. 📢

Sh Chandra Mohan introduces Shiksha Sopan to Civil Services Interview committee

Sh Chandra Mohan Thakur is actively associated with Shiksha Sopan since 2002 when he was in B tech at IITK. He passed Civil Services exam this year and during the interview itself, introduced Shiksha Sopan to the committee members. Congratulation to Chandra Mohan. In his own words,

क्योंकि मेरे इस परीक्षा में सफल होने का एक बहुत बड़ा कारण है शिक्षा सोपान। मेरे आवेदन पत्र में मैंने ये जिक्र किया था कि मैं शिक्षा सोपान से जुड़ा रहा हूँ और साक्षात्कार के दौरान मुझसे शिक्षा सोपान के बारे में कई प्रश्न भी किए गए। जब मैंने वहाँ शिक्षा सोपान के पिछले दस वर्षों की उपलब्धियाँ बताईं तो साक्षात्कार लेने वाले सभी लोग काफी प्रसन्न हुए। उन्होंने कहा कि ये एक बेहद अच्छा प्रयास है शिक्षा को सभी तक पहुंचाने का। जब मैंने बताया कि हमारे शिक्षा सोपान के बच्चे खुद अपनी साइन्स लैब चलाते हैं और ये भी कि हमारे कुछ बच्चे अब न सिर्फ अच्छे विद्यालयों में पढ़ रहे हैं बल्कि कुछ तो engineering और MCA जैसी शिक्षा भी पा रहे हैं, तो लोग हैरान हो गए।

NEWS

- Evening Center of Barasirohi is running quite well. The average number of children is around 55-60. A science programme has been started on each Saturday, named "Kab, Kyoon aur Kaise". In this, some simple science experiments are performed and the scientific analysis is done. The center coordinator Promod ji is giving this programme.
- Manviya and Poonam of class 10 have been selected to represent their school team in the National level Kho-Kho competition to be held in Gwalior.
- Manviya participated in a Dance competition conducted by the newspaper AMAR UJALA on 15th August and got third prize.

Other Informations

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

How to donate : The cheques/draft for donations should be made in the name of "Shiksha Sopan" payable at Kanpur. Donors may kindly give their personal details such as name, postal address, email address, so that the receipt, updates etc. may be sent. One can also make online transfer to Shiksha Sopan account in State Bank of India, IITK branch in the Account 10426002488 in the name "Shiksha Sopan". People in US can use the link <http://indolink.com/iitk/> to donate through IIT Kanpur foundation using credit cards.

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