

Shiksha

Sanskar

Swavalamban



# Shiksha Sopan

*An Initiative of IIT Community for social upliftment*

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

**Newsletter January 2011**

Shiksha Sopan Newsletter has completed 2 years without any break. This is the 25<sup>th</sup> issue of our monthly communication. With the participation from all our members and well wishers we have been able to do a little for the society that has supported us to achieve our present status. The newsletters have been the link among ourselves, positioned at different parts of the globe, to make us work as a coherent team. Let us all wish a very productive year 2011 for Shiksha Sopan.

## **A. Sopan members take initiative**

Rupa was a good student and used to visit Barasirohi Evening Center to get help in academics. Her father earns from KABAADI work and supports the family. Her mother also used to do petty works and get some money. Because of economic crisis, Rupa was forced to discontinue her education. Shiksha Sopan members from Barasirohi came to know about this, and though themselves struggling with economic crisis, they collected money among themselves, got Rupa readmitted in class 9 at G P N school and have decided to take care of her monthly fee etc.

Similar is the case with Afsher. He studied till class-8 in Sopan Vidyalay where the fee is Rs 10 per month. His father was working in making beds with cotton and had a meek earning. Last year he suddenly expired and the family went into severe economic crisis. Sopan members, on their own, supported the family in various ways and got Afsher admitted in G P N School in class-9 where he is continuing the education. After classes Afsher goes for work as a painter at IITK Gate.



**Afsher with his mother**

## **B. New Year interaction with parents**

Shyamu is one of the very promising bright student. Apart from having a very good grasp on study topics, he is very keen in making models and creating structures (November 2010 Newsletter). On the eve of New year, Sopan workers went to his house and talked to his parents. His father Chetram Ji is a rickshapuller.



**Shyamu with his parents**



**अंधकार को क्यों धिक्कारे, अच्छा है एक दीप जलाये**



His elder brother Chandrapal dropped after class-9 due to economic problems and is working as a construction labour. The family of 5 members live in a single room without electricity. Chetram Ji and his wife Munni Ji expressed great satisfaction over their child Shyamu's care being taken by Shiksha Sopan. He told us that it is only because of Shiksha Sopan that Shyamu is making progress and showed keen interest in his education.

Similar sentiments were expressed by Shri Satish Katharia and Smt Uma Devi, whose all three children are studying due to support by Shiksha Sopan. One of the three, Gopal, was selected in Pratibha Poshan Yojana Junior test and is now studying in Jugal Devi Saraswati Vidya Mandir, one of the best reputed CBSE affiliated School in Kanpur. This family also lives in one room without electricity.

### C. Science Cell Activities

#### **Two-day Physics workshop at Ramjas School, New Delhi**

Shiksha Sopan Conducted a 2-day workshop for Physics Teachers of NPSC (National Progressive Schools Conference) member schools from Delhi, Haryana and Rajasthan. A total of 41 teachers participated. Sri Amit K Bajpai and Sri Ranjit Kumar together with Dr H C Verma worked as resource persons. About 20 experiments related to Physics teaching were demonstrated and the underlying phenomena was discussed in depth. Participants were very enthusiastic and also presented their own models.

Amit Ji and Ranjit Ji independently conducted the activity session in which all teachers made a capacitor from kitchen aluminium foil and newspaper and also put up a dancing pencil in magnetic field.

Amit Ji gave a power point presentation on Shiksha Sopan Activities. All participants together with the Principal Mrs Mohini Bindra and the Mr Suraj Prakash from NPSC were highly impressed with the kind of work Shiksha Sopan is doing and gave a standing ovation after Amit Ji's talk.

The Principal was present in all the sessions on both days. She appreciated the the efforts on making Science teaching so interesting. The hosts gave a donation of Rs 15,000 to Shiksha Sopan to help in carrying on the Science Activities.



## **FATPAPSAM**

Shiksha Sopan has designed a 5-hour module of Science activity for class 7-8 students. We named this module Fun and Thrill Packed Activity Programme in Science and Mathematics (FATPAPSAM). In this we have Physics experiments, Making Scientific toys, Speed Mathematics practices, Games and Puzzles, Exhibition on some Biological objects etc. This is being conducted in collaboration with Anveshika, a unit of Indian Association of Physics Teachers.

We had done two such programmes, one for children of BNSD Shiksha Niketan Kanpur on 5<sup>th</sup> December and the other for Children's Public School Fatehpur on 19<sup>th</sup> December. The third is scheduled on 29<sup>th</sup> January for Kendriya Vidyalaya, Kanpur Cantt.

This programme is becoming very popular as the children enjoy it very much and also learn many things.



### **D. Some Plans for 2011**

#### **(a) Collaboration with Talent Development Council to identify and nurture talent in rural areas**

Talent Development Council (TDC) is an NGO in Kanpur giving free education to the talented students of Kanpur through classes conducted on Sundays. During the last 4 years they have produced very good results, some of the students trained by them qualified for NTSE Examination. Shiksha Sopan and TDC have decided to work together in identifying talented students in six districts, especially in rural areas, through a test to be conducted sometime in February-March. About 25-50 selected students will be given Summer Camps by Shiksha Sopan for next 4 years. The selection will be at class 7 level and we will nurture their talent till at least up to class 12. This is a new version of our PPY Senior.

#### **(b) New Premises for Sopan Vidyalaya**

The present rented building, having four small rooms has become inadequate for the kind of activities going on. Dr Brijesh Eshpuniyani has very kindly offered to pay rent (to start with for a period of three years) for a bigger and more suitable premises for vidyalaya. Accordingly, we identified a land in Barasirohi and talked to the owner. The owner has agreed to make construction as per Sopan requirement and offer the building on rent. Hopefully we will be able to move in this new place within few months.



## E. Events

Mrs Arati Srivastav of Noble Book Store, performed Remembrance of her Late husband Jayant Srivastav at Gahan Adhyayan Kendra on his death Anniversary on 16 th December. All children paid homage to Mr Srivastav. Mrs Srivastave donated Rs 5,000 on the occasion with which we purchased sweaters for all children of Sopan Vidyalaya. The sweaters were distributed on 29<sup>th</sup> December.

### **V N Kulkarni Merit Scholarship:**

The drive to collect funds for V N Kulkarni Merit Scholarship is going on. We have collected close to Rs 3 lacs so far and we will be starting the scholarship from 2011-12 session, albeit at small scale. Our target is to collect Rs 10 lacs in the current year so that from the next year we can run the scholarship at full scale.

Shiksha Sopan makes a request to all readers to help raising this fund. One suggestion could be that we donate any extra income over the salary for this fund. Dr H C Verma has initiated this process by donating the honorarium earned at ISM Dhanbad where he gave three Guest Lectures in DST sponsored INSPIRE programme.

### **What you said about Sopan:**

I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the volunteers, organizers and all the people who are putting in their best efforts to make Shiksha Sopan a movement in itself and for bringing light into the lives of the numerous students. Nandini Seth, Jodhpur

---

## 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. 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". People in US can use the link <http://indolink.com/iitk/> to donate through IIT Kanpur foundation using credit cards.

**Email Contacts** : [hcoverma@iitk.ac.in](mailto:hcoverma@iitk.ac.in), [samkhan@iitk.ac.in](mailto:samkhan@iitk.ac.in), [kunal@iitk.ac.in](mailto:kunal@iitk.ac.in)

**Postal Contact** : Dr Sameer Khandekar, Dept of Mech.Engg., IIT Kanpur 208016  
Dr H C Verma, Dept of Physics, IIT Kanpur, Kanpur 208016

**Phone contacts** : Mr. Amit **9506611484**, Mr. Ranjan **9236086966**