

Voice against superstition: student's interactive session at Udalguri



Comments 0



Jayanta Kumar Das 13 August 2011 16098 views

National Children's Science Congress (NCSC) Udalguri district committee has organized a unique programme for students titled "Your voice against superstition" at the conference hall of the Deputy Commissioner's office, Udalguri at 10 AM on August 11. The programme was sponsored by Udalguri district administration. More than 100 students from 30 schools of different places of the district namely - Kalaigaon, Khoirabari, Bhergaon, Suklai, Tangla, Udalguri, Rowta, Orang and Mazbat took part in the programme to discuss topics like witch hunting, dog and snake bite, destruction of forests, health and hygiene etc. Top level civil, police, forest, army, health officials of the district hold face to face day long discussion with the students to exchange views and to find out practical solutions of a few burning social problems. Jayanta Kumar Das, NCSC District Coordinator, Udalguri welcomed all the distinguished guests, teachers, students and media persons assembled in the conference hall. He explained about the need for organizing more and more such programmes at various places of the district involving students to root out social malpractices relating - witch hunting, snake and dog bite, destruction of forests etc. to be followed by felicitation of the guests with gamocha and arnai. Col. Sunil Upadhyay, CO, 315 Field Regiment (KARGIL) formally inaugurated the programme at 11 AM. On the occasion he advised students to help administration to fight social injustice and a few malpractices like witch hunting. He said that people living below poverty line had been victims all the times.

Noted writer, Thaneswar Malakar, Deputy Commissioner, Udalguri presided over the programme as the key coordinator. Attending the programme as the coordinator, Debojit Deuri, SP, Udalguri explained the causes of social evils like witch hunting. He told students that a few scientific causes like poor nutrition, poverty, illiteracy etc had been contributing growth of blind belief and superstitions in the society. He also requested students to send information directly to him if they find any such social incidents relating witch hunting etc.

Capt(Dr) Rachit Sharma of 421 Field Hospital, Hatigarh, attending the programme as another special guest cum coordinator interacted with the students on the topics like snake and dog bite. He explained all about the 'do; and 'do-nots' on the matter. According to him only three classes of snakes namely crait, cobra and vipers are found in India which are poisonous. He said that people die from snake and dog bite because of lack of knowledge, shock and superstition. He taught students the first aids to be administered to victims in the emergency. Another special guest cum coordinator of the programme, Bankim Sarma, DFO, Udalguri told students that most of the flora and fauna of Assam had been destroyed by people, thereby causing burning problems like man- elephant conflict. He further said that thousands of tall and large trees have been destroyed in the state in the name construction of new roads, buildings, bridges and dams. This rapid man made destruction had compelled birds like vultures, kites, hawks, adjutants. owls etc to migrate to other places or to disappear from the world unnoticed. He requested students to plant more and more tall and large trees for biodiversity conservation.

Chairperson cum key coordinator, Thaneswar Malakar, Deputy Commissioner, Udalgori thanked students for their interest in fighting the burning social problems like witch hunting etc and requested them to spread the message of the programme to other hundreds in their respective villages. Munin Sarma offered vote of thanks at the end. The programme was also attended by Kulen Talukdar, ADC, Udalgori; Dr. Dilip Hazarika, joint Director, Health, Udalgori, Ajanta Sonowal, District Social Welfare officer, Udalgori; Dipen Boro, Advisor, ABSU, Udalgori district committee. A district level written quiz on renewable energy was also arranged after the session to select the Udalgori district team in the All Assam Inter-district quiz on renewable energy to be held at Silpagram, Guwahati on August 19 next. Rojica Basumatari (Sacret Heart School, Udalgori); Kunal Sarma (RAMES, Udalgori) and Dupardipta Das (JNV, Udalgori) won first three places respectively in the written quiz.

Jayanta Kumar Das

Environmental journalist.

BY JAYANTA KUMAR DAS

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Noted astronomy activist UN Deka passes away

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