



Shiksha Sopan

An Initiative of IIT Community for social upliftment

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

Newsletter December 2011

The month of November had been quite smooth for Sopan as no major centralized programmes were done. All the units concentrated at their activities and performed several programmes, especially on Children's day. NTSE, PPYJ, Evening centers and school, actively persuaded their programmes. Here is a brief description of the activities in November 2011.

Bal Divas (Children's day) Programme

Sopan Vidylaya

Functions are celebrated not only for knowledge and entertainment but also to increase social commitment. Keeping this in view, Sopan Vidyalaya arranged for plantation of several flowers like, Rose, Bela, Genda, Raat ki raani, Champa etc on 14th November. Children of class 6 to 8 participated in the event. They brought soil and organic fertilizer from their home and Sopan arranged for the plants. They roped the plants in earthen pots placed in Sopan Vidyalaya.



Sh Deepak Pal, a very active teacher in Sopan Vidylaya, told the stories from the life and work of Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru. A painting/drawing event was also organized on this day. Sopan EC member Sh Ashish Bhateja gave encouragement prizes to children who had been very regular in coming to school and done well in academics as well as in extra curricular activities..

Evening Centers

Barasirohi Evening center celebrated Bal Diwas by observing Art competition and Book Reading Competition. Fluent reading itself is an art and at the enter children are given good practice in it. About 50-60 children regularly come to the center and enhance their skill under guidance of the center coordinator, Ms Geeta. Volunteers told the children about Pt Nehru. At the end toffees were distributed to all children.

SAC Evening center conducted a General knowledge quiz on 14th November.

GAK coordinator Ms Sangeeta took two children Harshit and Shyamu of class 9 to Media Lab IITK, for voice recording on the occasion of Bal Diwas. Harshit gave a speech on Pt Nehru and Shyamu gave a song performance. These recordings were broadcasted on 14th November evening on FM Radio 90.4.



At Sopan Vidyalaya

Robotics Workshop

Sh Ashish Bhateja arranged to bring 4 members of a group called Simplifix Automation to conduct a Robotics Workshop at Sopan Vidyalaya on 22th November. It was a great excitement for the children as they had only heard of the name Robot. The mentors explained meaning of Robot and told them about the variety of Robots that are usually assembled. They told the children basics of motors, wheels, remote control, making mechanical assembly and the electrical connections etc. Each group of children was given the necessary parts and they were guided to assemble a simple robot whose motion could be controlled using Remote Control. All children were thrilled to do this activity. When they made the robot move according to their operations on the remote control, they were all really very happy.



Special Yoga classes

Children of class 5-8 of Vidyalaya were given special Yoga/ Exercise classes on all Fridays and Saturdays in November. Sh R P Varshneya guided them to do a number of Yoga postures such as Sukhasan, Vajrasan, Padmasan and exercises such as Surya Namakar. The emphasis was on the correct postures and the kind of benefits from that particular exercise.



Visits of Sh Chandramohan Thakur

Sh Chandramohan Thakur has been actively associated with Shiksha Sopan from its early days. After graduating from IITK, he has successfully passed the IAS examination this year. He visited Sopan Vidyalaya on 19th November and talked to children at length. He gave them encouragement to work hard and sincerely and success will be there to greet. His interaction was inspiring for all the children and also for all the teachers of the Vidyalaya.

Visits of Ms Sapna Sanghal

Ms Sapna Sanghal is an architect specialized in eco-friendly building construction. She has recently done a project at Palampur in Himachal where a complete Ashram is constructed with minimal amount of cement and iron. Knowing about Shiksha Sopan activities, she interacted with us and visited Sopan Vidyalaya on 25th November. She appreciated the efforts to reach out to the most underprivileged section of the society and giving them quality education not available even in highly paid schools.



Science Team

Science team did three major workshops, at Lucknow, Pilibhit and Goa, in the month of November. Besides it gave training to children in Sopan Vidyalaya on science experiments. In the weekly Newspaper "Yuwan" by Amar Ujala group, Science team gives a regular column on one science experiment that can be done by the readers themselves.

Lucknow Workshop

Regional Science City Lucknow and National Academy of Sciences India conducted a two day Science Workshop on 12-13th November at RSCL. There were about 60 science teachers and 200 students from Lucknow and outside. The workshop consisted of Science teaching with experiments. Prof H C Verma, and Sh Deepak Mishra from Sopan Science team went there to conduct the academic sessions. Besides Sh Brajesh Dixit of Oraiya, also an associate of Shiksha Sopan, gave sessions to students on simple experiments developed by himself and by Sopan.

Pilibhit Workshop

Sh Amit Kumar Bajpai and Sh Deepak Agnihotri of Shiksha Sopan was invited to Pilibhit by Sh Laxmikant Sharma, another Sopan Associate, to give a workshop to school children. Amit Ji went there on 13th November and trained the students to make Science Demos themselves. About 107 children participated from 10.00 AM to 4.30 PM.

Goa Workshop

Prof H C Verma and Sh Amit Bajpai gave a 2-day Physics Workshop organized by BITS Pilani, Goa campus on 19th and 20th November. Prof Arun Kulkarni of the institute was the main organizer. About 100 Physics teachers from different schools in GOA participated in the workshop. The Director Bits himself was present for the entire day on 19th November.

All Physics teachers were deeply involved in the experiments and the interpretations coming out of it. They saw their deeply rooted misconceptions melting away by simple experiments assembled from household items. There were lots of discussion and questions and Prof Verma made all this an entertaining and exciting learning experience. In valedictory session, several teachers expressed their feelings that they never knew that Physics can be made so interesting.



Nukkad Naatak

IIT Kanpur students from NSS presented a Nukkad Naatak at Barasirohi on 26th November. Shiksha Sopan volunteer Deepak Mishra coordinated during the preparation and at the venue. The issue shown was the exploitation of women in Indian villages. It talked about apathy of families about girl education, lack of nutrition, social stigmas on widows and so on. A large number of villagers assembled to see the skit and were forced to think on these issues.



After the skit, the students asked several questions to the audience related to the issue to bring them in discussion mode. People were given small gifts on answering the questions.

News

Manaviya and Poonam of PPYJ won Silver Medal in Kho-Kho competition at Patna. News with photo came in Dainik Jagaran.

Shaurya and Ishant participated in Kali Pooja competitions at IITK won second/third positions.

NTSE 1st level test was conducted on 20th November. All 22 children whom Shiksha Sopan selected from villages around the campus and trained for this test have done well. Shiksha Sopan is continuing classes for these children and they are told in an interactive manner about natural phenomena around us.

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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