



Shiksha Sopan

An Initiative of IIT Community for social upliftment

Reg Office: 391, Nankari, IIT, Kanpur 208016

Newsletter April 2010

The main events of the last month were Mathematics day, Science Workshop at Etawah, one day camp for PPY senior students, and games activity at SAC. Apart from these activities, evening centers and other units of Shiksha Sopan ran very well.

Ganit Ke Saath Ek Din (A day with Mathematics)

It was a landmark event for Shiksha Sopan after Bal Vigyan Mela in 2007. This event was jointly organized by Shiksha Sopan and NSS (National Service Scheme) IIT Kanpur, on 21st March 2010. This whole concept was conceived by our beloved mentor Prof. H. C. Verma to present an effective mathematics learning methodology to the society. The idea behind organizing this event was to convey the message that Mathematics, like Science, can also be learned from our daily life activities.

We invited 27 schools from villages around IIT Kanpur. Five students of class 6th -8th from each school along with their two teachers participated in the event on that day. A total of 40 volunteers of Shiksha Sopan and NSS helped to execute the activity successfully. The event was organized in the game-cum-competition mode. There were six rounds, which were designed specifically to create interest and simultaneously to test the acumen of students in Mathematics.

The Mathematics day started with introduction session at SAC. Prof. H. C. Verma gave instructions for the entire event and asked school students to participate whole-heartedly to learn and enjoy Mathematics. One cloth bag made at Sopan Swavalamban Kendra with some stationary was also given to all participating students as participation gift.

The first round was to grade students of a particular school among themselves. For each school there was an instructor who posed 15 mathematics questions to the group of 5 students one by one. For each question, children wrote the answer in one minute. Based on the correctness and the time consumed, students were graded and school wise 1st and 2nd were declared. Indeed the questions were designed in such a way that it broke the monotony of common bookish calculation and at the same time these were solvable in one minute.



Second round was the quiz round, which was organized in four rooms separately through Power Point Presentation (PPT). With individual round, buzzer round and quick fire round, the participants as well as the viewers had lots of excitement and entertainment. Quiz covered questions related to estimation, arithmetic, algebra and geometry.

The most enjoyable part was round-3 in which completely new type of games were designed. Children were divided in groups of 20 and then further subdivided in teams with 10 children in each team. Each child was assigned a digit from 0 to 9 by sticking a sheet to his/her dress carrying the digit. The game was to solve a mathematical problem presented orally by the instructor, and to form the answer by placing the children in right order. With immense amount of enthusiasm to win the game by correctly standing in order, all children, together with their teachers and viewers, enjoyed and appreciated this totally new form of mathematics teaching.



Out of the best 40 students, based on their first round performance, top 10 were selected through a *hit or miss* round (4th round) of questions. In the fifth round we had a mathematical game based on table of 7. The 200 plus audience in L-1 thoroughly enjoyed this round. Many other varieties were also included in this round and we finally chose three students to go for final sixth round. Sixth round was unique in its own ways.

The three students were given some puzzles based of blocks, disks and number cards. With no calculations involved but a deep insight needed, the children were challenged to come out with solving these puzzles in 3 minutes. With several of these activity puzzles, children had full opportunity to show their talent.



Finally, Harshit Sharma from Saraswati Bal Mandir Barasirohi was awarded 'Ganit Ratna' , while, Nikhil Kumar from R. A. Children Care and Aysha Khan of Swami Vivekananda Vidyalaya Lodhar were declared 'Ganit Shree'. Our EC member Mr. Madan Vaijapurkar, Prof. Prabha Sharma, Prof. A K Lal and Prof H C Verma gave prizes and certificates to the winners from various catagories. We witnessed the happiness and smile on the face of all participants when they were leaving for their home.



GANIT SHREE Aysha Khan, **GANIT SHREE** Nikhil Kumar and **GANIT RATNA** Harshit Sharma with Shiksha Sopan Team.

Prominent among the visitors were Prof Y R Waghmare, Prof R M Singru, Prof Sandeep Sangal, Prof Sudeep Bhattacharya, Dr Manish Kapoor, Mrs Rita Singh, Mrs Sushma Vora. We thank all our visitors for their support.

Science workshop @ Bhoolpur, Etawah

Shiksha Sopan science team members Ranjit Kumar and Amit Bajpai along with Prof. H. C. Verma went to Kissan Inter College at Bhoolpur in Etawah district of Uttar Pradesh on 3rd March 2010. Mr. Prashant and Mr. Veerender, IITK students, also accompanied for conducting an activity workshop there. This college is managed by Dr. Ram Chaudhary, faculty at one of the Universities in USA and an active Shiksha Sopan supporter. He is one of the champions of doing Science in Hindi. Science team has come up with a new activity module and it was first time implemented at Bhoolpur. This activity is mainly concerned with the use of papers to make caps, helicopters, and hut. All children were given newspaper pages and other accessories like scissors, gum tube, scale etc. to make these items. Together with this, children also made Pupni (flute like music instrument) from drinking straws. Apart from the teachers, about seventy students of class 9-10th participated. Students as well as teachers enjoyed the whole session.



One day meeting of PPY senior students

PPY senior students were called for an interaction session on 14th March 2010. This time only 12 students came for this meeting. The whole event was organized in Opportunity school IIT Kanpur. A test was conducted which will form one of the criteria for selection in the coming Summer Camp. After the test, study material preparation team interacted with the students and gave them to make their studies more efficient. They also took Students' feedback and noted their difficulties so that we can focus more on these topics in the summer camp.



After these interactive sessions, a set of books for competitive exams (one for each subject: Maths, Physics & Chemistry) were given to these children. We acknowledge the support of Bharati Bhawan Publishing House who provided complementary copies of IIT Mathematics (TMH Publications) and Concept of Physics (Part 1 & 2) for these children.

Shiksha Sopan President Shri Ranjan Upadhyay along with his wife was also present. They shared their experiences with the students and Shiksha Sopan volunteers. Dr. Sameer Khandekar and Mrs. Pragya Khandekar interacted informally with the students' and their parents during lunch hour.

Games activity at SAC evening center

An extensive games activity was organized at SAC evening center on 26th March 2010. This initiative was taken by our enthusiastic and dedicated volunteer Mr. Dhyana Chand. He is the coordinator of SAC evening center. More than a dozen games were planned. Games included running with a spoon in mouth carrying a ball on it, lifting orange from the ground with hands tied on back, lighting number of candles with a single matchstick, putting a bindi on the forehead of a picture with closed eyes etc.



Ms. Vinita Bajpai, Ms. Sangeeta Verma and Ms. Anita Kamal contributed to execute this activity successfully. Ranjit Kumar of Science team also helped to manage it. Prof. H. C. Verma and Mr. Amit Bajpai were present on this occasion. Children and all volunteers enjoyed the activity.



Sopan News

Final examination result of PPY junior students has been announced in their school Jugal Devi Saraswati Vidya Mandir. Shaurya Pratap of class 6 who was selected in 2009 has stood first in his class. All others too have scored good marks ranging from 62 to 84 %.

Sopan Scholarship has been initiated for class 5 children from schools surrounding IIT Campus. The scholarship will be in the form of School Fee, Books and Stationary, school dress etc up to a maximum of Rs 1000. An examination will be conducted for these students on 4th April 2010.

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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