


Annual Report


2018-19

National Service Scheme, IIT Bombay



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1 Overview

National Service Scheme, IIT Bombay is the most active and perseverant organization on the campus in the field of social/community service. It was established to involve students in community service and let their personality develop through it. Through various activities, NSS IITB reached new heights in the academic year 2018-19, with 350 freshmen volunteers enrolling in NSS, and more than 100 non-freshmen volunteers participating in the activities. The reach of the activities also expanded enormously creating the impact.

Though NSS IIT Bombay is a part of the curriculum of first-year students as directed by the Ministry of Youth Affairs Sports, Government of India, its impact can be felt in all parts of the nation and beyond. This year, we started a new department Sustainable Social Development which derives its vision from the departments Events and Vikas which functioned separately till the last year. We have taken technical innovations to the beneficiaries through field visits. We have reached the students of remote places of India including naxal affected areas, who use our educational videos for studying in regional languages. We have also launched a youtube channel Tarang which presents interactive videos of sustainability and sustainable practices. We also reached to the school children across the states of India through The Artistic impact- a pan India competition thereby introducing these young minds to NSS as a platform for social service. We connected to people of all age groups for creating a community to promote gardening and nature lovers interests.

We increased our reach inside Mumbai as well by reaching to NGOs and schools by demonstrating various sustainable ways of living. Collected cloth, on donation to the underprivileged people on the outskirts of the city, helped us spread the smiles. Thus, composed of three departments working towards creating a better life, Educational Outreach, Green Campus and Sustainable Social Development the activities of NSS IIT Bombay are varied and cover almost all aspects of social service. Educating underprivileged students irrespective of language and distance barriers, maintaining the biodiversity of the campus and reestablishing the bond between young generation and nature, working towards environmental sustainability, improving the life of campus residents, reaching out to the construction workers in the campus and identifying their problems and working on them, bringing light upon new innovations are some of the major activities undertaken by NSS IITB.

Spreading happiness through community service has been one of the primary objectives of NSS. With innovative activities across the departments catering to all classes of the campus residents, we try to create small, happy and memorable moments in their lives. And working in NSS itself has been one of the prime sources of happiness for the people associated with us. Bringing to light the stories of the different campus residents who are responsible for its smooth functioning and also the stories of our volunteers has also been a major and a very popular activity undertaken by NSS, IITB.

2 Educational Outreach

2.1 Introduction

A child without education is like a bird without wings. Education is the most powerful weapon we can use to change the world. To provide such priceless asset to those who lack it is the basic motivation of the Educational Outreach Department of NSS IITB. Educational Outreach works with the aim of providing opportunities for learning and education to those students who are deprived of them. We also believe that lack of education is one of the biggest root cause of all existing problems in society. Thus, initiatives like the Computer Literacy Program and the Adult Literacy Program aims to educate adults which may help improve their quality of life. Also, acknowledging the fact that formal education is not enough for the all-round development of a child, initiatives like Muskaan and Prayog were started to train the students in extra-curricular activities and to develop their scientific temperament respectively. Also, this department has national outreach due to its YouTube channel, Open Learning Initiative. Voice for Purpose is another initiative wherein Hindi literature, English literature, travel diaries and overview of Indian Festivals are recorded in the form of audio books primarily for the blind students. With initiatives like Neem School which focuses on value education as the most important aspect of education, this department is constantly trying to make learning more fun, interesting and enriching. From the mess workers of the institute to the children of remote parts of India, the beneficiaries of this department are varied and large in number.

2.2 Initiatives

2.2.1 Open Learning Initiative (OLI)

About the department: OLI is a YouTube channel that is launched by NSS, IITB to ensure that language does not become a barrier in education. With educational videos recorded by our volunteers (mostly UG students in their first, second or third years) in regional languages, we aim to make the internet equally useful for students who dont study in English medium schools. Currently, the channel contains 300+ educational videos on Science and Mathematics in eight Indian languages, namely, Hindi, Marathi, Gujarati, Bengali, Odia, Malayalam, Tamil, and Telugu. There is also a course on English to benefit the students and a section on scientific experiments, wherein interesting and informative experiments are demonstrated to enhance the interest of the students in science and to promote scientific temperament.

Outreach: The growth of OLI has been exponential in the last year. Starting from 50,000 subscribers in April 2018, OLI has grown to about 93,000 subscribers and 7,390,000+ views.

Many NGOs in Powai like Vidya, Asha, Logic Center and Community Welfare Association (LCCWA) etc. are using our videos for teaching their students. Many people from other parts of the nation have also been availing our resources. Videos from our channel are being featured on Digital Archive of IITB and various other Government and Non-Government portals. Also, we have collaborated with Nalanda Project of Motivation for Excellence wherein they would be using our content in offline mode to teach in Govt schools in Mumbai, Pune, Kolkata and Delhi. Long-term goals:

1. Cover all the major regional languages of India
2. Reach out to as many NGOs as possible.
3. Cover all the basic topics in Science and Math and also other subjects
4. Train the students in English and make them proficient in the language so that they don't face any problems in their higher studies and professional life
5. Make learning fun and interesting



The home page of OLI NSS IITB



Disha an E-learning program in Giridih, Jharkhand using OLI videos



Students of LCCWA during their OLI sessions

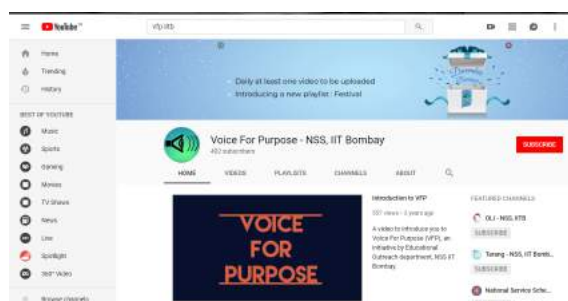


Students of LCCWA during their OLI sessions

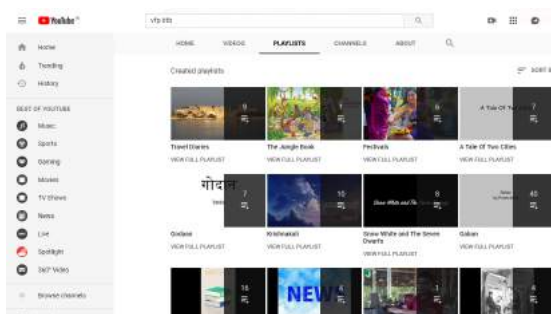
2.2.2 Voice For Purpose (VFP)

About: Voice for Purpose is an initiative aimed at providing quality audiobooks for the visually impaired community via our YouTube channel which has increased the accessibility of these audiobooks and facilitate their distribution. We are currently focusing on providing Indian literature (Gaban, Godan, Nirmala and Krishnakali are some of the works that have been covered till now) but are not limited by it (Alice in Wonderland, A tale of two cities and Aesops fables are some of the foreign books that are available on the channel). Genres like Travel Diaries (to provide picturesque descriptions of places which the visually impaired cannot see themselves) have a great response

The way ahead: The channel currently hosts 130+ audio recordings, has about 400 subscribers and 40,000+ views. We plan on reaching out to blind foundations and schools and provide requested content. We will continue recording audio books on various festivals celebrated in India, and also start a new genre showcasing the artefacts and monuments in India which will help people appreciate the cultural heritage of our country.



Channel Homepage



Playlist of VFP

2.2.3 Teaching Activities

About: The flagship activity of the Educational Outreach department, and can be considered the foundation stone of the department which involves teaching the underprivileged students in the nearby NGOs around the campus.

Outreach: The NGOs currently involved with us are Vidya (having 4 centres), Asha (having 2 centres) and Logic Center and Community Welfare Association (LCCWA). Our volunteers also help in smooth functioning of the Computer Literacy Program (CLP) under Cell for Human Values. This year was of immense growth for the department as we also expanded our volunteering activities in Campus School and launched the initiative Teach Me independently without the help of any organisation. The initiative is run with the help of a few residents in Phulenagar Slum who provide the room for conducting regular classes for the children staying nearby. Our freshmen volunteers and volunteers from Group for Rural Activities (GRA) are the primary educators. With 10 centres in all, a total of more than 70 volunteers taught 350+ students. The teaching program was carried out in summer and winter vacations also with the aid of non-freshmen volunteers. Students from LCCWA and Campus School were benefitted with 20+ volunteers teaching a variety of subjects.

The way forward: We plan to extend our volunteering to more NGOs in the near future (the distance of the NGO from the campus is a major constraint in this direction). Strengthening the ties between NGOs and NSS will also be focused on by helping out the NGOs with planning their summer camps and youth fests successfully.



Volunteers at 'Teach ME'



Volunteers teaching at Campus School



VIDYA NGO



VIDYA NGO

2.2.4 Adult Literacy Program

Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at twenty or eighty. Anyone who keeps learning stays young. Henry Ford This program was started on the request of security guards to teach them the basics of English. ALP has grown a lot since its inception, it has been extended to mess and canteen workers. We have planned and implemented a proper curriculum to make it more relatable to the workers needs. It also includes basic maths and cashless transaction tutorials, online form filling, etc. Currently, mess and canteen workers in Hostels - 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9 and 15 are benefiting from the program. We also distributed dictionaries and notebooks made by Sustainable Social Development (SSD) department to the workers which has helped facilitate their learning process. We have been receiving a very positive response for the program and the workers have shown commendable enthusiasm towards learning.

The Way Forward: We plan on structuring ALP by making more robust and thorough teaching modules which will be modified with time. Also, expanding ALP to the rest of the hostels and possibly to construction workers will be the next move.

2.2.5 Neem School

Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all. - Aristotle While most schools do serve their purpose by educating the kids, somehow Value Education is something that is missed out. We were introduced to this idea by WhiteSwan Neem School foundation, a Delhi based organisation, who wanted to start neem schools in Mumbai. After proper induction and training, we took up this initiative last year by conducting weekly sessions every Sunday in Gokhale Nagar Maidan (opposite IIT Main Gate) and have 40+ children from around the slums attending these. This year, we have successfully expanded it by conducting weekly sessions on Saturday in the Aman Day Care Centre. Every session starts with a prayer, followed by instructions for proper hygiene maintenance which then is followed by the session on the moral value of the day. Interesting stories and interactive activities are used to get the moral message to the kids and at last the session ends with a prayer.

The Way Forward: Expanding the Neem Schools to Phulenagar slum area (to the left of Y Point gate) and starting these sessions in collaboration with NGOs operating in the areas will be the next step for Neem Schools.



Volunteers at Aman Day Care Centre



Students of Aman Day Centre

2.2.6 Muskaan

About: Muskaan was started with the aim of training children in cultural activities like dance and fine arts thus, contributing to their all-round development. This year we incorporated a well-defined curriculum in all genres to ensure a robust learning experience. Prop painting, Mask making, cotton-painting, salt painting, and blow-painting were some of the fine arts activities while Bollywood and hip-hop were the major dance forms taught in the last year.

Outreach: Their efforts were showcased through dance performances for Abhinay (Annual socio-cultural event of NSS IITB) and through a fine arts submission for Kaladarshan 2019. Muskaan sessions are held every Sunday and are benefiting more than 100 kids from 3 NGOs.

The Way Forward: It has been planned to expand Muskaan to music and literary arts. Also, we aim at reaching out to more NGOs in the near future. We also plan to include dramatics in the Muskaan sessions (availability of volunteers trained in dramatics is the only constraint).



Kids of LCCWA in MUSKAAN session



Bollywood Dance session



Dance session for kids



Puppet making session

2.2.7 Prayog

Prayog was started with the belief that science is better understood by demonstration. Our aim is to instil scientific temperament among the students by the means of simple, yet interesting and informative scientific experiments. The students get a chance to perform the experiments themselves after the demonstration. Also, care is taken to ensure that the experiments are performed with readily available apparatus so that the students can easily replicate them when they go home. All the experiments are followed by an explanation of the scientific principles on which the experiment is based. We have also included mental ability section with puzzles and fun activities.

Outreach: Nearly 100 students from 3 NGOs are benefiting from the regular weekly sessions. This year, we devised a separate module for class 9th which include each and every

experiment listed in class 9th NCERT Science textbook and the students maintain a report of each session which later helps them study with ease. We also expanded our initiative in Pawar English High School, with the help of Udaan Foundation. These sessions are for class 4th and 5th, and the students had an exhibition on National Science Day. The students demonstrated all the experiments with ease and also were able to explain the concept to their friends. This marks the success of the sessions.

The Way Forward: We are trying to expand the experiment section on OLI channel by recording more Prayog experiments. Also, constant efforts are being made to introduce easily doable projects in Prayog.



Prayog session at NSS room

2.2.8 Abhinay

The aim of the event is to provide a stage where the talent of the NGO kids attending our Muskaan sessions can be showcased. The efforts put in by the kids and volunteers of Muskaan finally paid off this year in the spring semester. The event was entirely planned and organised by the Educational Outreach team. We also invited the parents of the performing kids. The event resulted in a major boost in the childrens confidence. Nearly 70 children performed in the event for various performances which included a skit on Right to Education, Bollywood dance performance, Indian classical dance and storytelling.

The Way Forward: An exhibition can be arranged for all the artworks of the children can be set up. Also, nearby NGOs in Powai area can be invited to perform in the event



kids performing classical dance

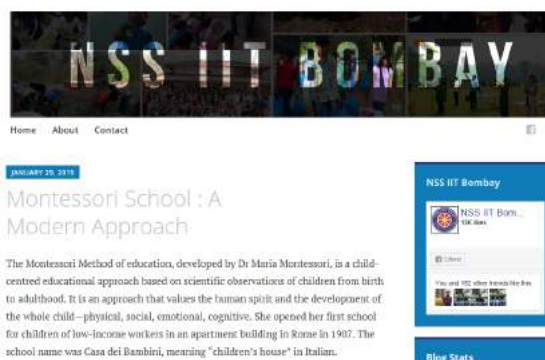


dance performance by LCCWA



2.2.9 Jigyasa: A Quest to Learn

Jigyasa is a blog written and maintained by the Educational Outreach department. This blog was started to unravel the various education techniques prevalent all over the world and also to highlight people who have put endeavours and have done exceptionally well in the field. It also showcases the various activities done by the Educational Outreach department



3 Green Campus

3.1 Introduction

Green Campus handles the genre of preserving and rejuvenating flora and fauna and increasing biodiversity in the campus. We also aim to spread awareness about this biodiversity among the people living in and around institute. We have our own full-fledged nursery where we grow different varieties of plants and vegetables. We undertake many related activities outside the nursery too. Given below is the list of activities we do. We invite you to join us and feel the ecstasy of being close to nature!

3.2 Initiatives

3.2.1 Van Mahotsav

Van Mahotsav is an annual tree-plantation movement in India, started to raise awareness among people towards fall of forest cover. It is celebrated in the first week of July. This year, Van Mahotsav was celebrated on 7th of July with the children of KV school and Campus school and the residents of the institute. The event was organized behind hostel 4 near Sameer hill where the kids were taught to re-use plastic bottles and planted saplings in them. We also donated 20+ saplings which were planted by these school students near hillside behind Hostel 3 and Hostel 4



Kids at the photobooth on Vanmahotsav



Volunteers collecting saplings

3.2.2 Sapling Collection Drive

We collect saplings that germinate in the shade of the parent trees during monsoons, plant them in covers and take care of them in our nursery. This year, we covered the path from Hostel 12 to Convocation Hall and from Campus Hub to Hostel 4, collecting more than 400 saplings. The collection included more than 30 plant species including Jamun, Sitaphal, Mango, Taad etc. The volunteers were delighted to see the seedlings and collected them with utmost care. And the drive was a great success in terms of rising the plant bank at our nursery.

3.2.3 Flex Cover Making Session

With lots of activities going on every day in the institute, dozens of flexes go waste after the event. Trying to cut down the harmful effects of plastic, we reused flexes plastic bottles and cans to make covers to put plants. The covers made were used in the nursery without buying extra plastic plant growing bags from outside stepping towards a self sustainable institute.



Covers made from flexes



NGO kids at nature walk

3.2.4 Nature Walk

This year a nature walk was conducted for the kids of NGO LCCWA. We enlightened them about substantial biodiversity present in the campus. They were very happy to see in real different species that they have been reading in their textbooks.

3.2.5 Green Diwali

On the occasion of Diwali, we gave emphasis towards the celebration of Diwali with eco-friendly resources. This Diwali, our volunteers made decorative lanterns using old plastic

bottles and hanged them in the nursery during Diwali. We lighted oil lamps in fruits peels like sweet lime and oranges. Plastic bottles were used to float the oil lamps in water. And awareness was created to not add up to pollution whilst celebrating festivals.



Volunteers decorating nursery on Diwali



Lamps lit in bottles

3.2.6 A Sapling a Wing

There were many requests from the hostel residents asking if they could take saplings to their room and nurture them. Then we have planned to put a sapling in each wing for the students to take care of. Many of them have come forward with enthusiasm and have taken the responsibility of nourishing it each day. This also turned out to be community activity and helped students to socialize.

3.2.7 Blog writing

In this activity, each volunteer had to find out about an interesting topic related to nature. Then in a group of 12-15 they presented the topic and all of them had a discussion on it. The team members made blog posts considering whatever points were discussed in this meet. These blog posts were released online via WordPress.

3.2.8 Nursery for all

Why not invite people to our nursery for the exhibition of plants that we have with us in there? We decorated our nursery in a handful of hours which was a tough challenge to pull off. All the flower beds were labeled and were made self explanatory for the visitors. The visitors were allowed to take home their favourite plants and grow them. Witnessing around 100 visitors in the very first year was an achievement in itself.



Wingmates with their seedlings



Visitors during Nursery for All

3.2.9 World Coconut Day

No one must have ever thought that the shells of tender coconuts can be useful after extracting the water. We planted saplings in these shells, thus reusing them and reducing the amount of waste generated. During transplantation, the shells could be directly buried up in the land. The activity was appreciated by a lot of people.

3.2.10 BioDiversity Mapping

With a vast floral diversity in our institute which remained unnoticed by the people of the institute, the activity helped to create awareness about these. Placards bearing the names and some unique characteristics of the particular tree were hung upon them. This has been extended to few hostels this time.



Plants in coconut shells



Placards being put up to display

3.2.11 Self-watering plants

We came up with self-watering plants where we were not required to water the seeds from the top but they themselves draw water from an external source through a thread by capillary action. No worries of drying of plants.

3.2.12 Prakriti

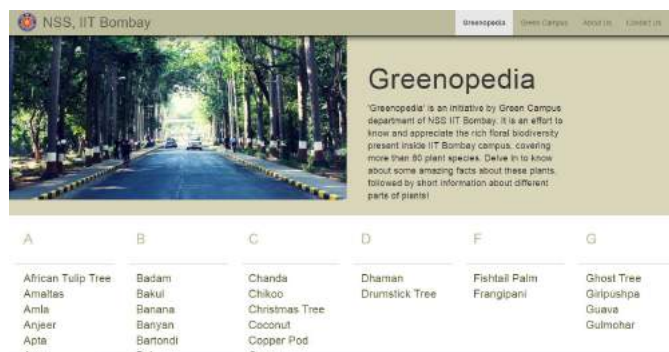
Prakriti is a google discussion forum where people get to know about the interesting facts and information about nature. It witnessed some record highest viewed blogs till date during our tenure. Some picks would be Sudan - The Last of its Kind which focused on the last to be extinct White male Rhinoceros, Marine Debris at Marine Drives when the high tide had thrown out the garbage dumped in the sea back on to the roads at Marine Drive.

3.2.13 Greenopedia

We launched our website Greenopedia in May 2018 which contains information of 80+ plant species present inside the institute. It will help you to get a wider insight about these species and their different parts. This year, our task was to add information of remaining species in Greenopedia. We made a database and successfully added 20 more species including Papaya, Tulsi, Pangara and many more.



Setup of self-watering plants



Greenopedia website

4 Sustainable Social Development

4.1 Introduction

Sustainable Social Development (SSD) works on development of the society by improving lifestyles, as well as promoting sustainability. The department derives its motto from the combined vision of Events and Vikas which worked separately until last year. It focuses on identifying existing problems and come up with 'What can I do' and 'What can we do' level solutions so that everyone can implement them and contribute their bit to the society. The primary objective is to make sure that our services to mankind find their destination. The department plan to achieve this by employing different ways to reduce wastage, collection of different items and donating them to the underprivileged and creating awareness for the same.

4.2 Initiatives

4.2.1 Graduation Collection Drive

The Graduation Collection Drive(GCD) aims at collections of bigger items such as mattresses, buckets, mugs etc. from the graduating students of the institute, who no longer require them and generally throw them away for logistical reasons, so that they can be given to the needy. The activity is completely managed by the SSD department i.e. executed by the Activity Associates under the supervision of the Departments Heads. This initiative is conducted in the months of May and June, wherein a room in each of the senior hostels is kept for collections.

4.2.2 Cloth Collection Campaign

One of the major initiatives of the SSD department, the Cloth Collection Campaign is held in two phases over the course of the academic year. Phase 1, held in October involves collection from the student hostels, which includes making of interactive donation boxes by the volunteers, putting them up in visible, common areas in each hostel followed by regular collection of the donated items. Phase 2, held in March, is conducted in the professor residences, the volunteers are divided into specific groups and allotted specific areas, where at first publicity posters are put up, followed by 4-5 visits in the areas to collect clothes from the interested people. In both the phases, segregation and sorting of clothes are done by the volunteers itself. Every year, we collaborate with various external collaborators in order to donate clothes to various parts of the city. This year we had to collaborators Ashadeep in

Sakinaka and Green Yatra which helped us donate the clothes in villages near Virar. The total collections from this initiative this year reached an unprecedented 5 tonnes.



Donation at Aarey colony, Goregaon



Donation at Ashadeep, Sakinaka

4.2.3 BMC School Visits

The most popular activity among the SSD volunteers, BMC school visits aims to teach the students of classes 6 to 10th about the general idea of Sustainability. We believe that given the right direction these young impressionable minds can undertake various steps and measure so that we can live a better tomorrow. The volunteers prepare presentations on various topics related to sustainable development and present them in front of the students in the BMC schools near Vikhroli, Bhandup and Powai. The session is then followed by demonstrating the working of a sustainable model and a do-it-yourself session. Both the students and the volunteers enjoy this activity alike.



Volunteer making presentation



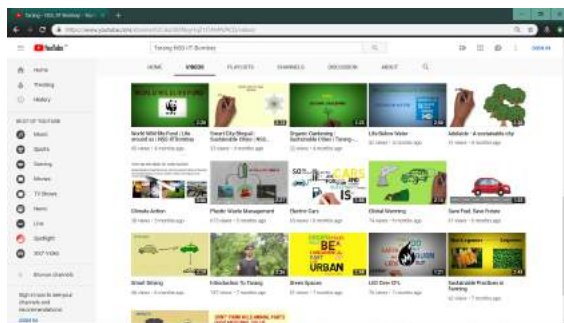
Paper bag making session at BMC School

4.2.4 Tarang

The major online initiative of the Sustainable Social Development department, the YouTube channel Tarang started on July 11 2018 with an aim to sensitize people about sustainability, using a bigger and wider platform than the conventional offline methods. Volunteers make small interactive videos on topics related to Sustainable Development in languages English and Hindi. This channel recently crossed 100 subscribers and is growing at a fast pace. The videos are simple and engaging with aim for better environment and understanding of young generation about the various daily life issues that come across and small sustainable practices they can adopt to deal with them. The videos are divided into 7 different playlist categorised on the basis of what do we face, what we can do and how we can do.

4.2.5 Eco- Friendly Ganesha Workshop

On the occasion of Ganesh Chaturthi, replacing the conventional Plaster of Paris (PoP) idols with more sustainable once is a practice that needs to be immediately followed. NSS in collaboration with Chaitali ma'am (co-founder LCCWA) encourages the institute residents to replace the conventional idols with handmade clay idols. For this a clay idol making workshop is conducted at the staff club of IIT Bombay in which various NSS and non NSS students participate in making Ganesh idols. The idols made by professional workers are given to the hostels authorities to encourage them to replace their PoP idols. This year an unprecedented 9 hostels celebrated Ganesh Chaturthi by using clay idols. An innovative addition included placing seeds inside the clay idols so that when the festival time is over, instead of flowing these idols into the river, they can be mixed with the soil, so that the seed gets planted and we get a meaningful end to the activities.



Screenshot from Tarang channel



Eco-friendly Ganesha Idol

4.2.6 Stationery collection Drive and Book Collection

The desire to learn should not be restricted by materialistic barriers. The opportunity to learn should be provided to all, irrespective of the background of a person comes from. A new initiative started this year, it included keeping of stationery collection boxes in different hostel stationery shops as well as the general stores inside the institute. It was also held in two phases, phase one being conducted in initial weeks of September just before the mid semester exam followed by phase 2 conducted in the middle of February. As a new initiative it was very well received by the hostel residents, resulting in a good amount of collections. These collections were given to Door-Step Foundation, a mobile school conducted in a bus for the children of construction workers.



Children of Door Step School



Stationery donation

4.2.7 Zero Waste Week and General Championship

Zero Waste Week (ZWW) was observed between 24th September till 30th September 2018. During this week, the team raised awareness of the environmental impact of waste and helped empower participants to reduce waste. During the course of the week, different themes were observed, related to zero wastage and the efforts that that can be undertaken for this, for different days, starting with a best out of waste exhibition of 'Room of a Hostel Student', at the LH foyer. Google Group was made for interested volunteers to spreads the ways to reduce waste. Students were asked to take pledge to minimize their waste and were given bands to remind them of their promises.

All hostel were asked to submit a report stating the quantity of food, electricity, plastic and water waste occurring in their respective hostels. This was made successful in collaboration with Sustainability Cell and Institute Technical Council.



Exhibition at LH Foyer

4.2.8 Republic Day Skit

Every year, at the Republic Day celebrations at the Gymkhana grounds, NSS volunteers put up a skit aiming to sensitize people on various social issues. 'Prayas' - Ek kadam hum ki aur was presented which depicts all the activities we do at NSS.



Republic Day Skit

4.2.9 Animal Vaccination Drive

The Animal Welfare Group of IIT Bombay consisting of professors, students and institute residence under the leadership of Professor Madhu Belur and Professor Prita Pant, organised the final annual animal vaccination drive in the institute. Over a hundred dogs were vaccinated in this drive, which were the last of the lot.

4.2.10 Field Visit

NSS IIT Bombay organized a field visit to Talegaon (a leading producers of Onions) to have a discussion with local farmers on problems with contemporary ways of irrigation and bring them a solution in the form of a device which measures moisture and temperature of soil as well as air, developed by Professor Tapanendu Kundu of Physics Department, IIT Bombay. A skit was organized to highlight how over irrigation and unregulated traditional/obsolete methods of irrigation could lead to Low crop yield, decrease effectiveness of pesticides and additional nutrients added (due to leaching), pollution of groundwater resources, and how use of innovative technology can solve these issues.



Volunteers vaccinating dogs



Demonstration given to the farmers

4.2.11 Parivartan

Parivartan is a sustainability blog, an effort to reach out to the rapidly increasing blog reading public. It comprises of an intelligent discussion on a particular prevalent issue and is viewed from different viewpoints.

4.2.12 Reuse Sessions/Best Out of Waste

Thinking breeds innovation. Due to the plethora of activities conducted in our institute, the use of flex banners is very high. Also, a large number of plastic bottles are produced as waste courtesy to the contains and various eateries in our institute. The SSD department comes along with innovative ideas so as to how we can use these waste items again for meaningful purposes. These items, collected from all over the institute by our volunteers, have been made into stools, flex covers, sapling covers, stationery pouches, paper bags and many other items. This year we collected close to 500 waste plastic bottles from the institute eateries and secured flex banners from three major events conducted in the institute. All of these were used to create innovative reuse products.



Blog



Volunteers making stool out of waste bottles

4.2.13 Scouting Assignment

The assignment was meant to sensitize the freshmen to the civic issues in their neighbourhood. The volunteers were divided among groups and were allotted a specific area in the institute. They reported incidents of electricity waste, water logging and improper disposal of waste. They have also submitted plausible solutions for the problems that were found.

4.2.14 Unravel

A lot of research goes into the lab but the brilliant ideas often fail to come to the market, especially in the case of social technical project. A lot of social problems can be dealt with the help of new technology and products. Keeping this idea in mind, we conducted a talk where Mr. Samit Choksi and team enlightened the audience by telling about Project Phi,

and how they developed a Smart Space System to tap into solar system and harvest rainwater simultaneously, also the challenges faced from ideation to creation.

4.2.15 Take Away Shelves

Boxes were kept on each floor of LCs during the examtime, which contained one-sided papers, that could be used for rough work. This initiative received a lot of appreciation from the institute people thus promoting the idea of reuse.



Demonstration of prototype at Unravel



Shelf put at LC corridor

5 All NSS Activities

5.1 Tackling emergencies

Knowing how to handle an emergency situation is necessary to save a life. For those who want to be lifesavers than just being a helpless witness, we have conducted "Tackling Emergencies" workshop on the occasion of NSS day in which the basics of first aid and how to handle an emergency situation is taught. It was addressed by Surbhi Mhasde, a private practitioner who completed her Medical studies from KEM Hospital and SGS Medical College, Bombay.

5.2 Nutrition survey

We have conducted a Nutrition survey in Jyotiba Phule Nagar near the YP gate of IIT Bombay in three phases. The aim of this survey was to get an insight into the nutrition intake and general lifestyle of people living in slums and help them understand the importance of consumption of nutritious food and avoid unhealthy food. In this nutrition survey, with the help of a questionnaire, we collected the data from around 50 households in the area.



Surbhi Mhasde addressing the crowd



Volunteer surveying at a household

5.3 International plastic bag-free day

This International Plastic Bag Free Day, we decided to make people aware about the harmful effects of plastic on the environment and animals and at the same time, how we can reduce the use of plastic by switching to environment-friendly alternatives. We conducted a paper-bag-making session for kids of Kendriya Vidyalaya, inculcating in their young minds, the importance of reducing plastic usage. The paper bags were then distributed to the vendors in the IIT Market. The vendors as well as the customers were happy to see our

initiative and encouraged our step towards protecting our environment. One of the elderly vendor complemented, 'Beta, tum jaise jawaan agar prakriti ke baare mein sochke achha kaam karenge toh Desh jaroor badlega!'



Paper bag making session



Paper bags distribution to local vendors

5.4 Organ donation awareness talk

We all know the importance of Organ donation and its potential in saving life, but still, India has less than one donor per million people and the reason is the doubts around the Organ Donation which go unresolved. To raise the awareness of Organ Donation and to help answer all the queries in people's minds, we in co-ordination with iGiftlife have conducted an awareness session on Organ donation. It was an interactive session of 45-60 minutes with audio/visual tools.

5.5 Friendship Day

This year, on Friendship day, we decided to thank the PHO workers who are responsible for the cleanliness in the campus. Accordingly, our volunteers prepared 'Thank You' cards for the workers and personally gave the cards along with sweets to the workers. Almost all the hostels were covered



5.6 Teachers' Day Celebrations

On the occasion of Teachers Day, we compiled greetings from students and the alumni to be sent to the professors in the form of message. Profsperspective video was also launched the same day.



5.7 The Artistic Impact

The Artistic Impact, a nationwide Socio-Art competition involving 2000+ schools across the country. The competition consisted of four categories namely Click for Change: A Photography Competition , The Social Canvas: A Painting Competition , thINK: A Writing Competition , A Social Episode: An excerpt from your memory of doing any type of work that benefited the society. The Theme for the competition was 'Stepping Towards Better India', which included Clean and Green India, Outsmarting Calamity and E-Literate



5.8 Letters of Love

NSS IIT Bombay conducted Letters of Love Campaign, which received an unprecedented response of 250+ wonderfully written messages which would be delivered to the kids in the refugee countries. The props for the event were made by the kids of LCCWA in one of the MUSKAAN session.



5.9 Invisible Humans

Just like last year, this year also, we brought to light, stories of the campus have been responsible for the smooth functioning of this institute



Mrs. Vidya Kulkarni from CLP



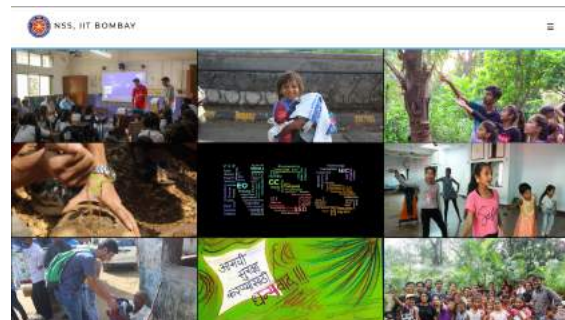
Mr. Yashodhara Poojary (runs Chemical Dept canteen)

6 Design and Web

This year in the freshmen orientation, official Instagram account was launched. It has seen a great response in the first year of launch with more than 400 followers. At the end of the first semester, a series of videos under the name 'NSS Times' were released from the facebook page, highlighting the work done in that semester. The video series includes activities under the themes Impacting Society, Conserving Environment and Online initiatives. The official new website was launched on 31st March with a lot of new features. The website was put up with portals for donation, volunteering and many more. It has been made with more user-friendly interfaces.



Screen from one of the NSS Times series



Homepage of the new website

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Prof. Deepak Marla

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Suyash Bagad

Department Heads

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