



NSS IIT Bombay

NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY BOMBAY

2014-2015
Annual Report

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NSS IIT Bombay

NSS IIT Bombay is the IIT Bombay chapter of National Service Scheme institutionalized by Government of India under the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports as part of its public service initiatives. The aim being to inculcate social welfare thoughts in students and undertake actions reflecting the same.

NSS IIT Bombay carries out its activities with the help of more than 250 student volunteers under four departments viz. Educational Outreach, Events, Green campus and Vikas.

Over the years NSS IIT Bombay has grown into the most active organization on campus in the field of community service. Through its initiatives like cloth collection campaign, recycling of one sided paper, educational upliftment of slum kids, welfare of less privileged class, ecological conservation of campus, supporting the cause of differently abled and host of other programs NSS IITB has been able to generate happiness and satisfaction in the community and its volunteers alike.

The spirit of NSS lies in the indulgence of oneself in service of others without worrying about any rewards and this spirit has been upheld by the team time and again which is an inspiration in itself!

National Service Scheme, IIT Bombay touched new Horizons in the academic year 2014-2015 and saw a drastic shift from just being a curriculum requirement to a large pool of volunteers working towards helping the underprivileged. Apart from freshmen centric activities, this year we took various new initiatives like *Buddy Program* and *Muskaan* which involved non freshmen volunteers as well. We also associated with new NGOs and extended our outreach to 11 NGO centers. This time we ensured that freshmen volunteers get exposed to various social problems existing in our society by constantly carrying out activities concerned to construction workers' families. Apart from conducting regular NSS activities, we were also able to collect and donate over 2 lakh rupees to Prime Minister's Relief Fund for J&K flood victims. In the second semester we started *Invisible Humans of IIT Bombay* from our official facebook page which caught the attention of thousands of campus inmates.

NSS IIT Bombay Structure

Faculty Coordinators

Overall Coordinators

Educational Outreach

Events

Green Campus

Vikas

Community Projects

Media & Web

Departments of NSS IIT Bombay

Educational Outreach

Keeping in mind that proper education is the only way we can unburden the society of it's enigma, our volunteers give their best when it comes to helping underprivileged kids grasp things better and make education interesting by tutoring them on a daily basis. We also understand that formal education can't make a person complete and extracurricular activities play a major role in shaping one's personality. And hence, for the all-round development of children we impart computer education and conduct hobby classes for those kids who don't have access to such opportunities.

Events

Events try to make sure that our services to mankind find their destination. The department is very versatile with regard to the kind of activities contributing towards the upliftment of society are concerned. Helping the underprivileged by providing them with necessary amenities can be attributed as the cornerstone of what we do. Ranging from welfare of construction workers to spreading awareness about various social problems through blogs and street plays, NSS Events helps you serve the society in the most satisfying ways.

Green Campus

A healthy campus is not the one with greenery but the one with the sustainable greenery. With the increasing infrastructural needs inside the institute many trees are being cut down thus decreasing the greenery in our institute. With the aim of tackling this issue Green Campus department was formed in NSS, IIT Bombay. We conduct plantation drives, take care of small saplings and this year we started a new nursery which will be maintained by the students.

Vikas

In modern world where nature is being meddled with, sustainability is a major question. We at NSS Vikas work on sustainable ideas. We identify problems and come up with 'What can I do' level solutions so that everyone can implement them and contribute their bit to the society. Many of the things which may seem like trash might turn out to be materials of immense use to somebody who is not as fortunate as us. We identify, innovate and execute such ideas for a better tomorrow

NSS IIT Bombay Initiatives

Buddy Program

Idea

The 'Buddy Program' initiative is the newest yearlong initiative launched by NSS Events in its 2014-15 phase as a project for problem identification & streamlining of the awareness campaign for construction workers who live in the campus premises wherein issues of financial inclusion, health, safety, & education as implementation areas were discussed and talked about by the freshmen enrolled in NSS Events Department.





Impact

Our volunteers have studied the living conditions of construction workers and identified problems faced by them. Major issue identified was Job security and

working conditions. Most of them are migrated from other states and do not have any identification from Maharashtra state Government, hence they are unable to get any support from it. Sanitation is also a big issue in their life. We identified that there is no drainage system. A detailed report has been made by our volunteers for each and every family stating the major problems faced by them.

Way ahead

As we have an idea about the problems, the next step is to address them. We plan to conduct various activities like health camps, awareness campaigns in the upcoming year.

Muskaan

Idea

Muskaan is a socio cultural initiative started by National Service Scheme, IIT Bombay for underprivileged kids. It was started with the pure conviction that cultural activities stimulate creativity. The core aim of this initiative is to provide an exposure and learning platform to children in cultural activities. Muskaan provides free cultural classes in the form of dance, fine arts, and dramatics through a network of volunteers.







Impact

Over 150 underprivileged kids from 3 different NGOs were enrolled for Muskaan sessions. More than 40 sessions of fine arts, dance and dramatics were conducted for them by institute volunteers giving these kids an opportunity to dream and learn while they enjoy.

Way ahead

Muskaan will continue to expand and conduct sessions by collaborating with NGOs to reach out to more number of underprivileged but deserving kids.

Swacch Bharat Abhiyan

The Idea

Honouring the call of Honourable Prime minister of India, NSS IIT Bombay has taken up the oath of Swacch Bharat (Clean India) and has been actively contributing towards the cause ever since. There has been an overwhelming response and active participation from students, academic and non-academic staff members.



Impact

Major events of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan were held at the following places:

- Foot over bridges near Y-point gate and Main gate.
- Y-point gate.
- Hostel 9 construction workers' residential site.
- Main Building and
- Sameer Hillside.

Way ahead

We plan to conduct Swachh Bharat sessions outside the campus and thus doing our part in bringing about a sustainable change in our society.

Unnat Bharat Abhiyan

The idea

In an effort to uphold the spirit of India and preserve its perishing soul, universities have come together and adopted Indian villages so that they can modernise and develop villages through sustainable ways and innovative technological alternatives.







Impact

As a part of this project IIT Bombay has taken up 28 villages in and around Mumbai. This year, NSS worked along with CTARA in the first stage of Unnat Bharat Abhiyan project. Students visited Kharade village which is a comprehension of 12 Padas most of them inhabited by tribes. Students actively participated in preliminary data collection and analysis.

Way ahead

Students in their feedback mentioned that visit to such a places gave them not only an experience but an exposure to a sect of society. They added that talking with villagers helped them understand the major problems of rural India and hence motivating them towards finding solutions. We intend to plan trips for the future batches and hope them to have this wonderful experience.

Prayog

The Idea

Prayog was started with a motive to impart basic computer education to underprivileged kids by giving them hands on experience to computers. We also

conducted basic scientific experiments from textbooks for better understanding of scientific concepts.





Impact

More than 50 underprivileged kids from NGO Abhyasika performed over 10 scientific experiments and learned basic computer applications.

Way ahead

We plan to conduct more number of Prayog sessions by collaborating with more NGOs and thus imparting scientific knowledge to maximum underprivileged kids possible.

Graduating Students collection Drive

The Idea

“We make a living by what we get but we make a life by what we give”. Instead of throwing away the belongings of students who are about to graduate, our volunteers decided to donate them to workers who are in need of them. In collaboration with the Institute Hostel Council, a donation campaign was launched across all hostels.

Impact

At the end of 2 months over 250 mattresses and more than 500 kgs of clothes were collected and close to 150 families were supported and provided with basic amenities. The surplus was given to Manav Jeevan Seva Trust.

The way ahead

We plan to continue this activity every year to help the people in need by using resources in our hand.

Open Learning Initiative

The Idea

We make educational videos available in regional languages for the benefit of students who are not enrolled in English medium schools. As of now, most of the videos available on the internet regarding the school syllabus are in English. An acute shortage of educational videos in regional languages is present.

Impact

Our freshmen volunteers have completed making 25 videos in two subjects (Maths and Science) for 8th standard. These videos will be available on our NSS IIT Bombay Youtube channel for free and can be accessed by anyone.

Way ahead

We intend to make these videos available to NGOs throughout the country by covering more regional languages and subjects.

Major Activities

Cloth Collection Campaign

During the cloth collection campaign, collection boxes are kept in every hostel wing and in common areas. Students and staff donate the clothes. These are collected by our freshmen volunteers. The efforts resulted in total collection of 2100 kgs of cloths which was 1.5 times the last year. All cloths were given to Manav Jeevan NGO who then donated the same to the needy in slums. In the second semester everything apart from the hostels (like staff residents in lake side and hill side area) were covered. Around 2000Kg clothes were collected and distributed to workers in the institute by the volunteers.





Health Camp for Construction workers

NSS organized a health camp for the construction workers living on campus. The doctors did a general health checkup and provided them with free medicines. The response of the workers was overwhelming with more than 120 people participating in the camp to get themselves examined.



Workshop on Trash Management

NSS along with CERE (Centre for Environmental Research & Education) conducted a workshop on trash management for students of Vikas. Students were informed about the hazards of modern day lifestyle and how to behave responsibly towards environment. Later, students learned how to make beautiful art out of the trash that we normally find in our house and also had some hands on experience.



NGO Volunteering

NSS freshmen volunteered in different NGOs like Asha, Vidya and LCCWA (Logic Centre and Community Welfare Association). Around 300 underprivileged children were helped in their studies. Volunteers showed lots of enthusiasm and had fun in teaching these kids.

Plantation near Convocation Hall

During the first semester saplings of Mango, Ashoka, Jamun under huge trees from places in the institute which can't survive there were taken and planted in plastic bags by the students of Green Campus.

Plantation Drive near Aravalli Building

With the help of Prof. Jyothiprakash plantation drive was conducted near Aravalli Building in hill-side. Students of Green Campus actively participated in transplanting the saplings which were taken care by the previous batches.

Nursery

Starting with a Swacch Bharat Abhiyan session by cleaning the place near main building we initiated the work of building a new nursery.

Students committed around 4 sessions of around 2 hours each working on it and getting things into shape, setting the ground ready for plantation and on the last session students made pits around the existing trees making it fit for watering them.





Community projects

About Community Projects

There are many people in the institute who want to create a positive impact on society but don't have the necessary platform and resources to execute their plans. NSS being the biggest student body on campus can play the role of providing the much needed platform through its human and financial resources.

Broadly, projects would be of the following types:

- 1) **Socio-technical projects** - It would involve designing technical devices/equipment etc. for the needy say for disabled or low cost efficient technology for farmers, waterless urinals etc.
- 2) **Community projects** - It would involve identifying, quantifying and solving the problems of a particular community which is impoverished like construction workers of IIT Bombay or PHO/Mess workers
- 3) **Environmental projects** - This would involve solving ecological problems of the campus. For example cleaning up of Powai Lake or ways to utilize rainwater. The projects under this can again be classified as technical and non-technical. Technical projects would involve developing solutions to environmental issues ex. Developing efficient waste management techniques, Rainwater harvesting model at campus etc. and non-technical projects would involve co-ordinating with people who are already working in the field and following up with authorities to ensure that the problem is solved.

Projects which were done during 2014-15

1. Workers Lifestyle Surveying Project in IIT Campus
2. Improving Sanitation and toilet facilities in Phule Nagar & Human Nagar, Mumbai

1. Workers Lifestyle Surveying Project in IIT Campus

This project is focused on the lifestyle of workers at IIT BOMBAY. The general objective of taking this project is to make an idea about different aspects of lifestyle of those people, working inside the campus under different private organizations. These people remain unnoticed in most cases; little efforts are given to take care of their interests. But certainly they do have problems in their lives and like others they do have some expectations from their workplace too. We have taken the initiative to sort out some of the problems and try to think some remedies to get rid of these situations. Our main concerns are: Health issue, education, financial problem, job satisfaction etc.

Workers focused in the project:

- Mess workers
- Cleaning workers
- Workers under private organizations

A detailed survey of the economic, financial and educational condition of workers was carried out and has been well documented.

The project provides valuable insight into a number of problems of the labour class of IIT Bombay. Solutions to these problems can be found out in future by NSS IIT Bombay.

2. Improving Sanitation and toilet facilities in Phule Nagar & Human Nagar, Mumbai

Phule Nagar is situated on the opposite end of the Hill side area and is about a kilometer from the Market Gate of Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay. Hanuman Nagar is about another kilometer from the Phule Nagar. Many of the P.H.O. workers, mess workers and other laborers working in the Indian Institute of Technology comes from these areas. In these areas, the houses are very close to each other with hardly any space between them. This results in problem of disposing of the sanitation due to lack of dustbins and toilets. Problem regarding the Private Toilet in every household is that they can't be constructed in this area as these peoples shifted to this place after they were asked to move out their houses in Sanjay Gandhi National Park.

A detailed analysis of the problems faced by peoples of Hanuman Nagar and Phule Nagar was done

We have continuously met BMC officials and sought information from them. They have offered us support from their side.

We also organized a movie screening event on occasion of Hindu Environment week in collaboration with Srishti Sanrakshanam (A forum for ecological conversation) by students of Banaras Hindu University. This event was aimed at creating awareness among the residents of Phule Nagar for keeping surroundings clean and use of public toilets. It not only entertained the peoples, but also motivated people of all age group for toilets and dustbin usage.

Other Activities

Teacher's Day Celebration

On 5th September 2014, we celebrated Teachers' Day by gifting over 100 money plants to professors of IIT Bombay.

Talk by Abbas Dadlani, from Avanti Fellows

Abbas Dadlani, IIT Bombay alumnus who now works full time at Avanti Fellows gave a talk focussed on the importance and ways of imparting education to underprivileged.

Republic Day Skit

Students of Events performed a skit on 'Bullying' emphasising the effects of it on the eve of Republic Day in Gymkhana Grounds.

Talk on Substance Abuse

Drug addiction is a major issue for the youth of our Nation. A talk by Dr. Subhangi Parkar, Professor at Seth GS Medical College & KEM Hospital, on this topic was organised by Events for NSS students in which students came to know the effects of substance abuse, getting addicted and steps to prevent.

Gender Sensitization talk

A talk on gender, sex and sexuality was conducted by Humsafar Trust for NSS freshmen in order to sensitize them towards prevalent issues. The audience had an insightful experience on the topic which is still considered a taboo in India.

Documentary screening on urban planning

A documentary 'Nature of Cities' on eco-friendly urban planning was screened for Green Campus students in which students learnt different methods planning a city without depleting the natural habitat of different species already present there.

Movie screening

As a fun activity, the movie 'Stanley kaDabba' was screened for freshmen of NSS.

Jammu & Kashmir Flood Victims Donation drive

We conducted cloth and monetary collection drive aimed at helping Jammu and Kashmir flood affected victims. We raised 2000+ Kgs of clothes and other utility items and over 2 Lakh rupees in monetary contribution.

Clean India Day Celebration

Celebrated Clean India Day along with Imagindia on 10th of October 2014. Students wielded brooms and cleaned the neglected space in Lakeside residential quarters. It helped people realize the cost of their negligence and the hazards of having a dump space in residential area.

Scientific toy making demonstration

NSS freshmen volunteers demonstrated scientific experiments for kids of Asha NGO to take science beyond the boundaries of textbooks. The kids had a curiosity filled learning experience.

Sustainability walk

Volunteers took a walk around the campus to find any unsustainable practices going on inside the campus and took them to the notice of Dean to which he responded positively.

Talk on Gandhian Philosophy

On the request of students, Prof.S.D.Jog took a session on Gandhian philosophy and its relevance in the context of modern world.

Documentary screening: India Untouched

India Untouched is a documentary made by R.K.Stalin and his team. This documentary brings into light the effects of untouchability which prevails even in modern day society. Students had a discussion after the screening where they expressed their own experiences and suggested possible ways of approach to the solution for this problem.

Debates and Ideation sessions

Debates under the supervision of experienced moderators to introduce students to contemporary issues were conducted and to know interests and to encourage students to take their own initiative, an ideation session was conducted where students identified problems and came up with their approach. A constructive discussion on individual ideas ensured which also helped a lot in choosing activities for the course.

One sided paper collection

Like every year, NSS collected the one side used papers from academic area. These paper are used to make books which are in turn distributed to underprivileged students.

iCare Campaign

NSS IIT Bombay in collaboration with AZeotropy, IIT Bombay conducted a free eye checkup camp near Hostel 12 construction workers' residential area. Mess workers, construction workers and PHO workers turned up in huge numbers to get themselves checked.

Invisible Humans of IIT Bombay

This initiative was launched in order to get to know the stories of the working class of IIT Bombay and understand their problems. Our team members approached mess workers, construction workers, security staff, laundrymen, tum tum drivers and many more. They made a documentation of their life at IIT Bombay and narrated them the stories to the institute audience through our facebook page. The initiative received widespread appreciation.

Glimpses of NSS Activities



Team NSS IIT Bombay 2014-15

Prof. JyothiPrakash, Prof. Anand Rao, Prof. Ganesh Ramakrishnan
Faculty Coordinators

Shreyas Mangalgi & Mayur Kathawate,
Overall Coordinators

Moonlight Basumatary & AkshayDhotekar,
Department Heads of Educational Outreach

Paridhi Agrawal & Abhilash Molkeri
Department Heads of Events

SwaroopKatta & HarshavardhanB
Department Heads of Green Campus

Shivakumar & RavindraPratap Singh
Department Heads of Vikas

Dheeraj Yadav
Department Head Community Projects and initiatives

Anisha Garg
Media Manager

Activity Associates

Educational Outreach	Events	Green Campus	Vikas	Media
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Juhi Singh	Sudhir Kumar	Ravi Teja	Jivraj Karwa	Kautilya Boga
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