



Dedicated
to vulture
care

Page 38

HARYANA

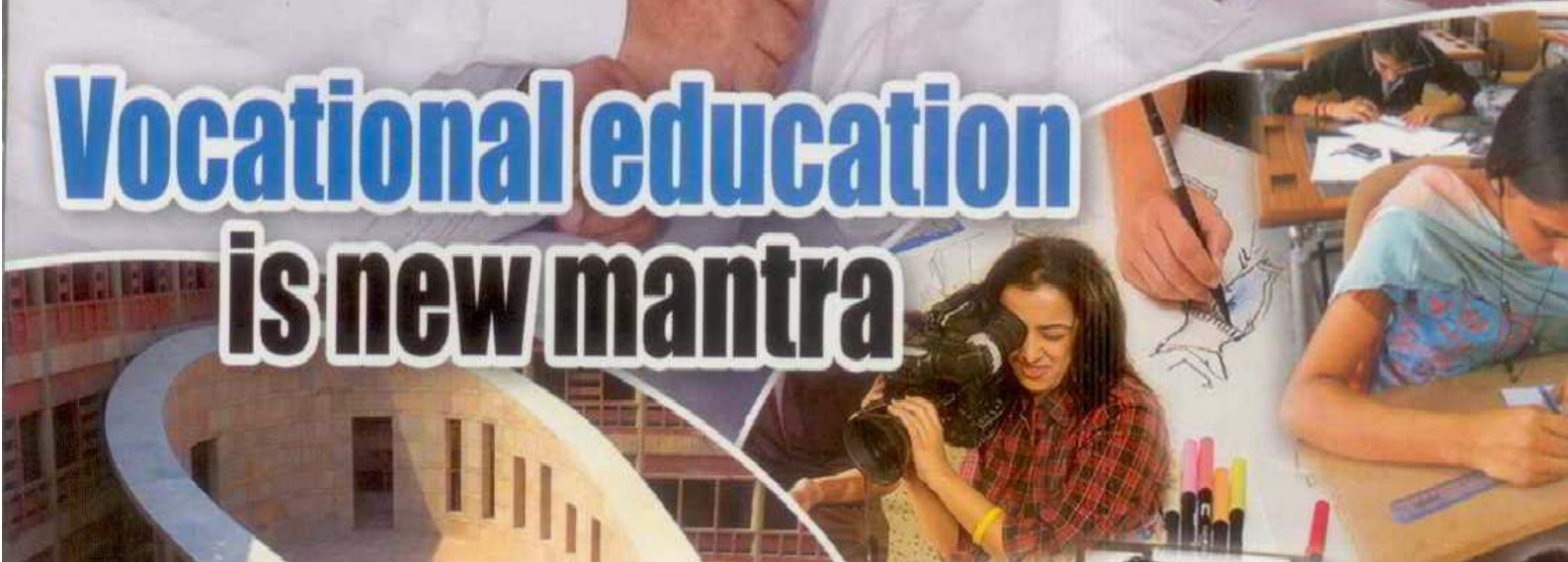
REVIEW

www.haryanasamvad.gov.in

October 2012, Vol 26, Issue 10, Rs 15



Vocational education is new mantra



Distributing cloth bags to spread the message 'Say no to polythene bags'

Night camps to feel the pulse

Surender Singh Malik

Making the dream programme of the Chief Minister, Mr Bhupinder Singh Hooda, of spending at least a night at a village every month by district administration to bridge the gap between the people and the administration, a reality, Kaithal has kick started the novel concept of night camps. Mr Hooda had given such directions to all the deputy commissioners and superintendents of police in a meeting held on July 7, 2012.

Kaithal has become the first district in the state to organise night camps and the concept is soon gaining popularity owing to the number of benefits it is providing to people. The main objective of the programme is to resolve public problems on the spot, strengthen the bonds between the people and administration, make people aware of the welfare schemes initiated by the state government and change the mindset of elected representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions by holding motivational seminars at block level.

This night camp is organised on two Fridays of every month in villages. During this programme, the district administration devotes a whole night just to hear and resolve the problems of villagers on the spot. Started in the month of August, night camps have

successfully been conducted in Aahu, Budha-Khera and Azim Garh villages of the district.

The programme has become such a hit that people of other villages are also demanding organisation of such camps in their villages. In order to make the programme a success, the administration is also taking help of NGOs.

The night camp in Azim Garh village, organised on September 14, 2012, was the third night camp conducted by the district administration. The village which has a population of about 2,200, comprises 360 households.

THIRD NIGHT CAMP

"It is our third programme of night camp in Azim Garh village. Prior to this, we have conducted two such programmes successfully in two villages of Kaithal. We have already completed 70-80 per cent work in these two villages. I held six meetings with sarpanches where the issues like illegal acquisition of property, theft of power and water and evasion of tax were studied," Chander Shekhar, Deputy Commissioner, Kaithal, told *Haryana Review*.

Night camps were organised at Aahu and Budha-Khera villages on August 3 and August 24, respectively. The authorities announced their decision to

construct parks in these two villages at a cost of Rs 30 lakh each. These parks would be constructed under MNREGA scheme over an area of 2.5 acres in Aahu village and 6 acres in Budha-Khera village.

The Deputy Commissioner inaugurated Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Seva Kendra near the Government Primary School premises in Azim Garh village. Earlier in the day various departments organised an exhibition in school premises in which public issues were resolved. As many as 120 cases of old age pension were resolved, and two birth certificates and one death certificate were issued on the spot.

Besides, water connections were provided to households in the village. During the programme, the officials of the Forest Department encouraged farmers to build polyhouses and adopt drip irrigation in 30 acres.

Plantation drives were launched in the village and 500 fruit saplings (guava, *bale pattar*, *jamun*, *tulsi*) were planted. The Food and Supplies Department issued 40 ration cards. As many as 503 patients were examined for various diseases like HIV and hypertension. They were given the required treatment and medicines. About 355 cattle were also treated.

Approval was given to put an

additional transformer of 100 KV and change high-tension electric transmission line passing through the school roof. Applications of loans for starting business were received from many BPL families by the Department of Welfare of Scheduled Castes & Backward Classes and Haryana Finance Corporation.

Under the Indira Gandhi Priyadarshini Vivah Shagun Yojana, two girls were given bank draft. The DC also honoured students who stood first in Class V under the Sarv Sikhsha Abhiyaan.

In order to raise the awareness level of students of the government school, they were shown movies on projector on different subjects like Siachen, traffic rules, female foeticide and dedication towards one's duty. Villagers were made aware about the declining water level through the medium of folk songs.

A gram sabha was organised where light was thrown on how panchayats organise gram sabhas in night camps and how various issues are raised. For the first time, a village girl, 18-year-old Jasvir Kaur, started the gram sabha. All the villagers took pledge that they would send their wards to school. They

One feels good that the district authorities resolve our problems at our doorsteps, whereas earlier we used to go to them. This night camp initiative shows how much the government cares about the well being of villagers. Long-pending issues are being addressed and resolved in no time.

Balvinder Singh
Farmer, Azim Garh village

also vowed not to use polythene in future.

Issues like education and development works were major points of discussion in the gram sabha. Details of expenditure incurred on development works undertaken in the village were also disclosed to people.

The district authorities at the night camp informed the people about various government welfare schemes. The Additional Deputy Commissioner, Mr

Dinesh Yadav said that the aim of gram sabha was to motivate children to study. He said that education was a weapon that made one self-dependent. He asked the panchayat members to take up more development works under MNREGA.

Balvinder Singh, a farmer of Azim Garh village, said, "One feels good that the district authorities resolve our problems at our doorsteps, whereas earlier we used to go to them. This night camp initiative shows how much the government cares about the well being of villagers. Long-pending issues are being addressed and resolved in no time."

The sarpanch of Azim Garh, Ranjit Singh, said, "The night camps have helped in resolving long-pending issues. This step of the state government is no doubt appreciable. Such camps are really helpful and should be organised in other villages, too."

The night camps are enjoying full support of people and they are participating whole-heartedly in them as their issues are addressed and resolved on the spot. No wonder this unique concept of the state government is fast catching up with people. ■

Villagers through the night camp

