



Children to be taught rock art by experts

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B SIP scientist and coordinator from UP for rock art documentation CM Nautiyal said on Sunday that children would be taught rock art at a workshop that they would be organising at the Regional Science City here on April 27.

He added that they were organising the rock art exhibition from April 25 and the workshop would be a part and parcel of it. The rock art exhibition will be inaugurated by mayor Dinesh Sharma on April 26 at the Regional Science City, he said.

"The rock art of Uttar Pradesh has been craving for attention for the past several years. Under an MoU signed with the city's Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) took up the cudgels and constituted a committee for rock art documentation in Uttar Pradesh about a year-and-a-half ago," said Nautiyal. The exhibition will show-

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case the findings of rock art by the team, Nautiyal added. He said that on April 27, a day after the inauguration of the rock art exhibition, there would be a workshop on rock art for children of classes V to IX.

"Experts will not only explain to children the genesis of rock art but will also tell them how to draw figures usually seen in it. These figures include those of wild boars, elephants, cattle and deer and even some scenes of rituals, human figures and utility items like carts. Handprints are frequent and figures of birds have also been seen, though they are not so common. The children will be encouraged to observe the photographs of the internation-

al selections of rock art exhibited and then provided drawing materials so that they can draw in a similar style," he said.

He said that this was expected to sensitise them to the need for conservation of rock art which was facing a threat from vandals. "It is important to sensitise children about the importance of rock art," he added.

He said that the rock art could be an inspiration for the fashion designers.

"The rock art can also inspire fashion designers. In Madhya Pradesh, entrepreneurs are printing T-shirts with figures from the internationally-famous Bhimbetka rock art site near Bhopal," he said.