



Shiksha Sopan

An Initiative of IIT Community for social upliftment

Reg Office: 391, Nankari, IIT, Kanpur 208016

Newsletter September 2010

August 2010 was a mix of cultural and academic activities. Independence day, Rakshabandhan and Cultural programme of Sopan Library were main events. With the help of NSS students of IITK, a work plan to create newer educational modules and materials is started.

Sopan Vidyalaya

Sopan Vidyalaya is being seen as a new hope for people with very limited income. This month too, two children whose parents could not afford the fee of the previous school, could continue education because of Sopan Vidyalaya which admitted them. Apart from regular classroom teaching Vidyalaya took several extracurricular activities.

The Principal, Ms Seema Verma took initiative and trained children of class 6-8 to make beautiful paper bag. Children not only made very attractive and useful bag, they also wrote slogans relevant to environment. Not only skill to work with hands was developed but also their awareness on environment and commitment to save it was strengthened.

Children were also trained in making Rakhi on the occasion of Rakshabandhan on 24th August. Mr Manoj Moharana went to Vidyalaya and children tied the self-designed and self-made Rakhi knot to him.

The Independence day 15th August was celebrated with joy and enthusiasm in the school. Vice President of Shiksha Sopan Mr Manoj Moharana, and Asst Secretary Mr Amit Bajpai raised the tricolour flag in presence of all students. The Chief Guest Dr Sameer Khandekar addressed students and told them about Indian culture and its relevance on material progress.

In order to develop reading habits and increase the horizons, children of class 5-8 were given NANDAN and BAL BHARATI magazines in the month of August for reading.



Evening Learning Centers

While the attendance at the two centers SAC and Barasirohi remained fluctuating due to various reasons including rain, the academic exercise was better systemized. With IITK students, especially those involved in NSS, put into developing good Mathematics modules, good focus is being given in this subject. One of our volunteers Mr Dhyanchand who used to plan and implement SAC center activities, has joined some courses at Lucknow. The center is now mainly managed by Ms Anita. The Barasirohi center is well managed under guidance of Pramod Ji with the new volunteer Gita working dedicatedly. Both Geerta and Pramod are products of this very evening center.

Sopan rocks: SAC evening center together with PPY (J) organized Independence day programme at SAC with great enthusiasm. The novelty of this programme was that from planning to implementation to finance, everything was done by the volunteers and children of these centers. They put up beautiful backdrop, decorated the hall very nicely and made very good arrangement for participants and visitors. They had several song and dance programmes to mark the Independence day celebration. Mr Hanuman Pd Gupta, our very senior worker and a product of SAC center, anchored the programme.



All volunteers, Hanuman, Deepu, Vinita, Neha, Deepak Mishra, Deepak Agnihotri, Ranjit, Anita Kamal etc. were in great energy level. Neha Singh, our Alumni of Sopan SAC center, has gotten admission in Electrical Engineering in Polytechnic in Lucknow. She had to leave for Lucknow on 14th August itself but for the sake of Sopan and the Independence Day's function she postponed her plan and dedicatedly helped all volunteers in the Sunday's function.

As our senior member Ashish Bhateja puts it "**SOPAN ROCKS!!!**"

PPY Junior students met regularly at SAC Library with Ms Vinita guiding them in their academics. There are a total of 7 children and all were quite regular. Four of them, Shaurya (class 7), Naresh, Poonam and Manviya (all class 9) scored 100% attendance in August. They were given monthly tests during 17th to 20th August. Apart from studies they also took part in Independence day and Rakshabandhan functions.

Naresh was sent to ROOMA Institute for sports, a place about 70 km from IITK, on 26th August to participate in a JUDO event. Also PPY J students Poonam and Manaviya were sent to this institute in the Kho-Kho team of their school.

Rakshabandhan Function

Rakshabandhan function was celebrated by Shiksha Sopan on 25th August. The programme started with lighting of Incense sticks before Bharat Mata followed by a motivational speech by Dr H C Verma about how society protects a human and humans protect society. All volunteers were then requested to present their ideas on how do they wish to see Shiksha Sopan 5 years from now. A number of volunteers put their views and several directions to work further emerged from the presentation. They then tied Rakhi to each other with a determination to work together.



Gahan Adhyayan Kendra

GAK classes were conducted quite regularly in August. Here 16 students are in class 9, 11 are in class 10 and 8 are in class 11. Classes from 4 PM to 7 PM are given in Science, Maths and English. Three IITK students are especially given task to conduct short weekly tests of these students. For example, Sumit conducted English test on 7th Aug, Maths test on 14th Aug and Physics test on 21st Aug for class 11 students. Apart from this, students are given slightly extended tests once in two months. That also fell in August, and were conducted for all classes on 27th and 28th Aug.

The team of teachers consists of Mr RS Bhadauria (English), Mr Ashish Dixit(Maths), Mrs Pushpa(English), Ms Poonam(Physics), Ms Shikha (Chemistry)and Ms Namrata (Chemistry). Apart from these, some IITK students give classes time to time.

Nankari Library Function

In order to connect with people, the newly opened Library in Nankari conducted Public Programmes on August 1 and August 8. On the first day various competitions like art, quizzes, Essay writing, debate etc., were organized for school children of the locality. About 100 children participated in these competitions. On 8th August, a stage show was arranged where children performed dances, songs etc. The main attraction was Lalit Poshak Pratiyogita where children presented themselves in different costumes, each related to a historical character or a profession in the society. The program was anchored by senior Sopan worker Nazir which was greatly appreciated by the audience.

Science Cell

Science Cell conducted programmes for children Opportunity School on all 4 Saturdays of August. Ranjit Kumar, Deepak Mishra, Deepak Agnihotri and Amit Bajpai were the main instructors. They involved the children in doing certain Science activities and understand the principles. About 16 children participating in the event.

Apart from this, science Cell is developing Science/Maths Labs for Sopan Vidyalay.

Sopan Swavalamban Kendra

SSK had a mixed success in August. Bag making and Artificial Jewelry making courses were given to children. We started with 10 students in each course but the number was reduced to 4 or 5 by the end of the course. A new course of 2 months on various kinds of Painting is planned for September together with Sewing course.

Dr V N Kulkarni Merit Scholarship

As mentioned in the August 2010 Newsletter, Shiksha Sopan has decided to start a scholarship in memory of Prof Vishwas N Kulkarni, Professor of Physics, who was a source of inspiration for the Core Sopan Team from the very beginning and left us for his heavenly journey on 24th July 2010 at the age of 56 years. The Executive committee has decided to open a bank account in State Bank of India, IIT Kanpur branch in the name "Dr V N Kulkarni Scholarship Fund" to make a Corpus fund, interest of which will be used to run the scholarship programme.

While the detailed modalities of the scholarship scheme is yet to be worked out, a target of collecting Rs 10 lacs for the corpus is put forward. The scholarship programme will run from the interest of this amount. The scholarship will be given to meritorious children from the villages around the IITK Campus from economically weaker families. The children will be selected from the Scholarship Test which will be conducted for children of classes 6-10, separately for each class.

We request all Shiksha Sopan well wishers to donate to Shiksha Sopan, as given below, for this scholarship fund at the earliest convenience.

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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