



Shiksha Sopan

An Initiative of IIT Community for social upliftment

Reg Office: 391, Nankari, IIT, Kanpur 208016

Newsletter November 2009

The month of October was rich in various programmes. The regular educational programmes at the Evening Centers, Sopan Vidyalaya and Gahan Adhyayan kendra ran well. Our senior volunteers visited the villages of some of the PPY children who attended Summer Camp 09. There were programmes on Diwali and Gandhi Jayanti. There was an excursion to Chitrakoot for about 20 active volunteers.

The Academics

The school committee has put more emphasis on the academic quality at Sopan Vidyalaya and the teachers are trying their best to improve the standards. But there are genuine difficulties such as only four teachers and four classrooms for eight classes, least after-school family support etc. The school committee met with parents and tried to work out the possible options. Some of the children and parents were counselled to repeat in the older class. Thoughts are on to look at the problems with more practical perceptions.

At Gahan Adhyayan Kendra, teachers are now teaching class 10 and 12 with UP Board Exam papers to focus on the Exam. Dr H C Verma gave a model lecture to class 10 which was attended by all teachers too.

Evening centers at Ratanpur, Barasirohi and SAC are running systematically. NSS students are also participating in teaching. Every month each center coordinator arranges a visit of some Guest to show the center.

Gandhi-Shastri Jayanti

The auspicious occasion of Gandhi ji's and Shastri ji's birth anniversary was celebrated at Sopan Vidyalaya at Barasirohi. The eminent personality, Sri Pratap Somvanshi, Editor, Amar Ujala, Daily Hindi Newspaper of Kanpur region, was the chief guest. Prof. H.C.Verma, Prof. Kunal Ghosh, Sri Ranjan Ji, Mr. Manoj Moharana and Sri Madan Ji were also present. Lightening of the lamp marked the beginning of the program which was followed by Saraswati Vandana and other programmes by school children.



Following the trend of previous years, this year again stationary items (school bags, notebooks, drawing copies, colors etc.) were distributed to all 62 school children. 18 new children were provided with school uniforms at highly subsidized rates.

VISIT TO PPY SR. CHILDREN

Two group of our senior workers visted some of the children in Pratibha Poshan Yojana senior who had attended 2009 Summer Camp. While Jaiprakash Ji and Deepak Mishra went to Kesath, Buxar (~400 km) to meet Kanchan, Vivek and others, Chandrashekhar Ji and Madan ji went to Rura and Baragaon (~60 km) to meet Amanpreet, Richi, Shikha and Priya. All the children were very happy to meet their favourite Bhaiyyas. The family members also were very happy to see the kind of personal care taken by Shiksha Sopan. Our volunteers discussed with the children and parents in depth their difficulties in the village, met their local teachers too and suggested the best course of action. All of them told that the study material sent by us by post are big assets for them.

SANSKRITIK VIKAS PRAKALP (SVP): CHITRAKOOT VISIT

Sanskritik Vikas Prakalp(SVP) is a newly conceived activity of Shiksha Sopan which has been initiated to inculcate social and moral values in our volunteers. The first programme which marked the commencement of this activity was visit to Chitrakoot. A total of 24 active volunteers from all units such as Evening Centers, Sopan Vidyalaya, GAK and SSK opted for the visit. The main aim of this trip was to make the volunteers of different units spend time together so that they get broader perception of Shiksha Sopan as a Social movement and develop more team spirit. This trip actually helped them to understand each other better.

Three cars were arranged which took them to Chitrakoot. They started on 3rd October night and reached there on 4th morning. There stay was arranged in an Ashram. The whole day of 4th was used to visit different places of tourist interest, and they all got chance to interact with each other closely.

In the evening Ranjan Ji made an address to all the volunteers telling them about relations between an individual and society, role of Shiksha Sopan and their individual roles.

They started next morning from Chitrakoot and reached Kanpur on 15th. The trip did not end there and they visited Sai Darbar and J K Temple in Kanpur before saying bye to each other for the day.

Each volunteer was asked to write his/her feedback. All of them expressed their excitement and usefulness of the trip.



DIWALI CELEBRATIONS ON 15TH OCT 2009

Diwali is one of the most enthusiastically celebrated festival in India. Shiksha Sopan volunteers and students celebrated the sacred festival of Dipawali at Gahan Adhyayan Kendra on 15th October 2009. The GAK students and teachers decorated the center with lights. They gave expression to their happiness by lighting earthen 'diyas' and candles. Girls made beautiful Rangoli. The lighting of diyas is a way of paying obeisance to God for attainment of health, wealth, knowledge, peace, valor and fame. Everybody wished each other Happy Diwali and a prosperous life ahead. A Puja was also conducted in which each member present at the center participated.



It was followed by Bhajan Sandhya for an hour with Amit ji playing Dholak.



The basic idea was to give the children and teachers a feel of collectively working together for a cause. By making all the arrangements in the best possible manner they learn a number of management tasks together with enhanced social bonding.

Science Cell Activities

An exhibition was organized by Science cell in CSJM University on 10th October 2009. The exhibition started at around 10 A.M. in the morning and ended at 1 P.M. in the afternoon. This programme was conducted on request from Indian Association of Physics Teachers who was celebrating its Silver Jubilee Convention. Shiksha Sopan children performed various experiments using waste materials like bottles, magnets, clips, nails, etc. All the experiments were simple and such practical applications made all teachers from various parts of the country very happy. All of them appreciated the effort by the children and many of them videoshooted the presentation by the children.

The former Director of IIT Kgp Professor M L Sodha was among the visitors and was extremely happy to see the science going in common masses though the efforts of Shiksha Sopan. He blessed us with good wishes.



NEWS

Funds generation efforts

Our internal audit for April 09 - Sept 09 shows that we have spent about Rs 4,80,000 in the first six months of this financial year. A continuous effort has to be made to generate funds to sustain the activities.

One of IITK alumna Shivam Shrivastava (pass out 2007) has started Godparents Foundation to generate funds for NGOs working on education of children. Shiksha Sopan has put up profiles of some children from Barasirohi on their website and some donations are received. From the hostel contact programmes undertaken in September, about 25 students have started monthly donations of various amounts ranging from Rs 100 to 500. One of our volunteer Someshwar Pandey of ME has taken keen interest in motivating his friends for the monthly donation scheme.

Vachan Pratiyogita Planned

In order to improve reading skill of children, a Reading contest is planned on 13th and 14th November. For children up to class 5, it will be in Hindi and for 6th onwards it will be in English. It is mandatory for all children of Shiksha Sopan evening centers and school. They are doing practice at their centers under the supervision of their coordinators.

Sopan Swavalamban Kendra arranged Chhola Party

SSK teachers and students decided to spend some time together beyond what they do to learn Sticking and repair of electrical appliances. They arranged a Chhola party on 31st October where Chholev were made by the children themselves under supervision of Jaiprakash Ji. All of them enjoyed the good time. Several IITK students were also present.

A new course on Designer ladies Suit Making is planned for the girls who have done the first level Sticking course.

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. Doners 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".

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