



Shiksha Sopan

An Initiative of IIT Community for social upliftment

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Newsletter March 2026

Dear Readers,

Namaste! The March 2026 newsletter features a recap of February 2026 activities from all our centers. The entire team was engaged in preparations for the Science Fair, a flagship event known as the SAMJHO science fair, organized in February. Additionally, we were involved in the Sopan Ashram visit, Pravah Bal Akbar, and Holi celebrations. Below, you will find reports categorized by center.

Science Fair (SAMJHO)

The Science Fair was held under the auspices of **Shiksha Sopan, Sopan Trust,** and **SGM-IAPT Anveshika**. This grand event took place successfully on February 13, 2026, at the **Sopan Ashram** campus, with **Amar Ujala** serving as the media partner. As highlighted in the February newsletter, every center associated with Shiksha Sopan participated with enthusiasm, dedication, and a spirit of teamwork.

In the weeks prior to the Science Fair, extensive preparations were undertaken at Sopan Ashram. These efforts included designing and developing innovative science models, coordinating with participants, and engaging with schools, teachers, and science enthusiasts. The entire team worked diligently to ensure the event's success, striving to provide an engaging and meaningful scientific experience for all attendees.

On February 13, every Shiksha Sopan volunteer was filled with excitement and ready to greet guests and visitors. The chief guest, **Dr. N. P. Singh Ji**, Chairman of the **Bharatiya Shiksha Board (BSB)**, arrived at Sopan Ashram the day before and began reviewing the preparations early that morning. He was joined by another guest, **Mr. Divya Prakash Ji**, along with his wife, **Mrs. Meenakshi Ji**, who also observed the preparations closely.

The program officially commenced at 10:00 AM with the hoisting of the tricolor flag, marking the beginning of the Science Fair festivities. The traditional lighting of the lamp before **Goddess Saraswati** symbolized the event's initiation, embodying knowledge and wisdom.

On this special occasion, the esteemed **Vidyaka Smt. Neelima Katiyar Ji** attended the inaugural session, gracing the gathering with her presence and encouraging words. **Dr. Anurag Tripathi**, **Dr. H. C. Verma**, and **Ms. Pragya Khandekar** were also in attendance, warmly welcoming the guests.



The theme of this year's Science Fair revolved around the Environment. Numerous stalls were set up, showcasing a variety of innovative and informative models. Throughout the day, nearly **8,000 visitors** attended, displaying a keen interest in the experiments and demonstrations.

A notable initiative was launched by **Mr. Nitesh Sachan**, who operates a Bartan Bank. Thanks to his efforts, cold water and **sharbat** were served to visitors without the use of any plastic cups. This thoughtful action embodied the fair's commitment to both scientific exploration and environmental responsibility.

One of the most thrilling highlights of the fair was a demonstration featuring a handmade cannon. The loud, booming sound generated during the experiment piqued the curiosity of many, drawing a large crowd around the stall. Alongside the demonstration, the scientific principles behind the experiment were also explained to the audience.

The fair also showcased how the installation of solar panels and the abundance of trees at Sopan Ashram help prevent approximately **16 tons of carbon dioxide emissions** each year. This information was effectively communicated through a dedicated stall, illustrating how sustainable practices can significantly lessen our environmental footprint. To further emphasize the message of environmental conservation, a large dinosaur model constructed from waste paper, old plastics, and other discarded materials was exhibited. This creative display captivated visitors' attention and became one of the major highlights of the Science Fair, successfully conveying the importance of recycling and the responsible use of resources.



Approximately 300 volunteers and staff members were present at various stalls, passionately explaining topics related to science, technology, agriculture, electronics, artificial intelligence, and drones to attendees. Their enthusiasm and commitment fostered a vibrant and engaging learning atmosphere.

The outdoor experiments at Sopan Ashram, designed to be straightforward and easily replicable, captivated many visitors. One particularly popular activity involved participants lifting a scooter on a stand with just one hand, showcasing the practical application of scientific principles.

From young children to senior visitors, everyone was seen relishing the wonders of science. Attendees actively observed the demonstrations, took photographs, and joyfully shared their experiences with one another, turning the fair into a lively and unforgettable event for all.





An atmosphere of scientific enthusiasm enveloped the campus, with nearly every visitor eager to meet Dr. H. C. Verma. Many schools and students captured memories by taking photographs with him during this special Science Fair.

The fair's name, **SAMJHO (Science Ab Mere Jeevan Me Ho)**, beautifully encapsulated its essence. As visitors explored various experiments and models while engaging with volunteers, the message of integrating science into daily life became profoundly impactful.

Engaging Exhibits and Activities- One room was intentionally darkened to showcase captivating optics experiments, allowing visitors to witness beautiful light phenomena and grasp the underlying principles. In another stall, attendees were intrigued by a detailed map of India, sparking curiosity among everyone. Many students relished the chance to learn about and fly drones, making it a thrilling experience. Additionally, an impressive high-speed electronic car designed by IIT Kanpur students was on display.

Students pursuing an M.Sc. at Kanpur University showcased their ongoing nano-science projects from Sopan Ashram. Visitors also had the opportunity to browse through all the books authored by Dr. H. C. Verma, which were prominently featured at the fair. Some stalls presented videos related to everyday life, serving as a basis for the experimental skill tests organized by Shiksha Sopan to foster scientific thinking among students.

The Chemistry Corner buzzed with activity, as students eagerly observed fascinating experiments. A demonstration on organic farming techniques in pots drew significant interest from visitors passionate about sustainable practices. The corner where children could create a small model of themselves using a wooden spoon was particularly cherished by younger attendees. The joy of crafting something with their own hands left a lasting impression and sparked their creativity.

Contributions from Sopan Centres- Students from various Sopan centres had dedicated many days to prepare for the fair. Participants from SAEC, BEC, SASK, the Library, Sunday Classes, and others proudly exhibited an array of puzzles, models, and craft items.

25 years of Shiksha Sopan

There was also a palpable sense of excitement as Shiksha Sopan celebrated 25 years of its journey. Displays featuring the organization's ongoing programs were set up to educate visitors about its work and initiatives. In honor of this milestone, numerous well-wishers sent congratulatory messages, which were showcased during the fair. Notable figures, including Dr. Abhay Karandikar, Mr. Chandra Mohan Thakur, Mr. Prasanna Kumar, Mr. Pranay Kumar, Mr. Ranjan Upadhyay, Dr. Anurag Tripathi, Dr. A. K. Sharma, Dr. Neeraj Mohan Chawake, Mrs. Pragya Khandekar, Mr. Bhagwat Patel, Dr. D. P. Mishra, and Mr. Rajesh Kumar Sahi, among others, contributed their heartfelt messages.

[Sopan Ashram Visits](#)

Sopan Ashram buzzed with energy and enthusiasm throughout February. On three special days, February 18th, 23rd, and 25th, approximately 480 children visited the Ashram, engaging in activities that fostered and encouraged their scientific mindset. Children from the Kalyanpur and Shivrajpur blocks of the government's basic education department, along with those from the Safipur block of Unnao, participated on upcoming dates. Moreover, on February 25th, around 200 children from Farrukhabad district, accompanied by about 20 teachers and the Basic Shiksha Adhikari, visited Sopan Ashram in the morning. The children actively engaged in the programs, stayed at the Ashram, and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.



[Barasirohi Evening Center \(BEC\)](#)

February 14: Kshama Ji informed all the students at the center that this date marks the day when 40 CRPF soldiers of India were martyred. On this day, we honor the courageous CRPF soldiers who lost their lives in the Pulwama attack and pay tribute to their sacrifice.

February 18 to March 12: The board exams for 10th and 12th grades commenced. Four students from the center are taking the 10th exam, while two students are sitting for the 12th exam. On February 17, Kshama Ji advised all students to arrive at the exam center 15 minutes early, bringing their admit cards and necessary materials. She also extended her best wishes to all the students.

February 26: Deepika Ji organized a series of games for all students at the center. These games focused on mathematics questions, allowing students to enjoy themselves while simultaneously learning various math concepts and enhancing their problem-solving skills.

[Sopan Library](#)

During February, the library hosted a variety of engaging activities:

- **Daily Activities:** The library buzzed with book readings, recitations of shlokas, discussions about the characters of the Ramayana, and explorations of the Puranas. In addition, students from the Sanskarshala participated in art and craft sessions and regularly practiced the Hanuman Chalisa.
- **Maha Shivaratri Celebration:** On Maha Shivaratri, both students and elders gathered at the center to honor Shiva and Parvati by singing the Shiva Tandava Stotram. Some students also showcased a dance performance. Following the program, prasad was distributed to all attendees.
- **Weekly Upanishads Sessions:** Every Thursday from 5 to 6 PM, Bapat Ma'am leads a session where she delves into the teachings of the Upanishads. These sessions are attended with great interest and devotion by everyone.

Shiksha Sopan Anaupcharik Shikshan Kendra(SASK)

Academic Activity

In Science, students in Classes 7 and 8 explored various forces, including muscular force, gravitational force, and magnetic force, along with their significance. Classes 6 to 8 also learned about the composition of water and its physical and chemical properties. Seema Verma demonstrated different methods to conserve water using models. Additionally, Class 8 students studied the allotropes of carbon. Experiments were conducted to illustrate the presence of water vapor and solid particles in the air, while the greenhouse effect was introduced through videos.

In English, students engaged with their textbooks, focusing on reading skills. They learned about adverbs, antonyms, and vocabulary enhancement. Classes 1 and 2 practiced writing 4-5 Hindi words based on pictures, events, and objects. They also listened to short stories of 8-10 sentences and retold them in their own words.

Sunita Ji taught various types of sentences in Hindi, including simple, compound, and complex sentences, while clarifying the differences among them. She conducted reading comprehension exercises using unseen passages, prompting students to share their opinions about teachers. Students practiced writing with idioms and proverbs. In Geography, the significance of the Earth's movement in creating seasons was explained. Sunita Ji encouraged students to articulate the reasons for day and night in their own terms and elaborated on the latitudinal and longitudinal expansion of India.



Science Week on the occasion of Science Day

During the week-long Science Week at Shiksha Sopan Anaupcharik Shikshan Kendra, held from February 23 to February 28, students created models on various science topics. These topics included Acid Rain, Volcanoes, Microscopes, Seismographs, the Water Cycle, Solar Panels, Water Purifiers, Windmills, and Hydraulic Dams. Teachers and volunteers encouraged active participation by posing science-related questions to the students.



On February 28, students showcased their models. Anshika from Class 6 explained the Acid Rain model. Manasi from Class 7 presented the Water Cycle model. Hitesh from Class 8 demonstrated the Volcano Eruption model. In addition, students elaborated on models of Solar Energy and a Microscope, which was creatively made using a flashlight. The week-long Science Day activities were both intriguing and engaging for all the students.



Holi Celebration

Holi was celebrated at SASK on February 28, with students dressed as Radha and Krishna enjoying the vibrant festivities. The grounds were alive with laughter and the sound of dhol drums, as everyone danced and sang to traditional Holi songs. Sunita Ji and Seema Ji applied gulal and shared the story of Holika Dahan, highlighting the festival's significance and the triumph of good over evil. Amidst the colorful chaos, delicious sweets and snacks were shared, adding to the joy of the day. Seema Ji also encouraged using herbal colors for a safer, more sustainable celebration.

Pravah Baal Akhbaar

The February edition of Pravaah Baal Akhbaar was crafted by Avantika from Class 7 and Rani from Class 6. In the Science column, Rimjhim from Class 6 shared her insights on the life of C. V. Raman. Shivani from Class 5 enriched the Suvichaar column with a delightful Holi-themed illustration. Sanchi showcased her artistic talent in the Our Kalakari column with a lovely Holi drawing. The Quiz column featured a variety of science-related questions and answers for the students. Avantika from Class 7 also expressed her admiration for the Science Fair organized at Sopan Ashram in the Baal Akhbaar.

अंधकार को क्यों धिक्कारें, अच्छा हैं एक दीप जलायें

Web site : (a) For more details, please visit www.shiksha-sopan.org

(b) You can write cheque/draft for donations in the name of "Shiksha Sopan" payable at Kanpur and send to the address given below.

(c) Online transfer can be made in State Bank of India, IIT Kanpur branch. Account No. **10426002488**, Account name "Shiksha Sopan", IFSC code **SBIN0001161**

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