

Central Institute of Educational Technology

Bal Utsav 2010

(May 17- June 11)

During May and June every year school going children enjoy their summer vacations. Some of them do lot of creative activities during summer vacations and others just pass the time in routine works. It is very clear that once children are given opportunities to get involved in the activities of their interest they not only enjoy it but also excel. Keeping this in mind CIET planned workshops for the wards of NCERT employees during summer vacation. This series of workshops is named as **Bal Utsav-2010**. In all 9 workshops were organized out of which 7 were of 5 days each, 1 of 4 days and 1 of 10 days (two weeks).

It is good to report that large number of children showed interest and joyfully participated in various workshops. The themes of the workshops were *computer pathshala*, making and manipulation of puppets, *feedback study on CIET produced educational programmes*, *introduction to radio*, *introduction to cartoon and introduction to TV programming*.

In **Computer Pathshala** (Two workshops of 5 half Days), 'School O.S.' based on FOSS was introduced and the participating children learnt how to use the tools. They worked on several exercises and practiced individually. Mr. Narendra Sisodiya was the coordinator and Resource Person for this workshop.

Three workshops (of 5 half Days) on **Making and Manipulation of Puppets** (organized by Mr. Rajesh Nimesh and Mr. Pramod Sharma), the children learnt to develop puppets from paper and pieces of clothes. Children performed with their puppets. Several other children joined them as viewers.

Feedback study on CIET produced educational programmes was organized by Dr. Anjula Sagar. The objective of this workshop was to collect feedback from children on CIET produced Educational Audio-Video Programmes and to know the views, reactions and suggestions of the children for developing future programmes. Total 23 children of secondary classes participated in this workshop. 12 programmes (6 Video and 6 Audio) were previewed in this workshop. The children took lot of interest in watching the programmes. In open discussion session, the children participated actively and gave their comments and suggestions on the programmes.

In the 4-day workshop on **Introduction to radio** (organized by Dr. Kamini Bhatnagar and Mr. Ajit Horo), firstly children understood the strength of the audio medium. They learnt to write scripts for radio. These scripts were discussed in groups and finalised. In the second stage, they learnt how to record the programme. This helped them to understand the different issues related to radio production. The children developed 15 scripts and 10 were recorded. They were very excited and thrilled to see (to listen to) the final product of the workshop.

In the 5-day workshop **Making of cartoons and comics** (organized by Dr. Anubhuti Yadav), the children understood how cartoons help in explaining different themes effectively. The children had developed comics based on cartoon on different social issues. The experts provided them with positive feedback on their work.

In the 10-day workshop on **Introduction to TV programming** (organized by Mr. Manoj Shukl and Mr. Y K Gupta), the children tried to understand the strengths and weaknesses of the TV medium, learnt to do research on a selected topic before developing the script. They developed scripts in groups. They also learnt about camera and camera angles, language of camera. They worked in teams and learnt to produce as well as edit a TV programme. Most of the participants were teenagers and it reflected in the themes they selected.

One half day workshop on Robotino was organized by Dr. Amarendra Behra by inviting experts from MecLab. Mr. V V Ramanan National Manager Didactic of Festo India Mr. Schmid Volker of our Festo Didactic Hqrs Germany. Children as well as Faculty from CIET and NIE liked to participate in the same.

Closing Ceremony of the Bal Utsav 2010 was organized on 11th June. Prof. G Ravindra, Director, NCERT was the Chief Guest and Ms. Amita Shaw, Director, Bal Bhavan was the Guest of Honour. Prof. Vasudha Kamat, Joint Director, welcomed the Guests and all the participants. Organising Bal Utsav for children was a learning experience for CIET, she said. CIET plans to organize such workshops in near future as well. Ms. Shaw appreciated the organization of such Bal Utsav programmes and suggested that another programme may be organized during Commonwealth Games when children will have holidays (during Oct 1-17). While appreciating the creative expressions of children participating in different workshops, Mr. R K Singh, Secretary, NCERT said, NCERT would support such activities and will provide adequate funds for the same.

Prof. Ravindra liked the theme of Bal Utsav and appreciated participation of children in the workshops in such a large numbers. He was moved by the Audio programme scripted and produced by the children. He also praised the teams which produced wonderful video programme in such a short time. He gave his best wishes for organization of more such programmes.

Getting encouragement from the children's wholehearted participation, CIET plans to organize more such editions of Bal Utsav during the year.