

11.09.2012

Vigyan Prasar, Deptt. of Science and technology, Govt. of India and Assam Science and Technology and Environment Council jointly organized a Regional Meet of VIPNET Clubs of West Bengal and North-East States. The programme started on 11th September, 2012 with registration of participants coming from West Bengal, Tripura, Assam, Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh.

VIPNET- a network of science clubs running in schools and outside the schools of various States of India was started on 1998. The clear cut objectives of VIPNET Club is to create awareness and scientific temperament among the students. Strength of VIPNET Club family is growing every year. Jaideep Baruah, Head, Environment Div., Assam, facilitate all the dignities including Direction. Welcome speech given by Sri Jaideep Baruah (Head, ASTEC) followed by the introduction of the meet by Dr. Rakesh Upadhyay, Scientist `C', Vigyan Prasar. The Inaugural speech given by Dr. A.K. Baruwa, Former Director, ASTEC, followed by the presidential speech by Sri Hareesh Ch. Dutta, ACS, Director, ASTEC. Finally the first session was concluded by the vote of thanks by Dr. Chandra Barooah, JSO, ASTEC.

After tea break, Vigyan Prasar status VIPNET club was shown to the participants through projection. More than 12,000 Science Clubs are working, covering many districts in all over the India.

Then a guest lecture session is taken by Dr. Arup Kr. Misra on scientific reporting of VIPNET Clubs. In his speech he said that "Narendra Kr. Sehgal was the dreamer of Vigyan Prasar." An effort made by Dr. Narendra K. Sehgal gave birth to the VIPNET Club, was running very smoothly with a ready response, organized many workshops, brain storming activities in a very sustainable manner. But sustenance of science clubs in India is not easy due to different priorities of school." He also said those who survive are the genuine and tough ones.

Need for this meeting is to include more organization and to prepare a detailed road map for next years.

After the lunch, demo of local craftman, toy making, handicrafts etc. was demonstrated by Mr. Achintya Sharma. It was quite exciting and interesting. The various items made up from bamboo and timber was surprisingly very very cheap.

And in the final session, the various kind of activities were being taken up by the coordinators and how they are motivating and what kind of problem are being faced to run the science clubs in their school was shared by 14 participants of different States.

Finally a low cost teach aids was displayed by Jayanta Kr. Pathak and Pranab Kalita, which could be implemented in science clubs. They involved all to participate in their activity.

12.09.2012

On 12th September, programme has started with the lecture of Shri B.K. Tyagi. He said to motivate the children and youth to take up scientific activities, allow the students to fly their imaginations. He also give stress to maintain a idea book in school as well as to make an activity calendar for next two years.

Then judgement of presentation displayed by different states is done by each participants.

Next session was very interesting. It was magic of chemistry. Different experiments were demonstrated which was quite fun by Retd. Prof. of Cotton College Dr. Pannalal Goswami.

After the lunch, a session on micro-organism was taken-up by Retd. Prof. R.N. Bhattacharjee of Cotton College. The module which he showed was very nice and students can conduct experiments without laboratory also.

Finally at the end of the day, all the participants are taken for a small field visit to Deeper Beel, a wetland. There, we visited the medicinal and aromatic garden where different types of plants along with scientific names were on display. the scenic beauty of that place had fascinated every one.

13.09.2012

After a delicious breakfast, the programme started with lecture session of Shri B.K. Tyagi. The different activities which are going to be organized were highlighted by Shri B.K. Tyagi.

Programme was ended by the distribution of certificates.

Thank you

Arunachal Pradesh

Regional Meet of VIPNET Clubs of North East Region and West Bengal

11th September 2012

11:15-12:00 – Dr. Rakesh Upadhyay delivered an informative lecture of the status of VIPNET Clubs in our country, their activity modules and provided us with data's which was very encouraging. Having had no experience of being a part of the VIPNET structure, the lecture was a good introductory programme.

12:00-13:00 – Dr. Arup Misra had conducted an extremely dynamic session. This was one lecture in the whole programme which I feel carries a lot of weight since it was based on ground realities. The implementation part of the VIPNET programme was highlighted. His stress on the roadblocks usually faced and the practical implication of running a club with inadequate financial resources was very informative. I do believe, if he sustains such enthusiasm for VIPNET clubs in the coming years as well, it would definitely provide a tremendous boost to the movement.

15:15-16:30- The various club activities presented by the participants was very motivating in spite of all sorts of difficulties, they had come up with innovative and effective ideas for promoting science. Their efforts cannot be rated or judged in any scale.

16:30-17:30- Jayanta Pathak and Mr Kalita, conducted a very interactive session. I believe, we should have more of such training schedules as it provides very effective motivation and exposure to various teaching methodologies.

12th September 2012

9:00-11:30- Dr. Tyagi's interactive session was the highlight of the programme. We were really encouraged by the efforts that he has put in this entire mission. I personally feel, an increase of such interaction in near future would definitely add to the numbers of clubs and most importantly "the scientific activities carried out by the clubs."

11:45-13:00- Dr. Pannalal Goswami. I have seldom come across people mentioning him in various circles, this was the first time I saw him interacting. I have no words to express my gratitude to ASTEC for giving us this opportunity to see him in person...working out the magic of chemistry. With his enthusiasm and dynamic session at this age, he is a role model for hundreds of young science enthusiasts.

13:45-15:00 – Prof. R.N. Bhattacharjee...conducted an academic discussion on Microbiology. I do feel, if there were practical demonstrations, it would definitely have been more interesting.

15:15-17:30- Field Visit: the visit to the medicinal and aromatic plants garden was very "stimulating" in local knowledge as well as local senses. Spending some more time would have been much better. The fate of the spectacled cobra was rather unfortunate. I do feel that, if the authorities running the garden displays a list of remedies which the plant provides, it would be highly educative, awareness generating and help in the promotion of traditional knowledge and agriculture.

"Ed-en" is the Co-ordinator of Eco-Clubs of the NGC network in Tinsukia and Dibrugarh district. We have no experience in running a VIPNET club in our district. I would rather not comment on planning, implementation and execution of the project, but I have learnt, experienced and have come across exceptional motivators for the movement among participators and organizers and that would definitely help us start a VIPNET network in our District.

Thank you,

Rajarshi Das

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Report on meet of VIPNET Clubs on behalf of participants of Tripura

We the seven participants from Tripura are very grateful to come to the Regional Meet of VIPNET Clubs of North East Region and West Bengal State held at Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship, Lalmati, Bettola, Guwahati on 11-13th September 2012. The reception and accommodation was very fine. The programme was jointly organized by ASTEC and Vigyan Prasar and inaugurated with welcome speech by Sri Jaideep Baruah, Head (i/c) Environment Division, ASTEC. It was followed by the Introduction of meet by Dr. Rakesh Upadhyay, Scientist `C', Vigyan Prasar. In inaugural speech by Dr. A.K. Baruwa, Former Director, ASTEC talked about creating scientific knowledge in society and Awareness of health in society and hybridization of Traditional scientific knowledge.

Guest lecture by Dr. Arup Kr. Misra very beautifully represented the scientific reporting on birth of VIPNET. Also Dr. Misra first published `VIPNET News' in December 1998.

One of the most interesting part was toy making, handicrafts etc. with the help of Bamboo and Tree. We gathered knowledge from the presentation of different participants from different VIPNET Clubs. Display of posters by the different participants from different VP clubs showing their own activities were very beautifully done. We gather knowledge from the magic of chemistry shown by Dr. Pannalal Goswami. His experiments will help our school children to develop their scientific knowledge. Lecture on microbiology by Prof. R.N. Bhattacharjee Retd. Professor of Cotton College Guwahati, was also very good.

We visited Medicinal and Aromatic Plant Garden, Guwahati S.F. Division. We saw snake, different types of plants, reptiles, birds at Deeper Beel, a wetland located at the outskirts of Guwahati city.

Activities of VIPNET Clubs, demonstrated by B.K. Tyagi, Prinicpal Scientific Officer, Vigyan Prasar was done beautifully. The day's programme was concluded after the field visit.

Day -3 different VP members coming from different states have prepared activities for next one year and submitted the same of the organising.

Dr. B.K. Tyagi very beautifully delivered how we can motivate children to take up science activities in clubs. Lastly, we gather so many ideas, knowledge from different VP clubs from different states.

The programme was concluded with distribution of certificates.

Dated : 13th Sept. 2012

Participants

1. Mrinal Das
2. Dipak Kumar Paul
3. Apurba Kauti Saha
4. Uttam Sntradhan
5. Susrha Acherjee
6. Poren
7. Nitish Ranjan Das