



Shiksha Sopan

An Initiative of IIT Community for social upliftment

Reg Office: 391, Nankari, IIT, Kanpur 208016

Newsletter September 2009

The main programs in August were Independence Day Celebration, Science shows and workshops together with the regular activities. PPY study materials, Swavalamban Kendra courses, Gahan Adhyayan Kendra classes were all run very well. Here is a description about this month's activities.

Independence Day Celebrations

Every year Independence day is celebrated by Shiksha Sopan with full vigor and enthusiasm. This year too, the volunteers and the children arranged for a 2-hour programme held in L-7 at IITK on 15th August 2009. The programme started with lamp lighting ceremony by senior Sopan members and the Chief Guest Mr Prakash Kharwarkar, noted entrepreneur of Kanpur. The ceremony was followed by dances, songs, skits etc.



One of the members of Shiksha Sopan played guitar on the tune of 'Ae mere Watan k logon'. Girls and boys danced in groups on various inspirational songs thereby filling the audience with energy and inspiring them to do something constructive and fruitful for our country. Aman recited a poem full of patriotism which made him receive a huge round of applause from the audience

Our freedom fighters had sacrificed their lives in order to free our motherland from the cruel clutches of Britishers. Through various skits children made the audience live those tough moments faced by our freedom fighters like Bhagat Singh and others. The children while performing onstage experienced the spirits our national heroes had during their struggle against the British Govt. The act also beautifully brought out the ignorance of the youth of our country who is unaware of the harsh conditions and the struggle which our freedom fighters had gone through during pre-independence times.



Thousands of people sacrificed their lives to make India independent but our country again got bound into the chains of corruption, poverty, cast discrimination, criminalization and so on. The act and the dances were very effective in bringing out these facts.

The Chief Guest Mr Kharwarkar was highly impressed with the spirit and the talent of the Shiksha Sopan children. In his speech he said that he had never witnessed such a wonderful cultural show that too by untrained village children which was so meaningful and inspiring the youth towards nation building. The hall L-7 was jam packed and many people were clinging at the doors as they did not find place to sit. The venue frequently resounded with 'Bharat Mata ki Jai' and 'Vande Mataram'.



Science Cell Activities

Science Cell has done several workshops and training programs in the month of September 2009.

Physics Workshop at Hissar

A Physics Workshop was arranged by Shiksha Sopan on 8th August at O.P. Jindal Modern Public School in Hissar, Haryana. Prof. H.C. Verma and Mr. Amit Bajpai went there to conduct this workshop. It was basically arranged to enhance the practical knowledge of the Physics teachers and train them to use the Demo experiments developed by Shiksha Sopan during their classroom teaching. Mr. Amit Bajpai delivered an effective presentation in which he gave an introduction to various Shiksha Sopan activities through his slides. The 35 teachers and school authorities present were very appreciative of the good social work being done by Sopan for the economically weaker section of the society.



About 35 teachers from schools in Hissar and around, actively participated in this informative event. About 25-30 basic physics experiments were performed there.

The principal of the school, Mr Egbert had high praise for the workshop and expressed confidence that the teachers will now go to classrooms with added skills and confidence. Apart from providing all the hospitality the School gave a good monetary support to Shiksha Sopan.

Science Training at Gotan

L. K. Singhania Education Centre at Gotan, Rajasthan requested Shiksha Sopan to organize a 5 day Science Training Workshop from 23rd August to 27th August for their about 450 children of class 6-8. Our team workers Mr. Amit Bajpai and Mr. Deepak Aghnihotri provided the required training by staying there for the whole workshop period. The children had a great time at the workshop as they got a chance to learn many new concepts and understand them thoroughly.



After the general training, a total of 54 children were selected and further trained for presentation of Science Experiments to general audience. A mini Science fair was organized on the final day (27th August) where these 54 children showed their experiments explaining the concepts behind in their own language. The visitors were students from senior classes and school authorities. All of them admired the skills children had acquired in a short period. The Principal Mr. R C Joshi was all appreciative of the efforts by these two Sopan workers.

Teachers Workshop at Jodhpur

A one-day workshop for selected 32 Physics Teachers from various parts of Rajasthan was organized at Delhi public School, Jodhpur. Dr. H C Verma and Mr. Ranjeet Kumar went with 23 experiments. In the introductory speech Dr. Verma emphasized the need for more effective science education and the efforts from Shiksha Sopan in this direction. With able assistance from Ranjeet, all the experiments were done smoothly and physics discussed. Many of the teachers promised to work with new zeal. The principal in the concluding session praised our science activities.

Science Show at Sopan Vidyalaya

Under the programme to reach rural schools around the campus, Science Cell conducted a Science show at Sopan Vidyalaya on 29th August. Deepak Mishra and Rohit Nishad performed the experiments and explained the Science to the children.

Gift to 15th Aug performers

An informal get together was arranged on 23rd August to acknowledge the efforts put up by the children in preparation of the 15th August programme which was a huge success. Mrs. Rita Singh was the special guest that day. The small function begun with Saraswati Vandana followed by small inspiring speeches by Mrs. Rita Singh, Prof. H.C. Verma, Mr. Chandra Shekhar and others. Mr. Madan Baijapurkar told a story to the children which not only entertained them but also enriched their vision towards life. The children who performed on stage on Independence Day were encouraged by distributing gifts to them. The faces glowed with joy and happiness upon receiving the gifts. At the end of the programme, children were provided with snacks which they enjoyed a lot. Mr Ashish Bhateja anchored the show and Ranjeet Kumar with Deepak Mishra made all the management.

Sopan Swavlamban Kendra

On 2nd August, Women's Association organized their annual event in which they allowed us to put up an exhibition of the artificial jewelries made by Shiksha Sopan children. These children had learnt the art of making artificial jewelry at Sopan Swavlamban Kendra. Around 15 girls took training who are now well equipped to make beautiful jewelry in almost professional manner. The items displayed were admired by all the guests who came to the exhibition.



VIDAI SAMAROH

Our active volunteer and a very efficient, sensitive but silent worker Chandan Kumar completed his programme at IITK and has left for job. A simple, informal but touchy Vidai was given to him on 27th August at Sopan Vidyalaya Campus.

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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