

*Shiksha*

*Sanskar*

*Swavalamban*



# *Shiksha Sopan*

*An Initiative of IIT Community for social upliftment*

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

**Newsletter October 2011**

With blessings of all our members and well wishers, Shiksha Sopan has developed an excellent team of committed workers, most of whom come from the section of society which is still struggling for their livelihood. With the heroic efforts of this team, Sopan activities are expanding and people are keen to know and adapt these models. In September, there were at least two outreach activities, one at a remote village Muskara and the other at IITK, organized by NERD, where people keenly interacted with Sopan to know about its educational models. All centers conducted their activities efficiently and there was an increase in participation from the society. Here is a brief description of the activities in August 2011.

## **Muskara Teachers Interaction**

Muskara is a village in Hamirpur district, about 170 km away from IITK. This is one of the 38 places where Shiksha Sopan had conducted tests in collaboration with Talent Development Council to select PPY-2011 batch on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2011. Since then, a very enthusiastic middle school teacher, Shri Raman Gupta of Muskara, is in continuous contact with us. He invited Shiksha Sopan and TDC people to Muskara to explore how Shiksha Sopan educational models can be implemented in their region.

Dr H C Verma, Sh Anil Gupta and others hired a vehicle and went to Muskara on 4<sup>th</sup> September. They reached there around 11.30 AM where about 150 teachers from different primary and Junior high schools from Muskara and nearby places were waiting. Most of these were from Govt schools. The infrastructural facilities were very poor. But the real problems were lack of interest from children and teachers and education department's interference and irregularities.



**Classroom in a Muskara school**



**Muskara teachers telling their problems**

Dr H C Verma interacted with the teachers in detail and suggested how the teaching can be made more effective despite all the problems. He offered on behalf of Shiksha Sopan to have a continued programme under which teachers from Muskara will be called at Anveshika in Kanpur in 3-day camps. In these camps the teachers will be



exposed to doing science and mathematics through small experiments, models and games. Through this closer and continuous interaction, Shiksha Sopan hopes to make an impact in this rural belt.

We then went to meet our PPY student of class 8 Hasan Muhammad from Muskara. Hasan's family survives on a simple footpath vegetable shop that they put everyday in the market. It was heartening to see that despite great economical difficulties, Hasan's father expressed his resolve to give all possible support to Hasan for his academic achievements. The family was very happy to see Shiksha Sopan and TDC team at their place.



Hasan with his brother, father and grandfather at his vegetable shop

## Sopan Vidyalay

Sopan Vidyalaya is continuously progressing towards higher qualities. Some of the highlights for September are as follows.

Science Programme for children was organized on 2<sup>nd</sup> September. Deepak Mishra and Ranjeet Kumar of the Science team conducted several experiments and involved children.

7-days special class on Mathematics was conducted in the 1<sup>st</sup> week of September to strengthen basics and developing capabilities of oral calculations.

Teachers day was celebrated on 5<sup>th</sup> September. Children were told about the importance of this day. They prepared beautiful gifts for their teachers. Some of the students were given the task of teaching Juniors. On the same day, Parents meeting was organized to develop closer family relations.

Special Hindi classes were given on 14<sup>th</sup> September and children were told that it is celebrated as Hindi Day. Vidyalaya Principal Ms Seema Verma emphasized on right pronunciation of Hindi words.

A Quiz and Art competition was held on 25<sup>th</sup> September in which all children of Sopan Vidyalay participated. Senior Sopan workers Sh Jaiprakash Maurya, Amit Bajpai, Ashish Bhateja, Reeta Sahgal, Anurag Pandey and Dr Pankaj Apte were present.

*Dr Pankaj A Apte and Sri R P Varshney guiding Sopan Vidyalaya*

Dr Pankaj A Apte, Assistant Professor in Chemical Engg at IITK, is actively guiding Sopan Vidyalay team to make the school a center of vibrant activities and education. He regularly visits the school and interacts with the teachers and children. All teachers of Vidyalaya are very happy with his association with the school. Shiksha Sopan greatly appreciates his efforts.



Under guidance of Dr Apte, children made beautiful registers from waste A4 papers collected from IIT labs, where one side was blank. Many of them are now using these registers for their normal writing work.



Another mentor Vidyalaya has gotten is Sh R P Varshney, a very competent orator and retired Kendriya Vidyalaya Physical Education teacher. He comes every Friday and Saturday, teaches children moral education through stories and gives them PT and drill exercises. The children now display very orderly appearance.



## **From Centers**

### ***NTSE Preparatory classes***

NTSE preparatory classes are running well. 19 children of class 8 from villages around IITK are regularly participating. Our volunteers are managing it well with the help of NSS students of IITK. Every Saturday they are given tests and they are performing well. It is heartening to see that due to this effort, many of the children have already shown great improvement.

The last date for filling NTSE forms was 25<sup>th</sup> September. Shiksha Sopan helped them in filling the forms, making drafts and submitting to the proper office. Parents were involved at all stages and they did it very happily.

### ***Gahan Adhyayan Kendra***

With Pushpa Ji as coordinator, class 11-12 of GAK is very well managed. With 23 students, very regular, classes for Physics, Chemistry, Maths and English are going regularly. There was some problem because of electric breakdown at SAC Hall, but it has been sorted out. The classes of 9-10 GAK are running at Barasirohi and Sangeeta Ji and Sh Bhaduria Ji are doing very good management. Tests are regularly given. The volunteer teachers from Sopan visit children's houses. The last 30 minutes are kept for extra curriculars where social issues are discussed or other skill development programmes are undertaken.

### ***Evening Centers***

Both the centers, one at Barasirohi and one at old SAC, had improved attendance in this month, because of the good activities. At Barasirohi, the average attendance was around 60 and at SAC it was around 35. At both places children are helped in their school studies and some time is given to games and other activities.

## **Higher Education Cell**

The following Sopan students and volunteers were given financial assistance to pursue studies beyond class 12.

Name	Course	Expences	Institute	Family
Nivedita Sharma	M.C.A 3 <sup>rd</sup> yr	60,000	Jagaran Management Inst,	Father hostel incharge in a school
Rashmi Kushwaha	B. Tech. 2 <sup>nd</sup> yr	40,000	Ruhelkhand Univ	Father daily wage worker
Deepak Pal	BA 3 <sup>rd</sup> yr	2,000	SDK degree college	Father carpenter, active worker
Manish Kumar	B A 2 <sup>nd</sup> yr	3,500	SDK degree college	Father painter, active worker
Amit Katheria	B. Tech. 3 <sup>rd</sup> yr	10,000	B Tech Rama Engg College	Father Tailor, Old Sopan student, now Teaching at GAK



## **Balance Sheet of 2010-11 audited**

Accounts for 2010-11 were audited and income tax return was filed in September. The main features are as follows.

<b>Total Donations received (2010-11)</b>		<b>Rs 13,89,705</b>	
<b>Expenditures (Rs)</b>			
Honorarium (average 24 volunteers, all centers, Vidyalay)	3,25,935	Functions	37,593
PPY-2011	1,18,848	Higher Education	1,84,957
Evening Centers	43,120	PPY J	1,38,715
Sopan Vidyalay	73,908	Swavalamban Kendra	46,951
Printing/Stationary	6,035	Rent	78,570
Bank Charges	351	Audit/Accounting Fee	11,515
Library	6,687	General Expenses	9,350
Fixed deposited for Dr V N Kulkarni Merit Scholarship Fund	2,56,000		
	Total Expenses	13,38,535	

### **Other Informations**

**Web site :** For more details please visit [www.shiksha-sopan.org](http://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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