



UNNAT BHARAT ABHIYAN

NEWSLETTER

2021-22



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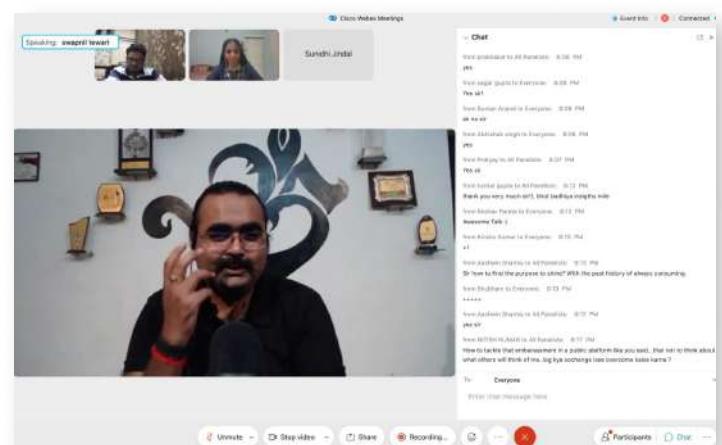
EVENTS

Guest Lectures- By Swapnil Tewari

On the evening of 75th Independence Day, a power-packed inspirational talk was delivered by 'Mr Swapnil Tewari- The Madman' on the topic 'O Yuva! - Unleash your superpower'.

He is a sociopreneur, peace awardee, cited in the '1000 World Leaders for Hope' list, Forbes Magazine's Change Makers under 30 list, and a mentor to 537 social entrepreneurs. His work has been dedicated to spreading hope in troubled communities through education, social inventions, hope, and love.

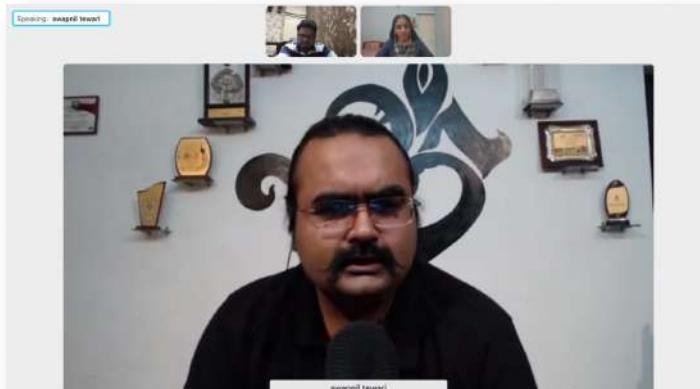
Mr Swapnil is one of the youngest specially-abled social reformers in India. The topic of the talk was 'Oh! Yuva- Unleash your superpower'. The session saw the participation of over 50 students. He talked about the difference between life before and after independence, and its importance.



In life, we are always consuming in various patterns. Throughout life, we compare that we cannot accomplish certain things that others are able to;

we are slaves of ourselves. We tend to get influenced by people easily; thus this is a world of reactions. Instead of life happening to us, we shall happen to life. He emphasized how we all must burn like the sun to shine like one. He shared his stories wherein he converted adversities to opportunities.

His talk aroused the students to have a vision of changing the world. The power of youth is the commonwealth for the world. No segment in society can match with the energy, idealism, enthusiasm and courage of the young people.



Sociothon 2.0

Sociothon 2.0:

~ The journey of life is all about participation and not perfection.

Sociothon 2.0 was a case study competition conducted by the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan, IIT Roorkee team, that aimed to nourish the skills and encourage the visionary ideas of students intended to bring change in the society. The students were allowed to participate in a team of 2-4 members and were given a case packet.



The competition consisted of 3 rounds i.e., The take-off, The Pitch, and the final round The Conclusion respectively. Initially, the teams were supposed to submit a one-page abstract about their case packet, and later the best teams were selected for further rounds. The specific guidelines of each round were mentioned in the case packet that was sent to each team leader after registration on December 24, 2021.



The judge of the competition Sociothon 2.0 was Mr. Nitin Dhakad, an alumnus of IIT Roorkee and a Social Entrepreneur at Shivganga Samagra

Gramvikas Parishad and also the co-founder of Jhabua Naturals and Empathy Connects.

After an intense week of competition, the top three winning teams were chosen by the judge and the winners are as follows:

1st: The Owls

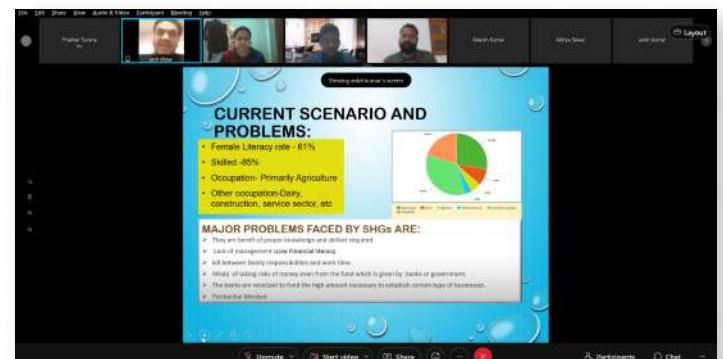
2nd: The Tetrahedrals

3rd: Team Young Innovators & Team Tricolor

The top three winning teams were given cash prizes of INR 3000, INR 2000, and INR 1000 respectively.

The teams that qualified for 'Round 2' were mentored by the team members for Video Pitch and Final Presentation and were also given direct entry to the interview round during recruitments. Also, a 'Best Video Pitch' team was chosen after the final round which was held on December 29, 2021. This title was given to Team Vision.

~ Don't let your fear of failing triumph over the joy of participating.



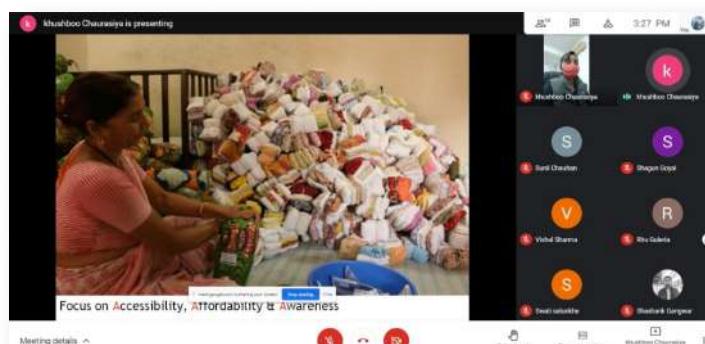
There were a total of around 53 teams that participated in this competition and we hope that all the participants learned and experienced something from this case study competition, Sociothon 2.0.

AWARENESS



“Not just a piece of Cloth” - Initiative

Globally, at least 500 million women and girls lack proper access to menstrual hygiene facilities. Several factors influence difficult experiences with menstruation, including inadequate facilities and materials, menstrual pain, fear of disclosure, and inadequate knowledge about the menstrual cycle.



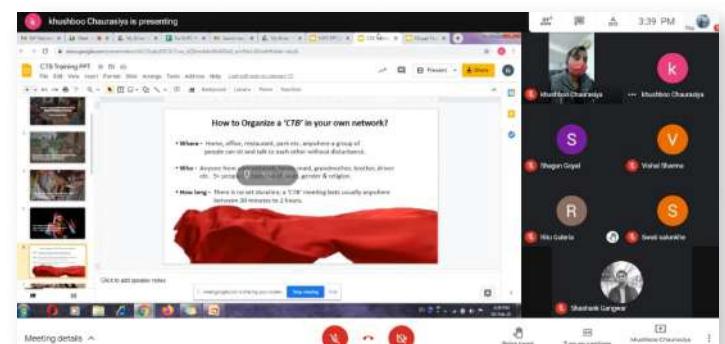
Menstrual Hygiene is vital to the empowerment and well-being of women and girls worldwide. It is about more than just access to sanitary pads and appropriate toilets though those are important.

It is also about ensuring women and girls live in an environment that values and supports their ability to manage their menstruation with dignity.

We were looking for NGOs to teach women about menstrual hygiene. Then we found an NGO (Goonj) which is implementing the 'Not Just a Piece of Cloth' initiative. We organized a webinar on menstruation in Chharba village in collaboration with the Goonj organization.

Ms Khushboo organised the session on behalf of the Goonj organization. She taught them how to make clothes pads in a very simple way but how to improve the level of cleanliness.

Since cotton fabric is easily available anywhere to make the pads, so the women of the village can easily make it. The sessions were interactive with women. Now they will not buy the pads anymore because they know how to make them.



Government Schemes Awareness

The first step toward change is awareness. The second step is acceptance.~Nathaniel Brandon

Every year, the Indian government announces different welfare schemes for the citizens, but due to lack of awareness many needy citizens could not avail the benefits of those schemes and the whole benefit gets suppressed under the feet of corruption in the system. The only solution of sending the benefit to the needy ones is that people must be aware of the schemes for them.

The videos created by the team were also forwarded to the villagers' WhatsApp groups, for an even more significant impact. UBA IIT Roorkee envisages empowered rural lives, and we hope that we would be able to shape many lives for the better, through this small step of ours, in a gentle way.

With this goal in view, Unnat Bharat Abhiyan IIT Roorkee undertook a public policy awareness campaign to aware villagers of several public policies like e-Sanjeevani OPD, DEDS scheme, etc.



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TECHNOLOGY

Computer Installation and Training

In today's world, we are becoming more technology-driven. One of the significant parts of technology is computers. Their application is present in almost every sphere. Computer skills have become one of the most essential skills in the field of education and employment needs.



The foundation of knowledge of this competence comes from our school education. However, not everyone has that privilege, and, particularly in rural areas, students do not receive adequate education on computers, especially when it comes to practical knowledge.

Keeping this in mind, Team Unnat Bharat Abhiyan, IIT Roorkee identified this problem in the schools of its adopted villages and villages near Haridwar. Thus, our team collaborated with our institute and Duayen Foundation to acquire the systems and install them in schools of the recognized villages.



The installment was done in Beladi, Meerpur, Majara, Anneki, Kutubpur, GIC Horawala, GIC Chharba, in Madarsa of Chharba and Haldwani, where a total of 95 computers were installed. Team UBA IITR hopes that this step will help the student to get more familiar with the technology and give them a better perspective and possibilities that will benefit them in the future.



EMPLOYMENT

SHG's Diya and Handicrafts Stall

"There is no tool for development more effective than the empowerment of women." ~Kofi Annan
With the aim of empowering the SHG women members as well as promoting a cleaner and sustainable way of celebrating Diwali, Unnat Bharat Abhiyan, IIT Roorkee, worked on the "Diya and Handicraft Making and Selling" Initiative.



Today, in India, Self Help Groups (SHGs) represent a unique approach to financial intermediation and socio-economic empowerment of women. SHGs are the major source of inspiration for new generation women's welfare. The SHGs are characterized by focused attention on providing employment opportunities by imparting training to generate income and employment.

The team identified the enthusiastic Self Help

Groups women members (in villages Chandpur-Horawala) interested in working for the same and provided them with a two-day training with the help of SHG Adhyaksh. Around 15 SHG members came forward and joined the hands together for making diyas and eye-catching handicrafts.

With the kind support of the IIT Roorkee administration, the team welcomed the SHG members to set up their stall inside the campus for two days and provided them with accommodation facilities as well. The women were extremely delighted to get this opportunity. They earned a considerable amount of profit with a total sale of around ₹ 10,000 which encouraged them to set up the stalls at other places as well. By effectively ensuring social and economic betterment of rural women through this initiative, Team UBA continuously strives to create a positive impact in the society.



Installation of Paper Cup Machine

Mahatma Gandhi stated, "The position of women in the society is an index of its civilization. Train a man, and you train an individual, train a woman, and you build a nation". Women are a vital part of the Indian Economy, both at the national and the household levels. Women's participation in the labor market also determines the household structure and the relationship within the family, which are prime movers of the small family norms.



Today, in India, Self Help Groups (SHGs) represent a unique approach to financial intermediation and socio-economic empowerment of the women. SHGs are the major resource of inspiration for new generation women's welfare. The SHGs are characterized by focused attention on providing employment opportunities by imparting training to generate income and employment.



Aimed at increasing employment generation opportunities in the times of Covid-19, the unit has been successfully set up on 1st September 2020 with financial support from Khadi Gramodyog, Roorkee. The Paper Cup production unit was inaugurated by Tulsi, IIT Roorkee-based

Self-Help Group in village Chharba.

IMPACT: The unit is expected to incur a profit of INR 20,000 per month and will be instrumental in making women and their families financially independent and empowered. It helps the economically vulnerable women become self-reliant and start earning by finding livelihood, better educating their children, and improving their sense of well-being.



By effectively ensuring social and economic betterment of rural women through this initiative, Team UBA continuously strives to create a positive impact in the society. The team definitely hopes to benefit many such SHGs as Tulsi.

ENVIRONMENT



Eco Bricks

Our planet is drowning in plastic pollution—it's time for a change!

While plastic has many practical uses, we have become addicted to single-use plastic — with severe environmental consequences. We need to slow the flow of plastic at its source, but we also need to improve the way we manage our plastic waste.

LIFE CYCLE OF PLASTIC

1. Plastic Bottles
2. Plastic Wrappers

Team Chharba, Unnat Bharat Abhiyan, brought forward the idea of tackling plastic waste by implementing the 'Eco-Bricks' initiative.

At the foremost step, the team raised awareness among the students of GIC-Chharba about plastic waste. Afterwhile the team described Eco-bricks that require dried and clean plastic bottles filled with plastic wrappers.

These bricks are often used around trees, corners of the roads, and other places in parks.

USES OF ECO-BRICKS

The team boosted the villagers to manage the hazardous waste in the village using innovative and eco-friendly ideas.

2. CLEAN AND DRY

Clean the wrappers and bottles and dry them.

Water Filter Set-up

We shall not defeat any of the infectious diseases that plague the developing world until we have also won the battle for safe drinking water, sanitation, and basic health care. ~Kofi Annan

Pure water is one of the most important resources we need in our lives but those deprived of access to clean drinking water can truly understand its importance. People, when exposed to unclean water, are prone to several water-borne diseases. Also, not everyone in the village is privileged enough to install a water purifier system in their house.



Identifying this problem in villages Puranpur and Salempur, team Unnat Bharat Abhiyan, IIT Roorkee decided to install a 'Water Purifier' in these villages. The team initiated the process by testing the samples of water in the Labs at IIT Roorkee. Then the team designed the water filter under the guidance of our faculty Coordinator- Dr Bhanu Prakash Vellanki.

The filter was designed on the basis of the Sand Filtration Process using sands and gravels. The team procured the required raw material. Then the gravels, sand, etc. were washed properly and then they were layered finally inside the tank.

The water filter was also provided with a backwashing technique so that the filter can be cleaned as per the requirements.



In Puranpur, the set-up was done in the Government Primary School so that the students have access to clean drinking water. A similar set-up was done in village Salempur where villagers can access pure water from the water purifier.



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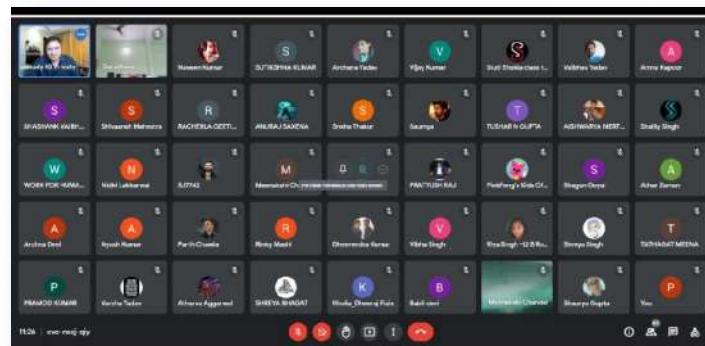
INITIATIVES AMIDST PANDEMIC

Webinar on “Opportunities in Online Education”

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

~Nelson Mandela

In COVID-19 time when the whole world got disturbed, a lot of people passed away. There must be several challenges to each one continuously fighting against this pandemic.



At this stage, the first thing that comes to one's mind is, "What about the future of the nation that is students? ". In this situation, authorities came up with a solution for Online Education. But the problem is still there" How to use Online Education effectively?"

For this big question, UBA, IIT Roorkee made a small step by Organizing a webinar on "Effective use of Online Education" for the students of Government Intercollege (GIC) Chharba to help them tackle the challenges.

This initiative proved to be a success by the efforts of the team members, Dr Gaurav Garg, and the active participation of the students.



Book Distribution

"Books give a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and life to everything."
~Plato

Due to covid, many students in the villages could not gain access to the books to carry on their school education smoothly. Hence, in collaboration with the "Books For All" NGO, Team UBA, IIT Roorkee decided to fulfill their necessity. Strictly following the covid protocols, books were distributed among the students of classes 6th to 12th in villages Beladi-Salhapur and Meerpur.



The team provided the students with NCERT course books free of cost or at cut prices to ensure their absolute and decent utility. Students came forward avidly to seek the chance of receiving books amid the crisis. Hence, the initiative proved to be an assistance to the students.



Food Kit Distribution

The COVID-19 Pandemic has wreaked havoc on millions of families across the nation. People lost their jobs, faced economic distress, were deprived of food, dragging them into vulnerability. At a time like UBA, IIT Roorkee decided to come forward and help the needy ones with ration kits who lost their source of income in this pandemic.

Hence, we collaborated with Srijan Ka Sankalp, organized a fundraiser for providing ration kits to the villagers and got admirable support from the donors.



With the efforts of Srijan, a total 50 Ration Kits were distributed among the villagers residing in Beladi-Salhapur, Chharba, Chandpur, Meerpur, and Puranpur.

We have made a small step on our side to help those in need in these challenging times, and we look forward to working for the betterment of the society in future as well.



EDUCATION

Public Library Setup

"Books are a uniquely portable magic."

- Stephen King

Books play a crucial role in student's life by introducing them to the world of imagination, providing knowledge, and enhancing their reading as well as writing skills. However, many of the students do not have access to books. Amidst the pandemic, Team UBA IIT Roorkee recognized this issue in the village Puranpur. Hence, the Team decided to set up a Public Library in the village so that the students could easily borrow the required books from the library when in need.

The team in collaboration with the Guzarish NGO, under their project Books For All, has set up the public library in Puranpur at Ambedkar Bhawan with around 450 books on different subjects from std 6 to 12.



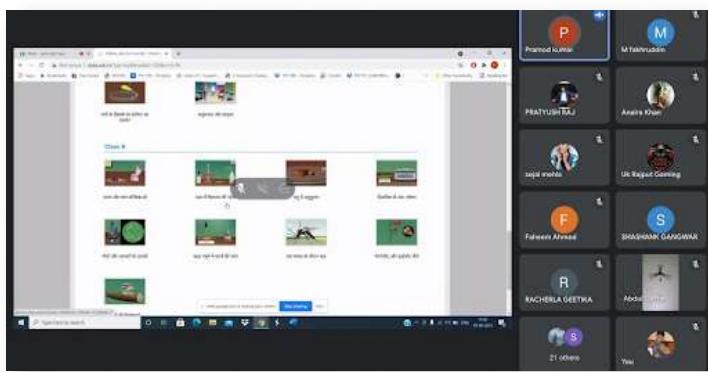
The library was inaugurated in Puranpur in the presence of Ally Er Avinash Ohri (International President AACI), Dr Rajat Agarwal(Professor IIT Roorkee), and many other important AACI members on October 31, 2021.

We hope this initiative of Team UBA, IITR would encourage the village students to expand their knowledge and instill a healthy reading habit in them.

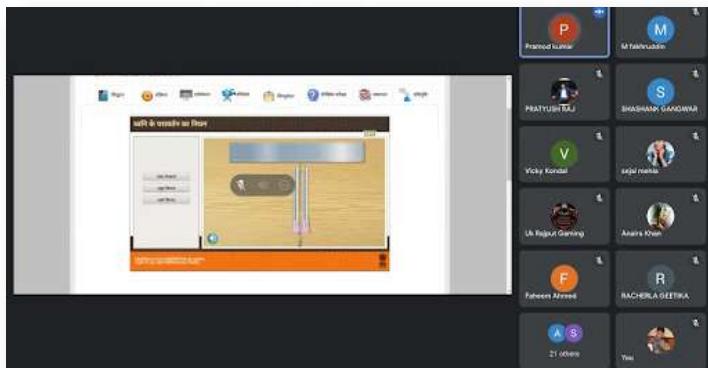
Virtual Labs Initiative

"An investment in knowledge pays the best interest."

The Covid-19 pandemic has temporarily halted the world, causing unprecedented challenges with communities and economies affected everywhere. It has wreaked havoc on millions of families directly or indirectly. Its significant impact can be seen in the education sector as well. With schools, colleges, and universities shut down, education has wholly transformed to online platforms, due to which students aren't able to gain any practical knowledge.



So, knowing these impacts of the pandemic on education, the UBA team of Chharba village organized "Virtual Labs" for 2 hours on June 19, 2021, for students of Government Inter College (GIC) and local madrasa school, and demonstrated various science experiments to the students through google meet. Hence, the initiative was successful as this small effort to gain practical knowledge through online platforms was sustained amidst the pandemic. We hope the situation gets normal soon.



JNV Enrollment

"A quality education grants us the ability to fight the war on ignorance and poverty."

The quality of education an individual gets is a determining factor in one's progress. The inadequate facilities and lack of infrastructure in the schools of Chandpur-Horawala have always been a matter of concern for team UBA.

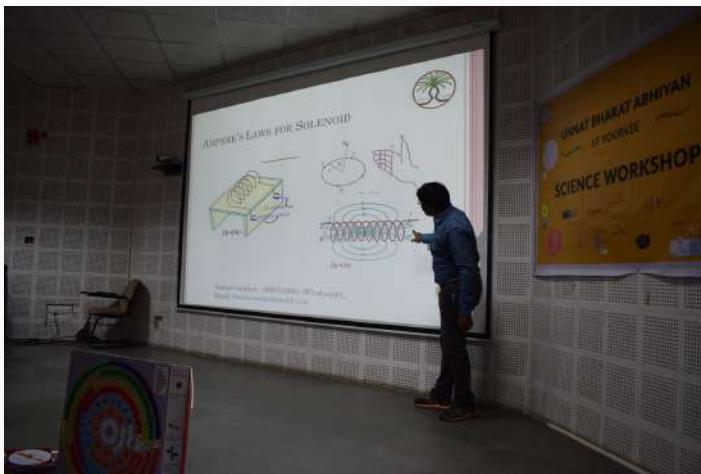
Most of the students, and their parents, lack proper knowledge about government educational institutes like JNVs. JNVs are fully residential schools that provide good quality modern education to talented children predominantly from rural areas.

To make parents aware of the benefits of enrolling their ward in JNV, Team UBA first met with the School's principal in Chandpur, followed by a meeting with parents. The parents were encouraged to utilize this opportunity of excellent quality education provided at Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya and motivate their wards to appear in its entrance test and get enrolled there. The team put a lot of effort, and as a result, the students were encouraged to study and enroll in higher classes.

Science Experiment Workshop

As Frederic joliot curie a French physicist said
"The experiments should be setup to open as many windows as possible on the unforeseen"

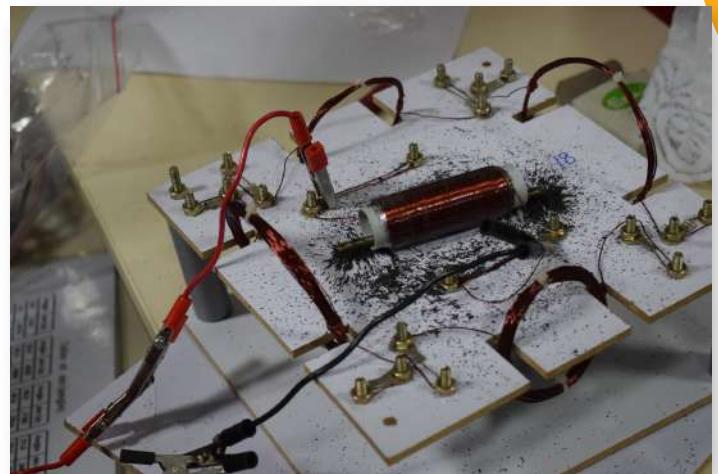
Students will get the knowledge of the methodology taught to them by their teachers. As experiments have an unmatched importance when it comes to learning science.



Team UBA IIT Roorkee took a step towards imparting experimental knowledge to the village students by inviting Mr S. Bhanu Prakash (MS Mechanical, TAMU, USA), from Akshaya Knowledge Center, Telangana, to conduct a "Science experiment workshop".



About 25 teachers from different schools of Haridwar and Dehradun gathered in Lecture Hall Complex, IIT Roorkee to attend the workshop.



Workshop was also honoured by the presence of Chief guest of the event- Mr Vidyashankar Chaturvedi, Chief Education Officer, Haridwar; Guest of Honour - Dr M. Parida, Deputy Director, IIT Roorkee and Faculty Coordinator of UBA IIT Roorkee- Dr Bhanu Prakash Vellanki. It was conducted in 2 sessions of 3.5 hours each.

In these sessions, Mr S. Bhanu Prakash performed different science experiments to train the teachers with the help of the experiment kits that were fabricated all by himself. The event went smoothly with the support of the team members and enthusiastic participation of teachers and was also appreciated by the chief guests.

Science Kit Distribution

"Education is not the learning of facts, but the training of the mind to think" ~ Albert Einstein

Science generates solutions for everyday life and helps us answer the great mysteries of the universe. Science, technology, and innovation drive our pursuit of being more equitable and sustainable. For the greater impact of practical knowledge, Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) ran a campaign for science kit distribution.



The science kits were designed by Mr. S Bhanu Prakash (MS Mechanical, TAMU, USA) from Akshaya Knowledge Center, Telangana. So, to train teachers from the schools of adopted villages of UBA, a "Science experiment workshop" was conducted which helped in understanding complex concepts such as Atomic Structure.



In the workshop, the teachers were trained to operate these kits that would further help them to manifest and elaborate the science experiments to the students at school. Therefore, the students would be benefitted from these science kits as they describe complex science concepts and make them easier to understand and provide practical knowledge which would be helpful to the students in their further studies. After the workshop, Science kits were distributed to the schools at GIC Horawala, GIC Chharba, and Madarsa of Chharba.



We hope that students would gain an adequate amount of practical knowledge not just the rote book theories with these science kits distributed by the team of UBA.



Unnat Bharat Abhiyan

Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee



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