

SAFARNAMA / सफरनामा

Updates from the Sambhaavnaa Institute Campus November-December, 2015

The third issue of *SambhaavnaakaSafarnama* is here with an update of all the ongoing and upcoming activities from the Sambhaavnaa campus at Kandwari.



Sambhaavnaa Campus was filled with joy and energy with the arrival of 24 kids for an astronomy workshop called “Exploring The Skies” organized by Udaan learning center on 21st and 22nd November.

Our participants were students and teachers from PushpNiketan School, Bijnour (UP), Jammu and Kashmir, Dharamshala and local kids from Kandbari.

Facilitated by Prashant Rana and Manshi Asher, the fun-filled 2 days workshop included basic introduction to Astronomy, survival skills and lot of games such as scavenger hunt which was organised in such a way that they learn about the village Kandwari, its people and its culture.

We got a really great feedback about the workshop from the kids which encouraged us to organize it again. We are organizing a similar workshop for kids from Viveka Foundation School, located near Palampur on 16th-17th December, 2015.



Fun and learning goes hand in hand at Udaan School. This month's theme is 'Birds'. Kids are learning Birds name, sounds, and different type of beaks, claws, feathers and wings.

Sarabjeet, Sambhaavnaa's friend and enthusiastic birdwatcher, has been accompanying kids on the nature walks helping them identifying various birds around the campus. He also showed them his documentation of birds of Kandwari

Farm To Plate

Sambhaavnaa took an initiative to carry out an **organic farming survey** of three villages around the campus; **Nain, Nanhar and Sapedu**. The aim is to start a dialogue with the villagers about the possibility of setting up the long term process of implying organic techniques in their present farming practices.

Our two new fellows **Shubham** and **Shashank** are taking a lead in this survey under the guidance of **Prakash** and **Rahul**. Presently, they have covered most part of village Nain. According to Shashank, the small scale farmers from the village know the harmful effects of the use of fertilizers and other chemicals in the farms and follow organic practices. However, it is a totally different story with the farmers who are pursuing farming commercially.

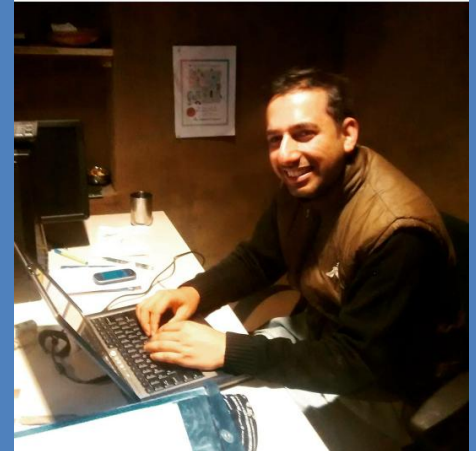


Winter season is here and our farm is lively again with sapling of various vegetables and pulses.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

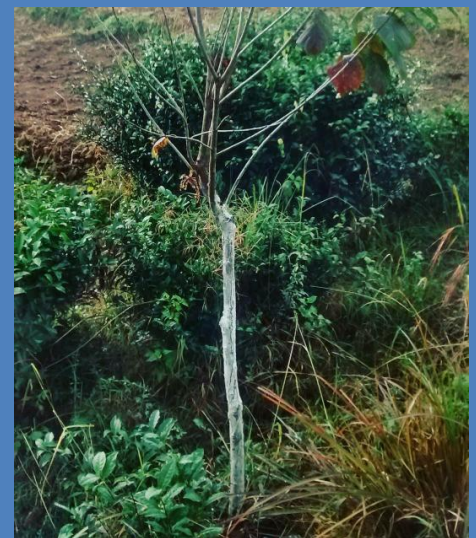
- **Astronomy Workshop II**
16th - 17th December, 2015
- **NayiDishyein Winter School of Rethinking Development**
21st-30th December, 2015
- **NayiDishyein : PaharAur Hum**
4th - 13th January, 2016

“GupshupChabootra”



Shashank Katoch from Sansal, near Baijnath has just joined Sambhaavnaa family as a fellow. Participant of Buniyaad 2015, Shashank will be helping programs team with local outreach and organic farming along with Shubham.

As decided in the previous EC meeting, our kitchen staff with the help of few others have made a large batch of homemade soap with *Ritha* (soap seeds), *Narol* (soap made of vegetable fat) and vinegar.



To protect the newly planted fruit trees, **Mansinghji** has been coating them with ‘*NilaThotha*’ (copper sulphate).

संभावनाकायाक्रम

The Programs team is organizing a series of consultations, in various states in the Northern Region, on our Political Education program for young activists called Buniyaad. **Himanshuji** and **Mohammad** visited 3 cities of eastern UP last month and are visiting Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh currently.

Challenges facing 'Buniyaad' discussed at the consultations:

1. Pedagogy heavy with theoretical lectures rather than collective reflection and dialogues with structured group exercises
2. No Clarity of political thought-Depoliticised youth
3. Concepts such as "Nationalism", Patriarchy not understood by many while many participants have neither critically analyzed nor have a thought process for us to start dialogue and the connect during sessions was missing
4. Not enough applicants received

Outcomes/Learnings of the visit

1. 3-4 days program can be organized in Banaras, Faizabad, Kanpur and Azamgarh etc with the help of students' bodies and Dr. Sandeep Pandey.
2. Successful Outreach for Sambhaavnaa
3. Identified resource persons such as Aflatunji, Anshu Malviya, Adv. Ravi Kiran Jain, Seema Azad, Vishvajeet, Manoj Tyagi, Sandhya Novidata, Anandi Tripathi, Utpalashukla, Adiyog, Sandeep Pandey etc.
4. Identified organizations for Curriculum, resources including reading material, films, articles and newsletters on contemporary issues. (content, easy to read material on issues: Azaadi Bachao Andolan)
5. A few students also offered to organize a shorter course that can be conducted at BHU or nearby village.
6. We will have to continually go to various organizations for outreach

As a part of the process we are planning a curriculum and pedagogy workshop for this program in January in Delhi.

Representatives of the below organizations were present in the UP consultation meetings:

AAP, Asha

SarvSewaSangh, SajhaManch

AzaadiBachaoAndolan

B.S.C, Dev Excel foundation

GVKS-

GumtiVikaskalyanSamiti, ICM, Loksmi

Naujawan Bharat Sabha, PDF

PUCL, PVCHR, PWA

SamajvaadiJanparishad

Swarashtra Bharti,

Vidya Ashram VISION

PragatisheelLekhakSangh,

Bhagat Singh ChatraMorcha

Rajeev Yadav, Shahnawaz from

HRLN Retreats and Meetings

Sambhaavnaa campus was the host to 50 young lawyers from **Human Rights Law Network (HRLN)** for a retreat from 7th to 14th November, 2015. We also had the pleasure of hosting **Colin Gonsalves**, founder of HRLN. They organized series of lectures and group discussions regarding various human right issue around country.