

Prize distribution ceremony and Atik Felicitation at Tulapur

The month of January of year 2020 is special for Vidnyanvahini (V V).

This month V V (NGO) has completed 25 years of its social work of spreading science and scientific attitude to the rural schools by involving the students in observing and doing science experiments.

Hence this year one of the programmes planned and conducted by V V was a science project competition for rural schools. Main criteria for judging the projects was that, as far as possible the projects should be related to rural life, based on original thinking, less expensive and its working clearly understood. Out of many schools which participated, projects of six school groups were selected for prizes and encouragement. It was decided that the programme of prize distribution will be celebrated amongst the concerned teachers and students.

The celebration day decided was 29th January 2020 and the venue was the 'Dharmveer Sambhajiraje Madhyamik Vidyalay' at Tulapur, two hrs. drive from Pune. V V members reached there at 8:50 am. What a beautiful and pleasant morning it was at Tulapur! The school has very scenic background and is on the banks of tri-junction of rivers Bhima, Bhama and Indrayani.

The programme started at 9 o' clock with National song. Chief Guest was Ms. Vaishali Dhaigude, M.Sc from IIT. She has started a science center at Solapur and is very actively engaged in making innovative science projects. The headmaster of the school Mr. Jadhav, his staff and students had made all the necessary arrangements. All students were very co-operative, disciplined and were sitting on the ground. Jadhav Sir and teachers from other schools expressed their feelings towards V V, appreciating the advantage, inspiration and science awareness they are receiving from V V. Then followed the felicitation of the chief guest at the hands of a V V member.

Next came the prize distribution programme at the hands of various members of V V, the event for which the students were eagerly waiting.

- 1) First prize was awarded to a student of DSMV School, Tulapur. Their subject was 'body is a conductor of electricity'.
- 2) Second prize went to a group of six students of 'Amrutvel Global School', Shikrapur, for their 'Hydraulic arm'.
- 3) Third prize to group of two students of 'Lo. Dada Jadhavrao Madhyamik Vidyalay', Hingangoan, Shindevadi. The subject was 'Mur-ghas (Guranchara) and Mativina sheti'.

Next three prizes were given to three groups of students as encouragement prize.

- 1) 'Shree Sadguru Samartha Hambirbaba Vidyalay', Takali Bhima, Daund. Two students, Project – 'Welding Machine'.
- 2) 'Shaskiya Nivasi Shala', Chandoli. Two students, Project – Saur Gavati Kapani yantra'.
- 3) 'Abasaheb Gosavi Madhyamik Vidyalay'. Three students, project – Toph

The chief guest, Ms Dhaigude congratulated all the participants of the project competition and encouraged the students to continue science activities. She expressed how much she appreciates V V's work.

Then suddenly a surprise event of felicitating our most near and dear Mr. Atik Sheikh was announced. Everyone was so happy to know this because Atik is liked by all teachers and students as well. He is with V V for the last 25 years! Atik is a good driver and mechanic too. Our bus is in good hands and everyone in the bus always feels safe and sound. Atik and his wife Yasmin were felicitated with a 'Manpatra' by the chief guest.

Godse Sir made it a point to felicitate the V V members' spouses who attended this programme.

After the vote of Thanks by V V, the programme came to an end with 'Pasaydaan'.

Many Thanks to everyone in Tulapur School. It was indeed a wonderful and memorable event for V V!

Dr. Kiran Phatak

Member of DAG