literacyindia Newsletter

Education With Purpose

Online Edition

January 2006

From the Secretary's Desk

We wish all our Friends and Supporters "A very Happy New Year - 2006!"
The past year had been eventful in bringing us closer to our goals of having our own the School building. Land for the building was identified , paving the way for starting contruction of the school building in the current year.
We introduced Adult Education for our women and specifically to the mothers of our Vidyapeeth children. In a short duration these women have progressed and are actively engaged in learning with visual aids. Children working as domestic help in the houses and shops are frequently counselled. who are now enthused and regular learners of Pathshala. Shiksharth in its full intensity dared to take children and women from various projects encouraging them to participate in three day hectic Theater, Dance & Handicraft Festival – UTSAV.
Adobe Systems & Software - Ireland have contributed softwares the result of which we have stepped up our Computer Programs to next level and have also added Tally course. We held workshops for the teachers on innovative learning, team building and motivation which is now on our priority.

GO GREEN

Gardening was for the first time introduced at Vidyapeeth. The children were at it , learning about the plants , turning the mud, preparing the flowerbeds. Saplings were planted and the volunteers from United Parcel Service laid a pipeline to the flowerbeds. Children maintain the Greens.

BUDDING SCIENTISTS

Teachers innovatively introduced Geography to our children. To hold their interest children participated in the making of models of the Solar System, Mountains & Glaciers and Rivers & Tributaries. These models are used in teaching.

SANTA CLAUS ON X-MAS

As part of the ongoing festive season celebrations, Coca Cola Employees took 10 children to 3C's multiplex where they participated in games and merry making. They returned wearing a traditional red and white caps and loads of gifts.

We participated in the X'mas Carnival at Heritage School Gurgoan. On Dec 25th over 350 children were invited for the festivities and were there in full flow . We had the privilege of performing Bhagawat Ajjukum to a houseful audience. Eats and Presents were laid out for them by the School. For this magnanimous gesture we are grateful to the Director of the School **Mr. Manit Jain** , Staff and Students .

SMILING COLOURS

Greeting Card competitions were held in September and December. On both the occasions, we had over 100 entries with kids 'crayoning' and coloring on reams of paper. We ended up declaring 10 winners instead of customary three. Popular colors emerged were orange, earth brown, brick red and hues of green & blues.

UNITED PARCEL SERVICE

Corporate Team of UPS led by **Mr. Patrice Andre and Mr. Joseph Dsouza** decended on Vidyapeeth for a for a cheque giving ceremony in support of Jagrukta, Shiksharth ,Pathshala and Karigari Projects for a year. On the occcasion a hilarious Skit, and a Musical programme was staged by the Children . We are thankful to them who specially flew from Singapore and Mumbai. There contribution will pave new pathways in reaching out to more people and spreading the message of the importance of Literacy and Girl child

FUN PICNIC

A **Fun Picnic** on the World Environment Day() was organized for the Girls of Pathshala Project - Village Bharthal. The Picnic spot was India Gate Lawns, where the Greens matched a perfect play ground for them. They wrote essays on environment and healthy . The best essays were given cash prizes.

DEEPAWALI - FUN

Diya making competion was held on Oct 27, 2005 we saw some beautiful diyas made embellished with glass , laced borders and colours. Shanta (Class - Vth), Rohit (Class - IIIrd), and Priyanka (Class - Ist), took the honors.

Deepawali - Festival of Lights was celebrated on November 1st 2005. Children along with their parents were invited to a Bonfire and Light Refreshments. Singing & Dancing amid the lighting of candles , was enjoyed by one & all.

PARDESI - VISITORS

On Nov 19th **Dr. Susheel Khurana** President Rotary Club Gurgoan and his team brought fellow Rotarian's from Malaysia to Vidyapeeth for Familiarization with our Non Formal Model of Primary Schooling . The visitors gave away school bags, pencil boxes and crayons to each student. **Dr. Ken Khoo** Dist Governor of Dist.3300 Kuala Lumpur, Malayasia was impressed and lauded the efforts of Capt. Indraani Singh for doing wonderful social service for the needy.

On Dec 14th **Mr. Pankaj Gupta** MD of e-businessware a Multinational Software Company helped L I organize a skit on their Annual Day Function at Chancellor club. This has been a bid to start a long-term relation with e-businessware as our future donor. Movement has already been started by the employees to contribute towards the school building. This move was initiated by **Ms. Ashu Chaddha** the HR HEAD and Mr. **Mr. Edward Hoofnagle** the Company `s CEO

PHOTO OPS AT VIDYAPEETH !

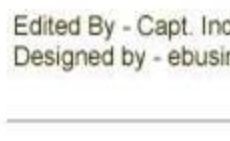
Mr. Baldeep S Duggal a Canadian NRI, an avid Lens man and **Mr. Rajpal S. Duggal** visited Vidyapeeth , on September 29th . They spent the day with the children, introducing photography and sharing their 'tricks' with them. Mr. Baldeep presented 10 cameras to the School. This led us to introduce photography as a hobby class. We have some 40 students 'shooting away to glory'. We propose to organize a competition and the best pictures will be featured in our forthcoming issues.

UTSAV- 2005

Literacy India and Habitat Learning Centre jointly co-hosted Utsav a Festival which had Theatre, Folk Dances of India and Exhibition of Indha products.Chanrandas Chor, Pinti ka Sabun and Humari Kahani were the three different plays staged from 18th to 20th Nov. The Festival was arranged to commemorate the Child Right`s Day.
For the Lighting of the Lamp Ceremony, Farooque Sheikh was the Chief Guest . Ms. Geeta Chandran, Bharat Natyam exponent was the Guest of Honour at the Closing Ceremony. Noted Film star Farooque Sheikh was so enamored by the acting prowess of our young and talented children that he made it a point to see the programme on all days.

INDHA STALL was popular especially with foreign visitors to the I.H.C. . Kapil Dev, Cricketing Legend inaugurated the stall.

SPECIAL COLUMN



Indha is an offshoot of project Karigari. It is specifically designed to provide a voice to the identity of women living in the villages. We have started our operations with the women of Daultabad, Sarai along with the other neighboring villages.

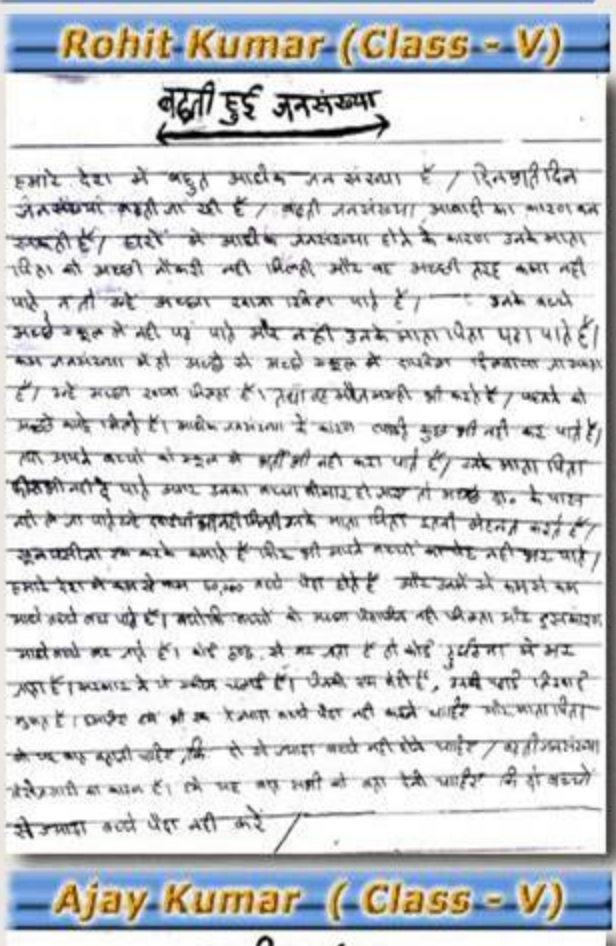
INDHA is the brand name of the product made by these women. This is the platform given to women where they would connect with the outside world on their own footing. Through this project, resource centers have been opened within the villages whereby the women are being provided with facilities to learn various skills specifically by learning the art of tailoring ,embroidery , art of making paper products etc which would enable them to contribute towards the family income, thus giving them the confidence and recognition they deserve.

Most of the families in the villages under this project belong to the lower income group. Any assistance in giving them skills, which would enable them to earn, has met with good success.

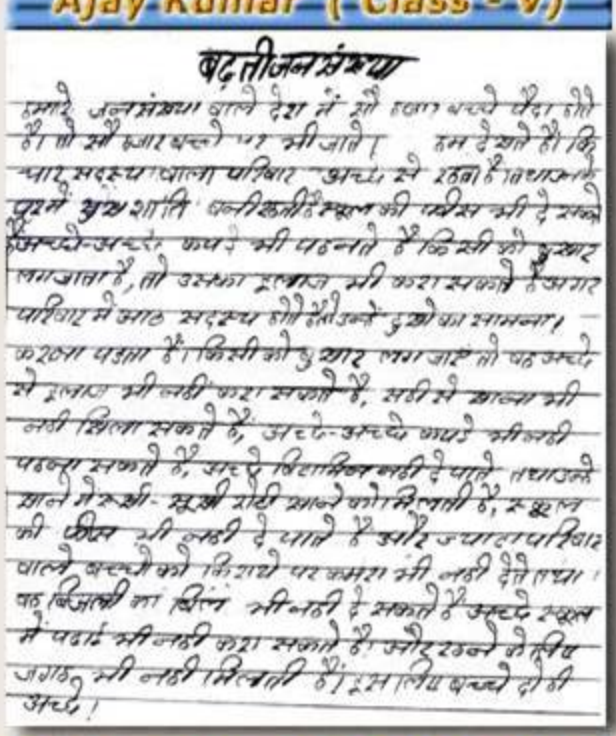
Literacy India, through its resources and network strives to create the market for the products and services that are produced/provided by the beneficiaries of Indha.From Jan 26th 2005 to Dec.31st 2005 Indha has come a long way with medium paced progress in the qualitative changes in the products made bythe village women seeing the market trend.Indha Products since then have had varied foreign /Indian Clientele .Following were there exhibitions in the last quarter.

CHILDREN'S COLUMN

Rohit Kumar (Class - V)



Ajay Kumar (Class - V)



Sanjay Kumar (Class - IV)

Upasana (Class - IV)

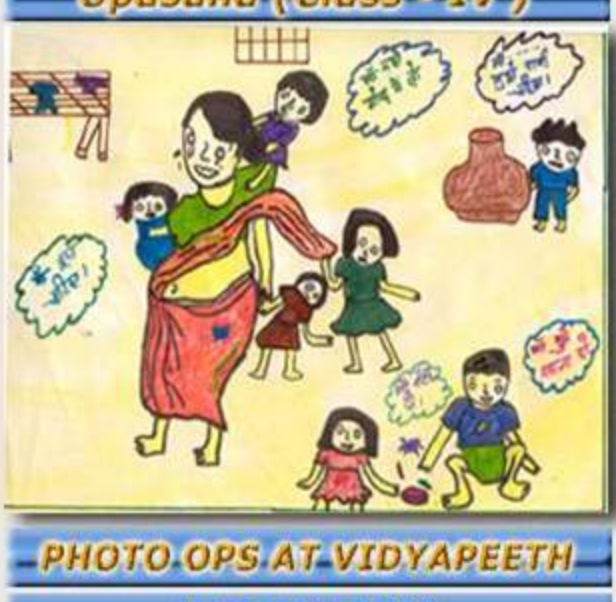


PHOTO OPS AT VIDYAPEETH BY CHILDREN

EXIHIBITION

- Ambience Lagoon Club
- Heritage City
- Fluor Daniel
- Gillette
- Rotary Public School
- GE Genpact
- American Express
- NSD
- American Embassy
- NCR Corporation
- IHC
- Taj Palace Hotel

Volunteers of the Year

- · Isha Singh
- · Pankaj Gupta
- · Sunil Hura
- · Anuradha
- · Samir of Amex.
- · Saurabh Basrar.

Employees from

- UPS
- AMEX
- IBM
- TUPPERWARE

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